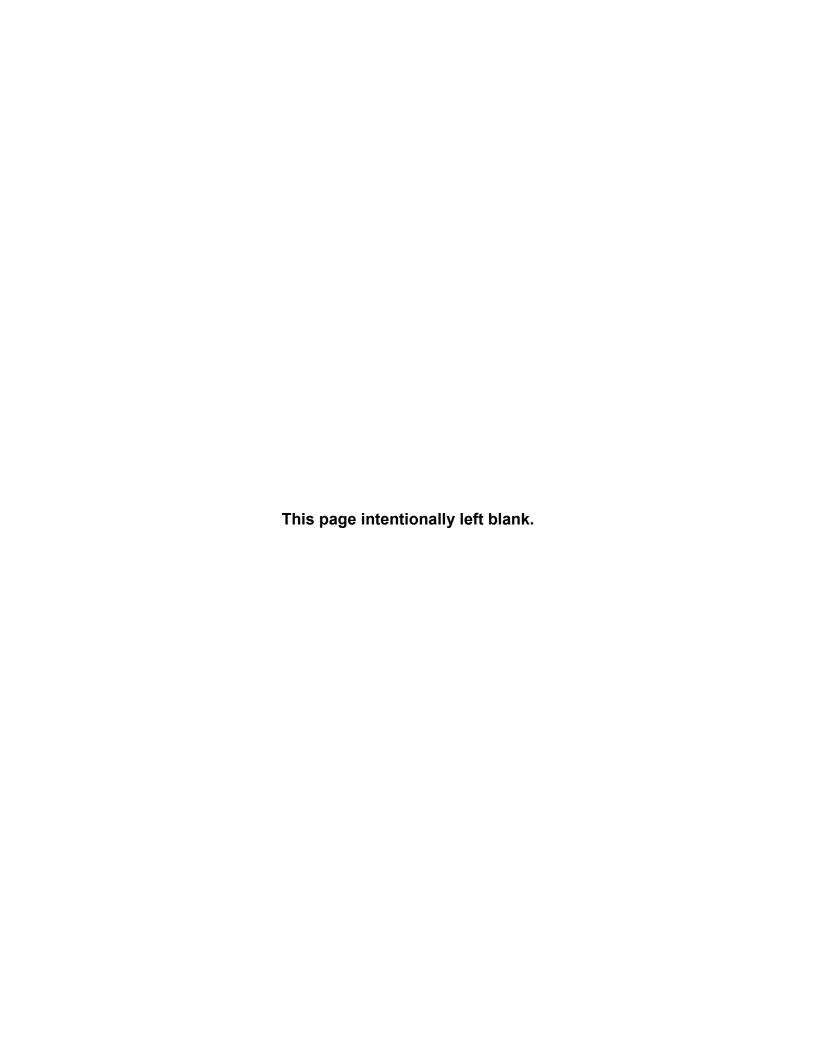




TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Accountants' Report	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2002	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Proprietary Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2002	4
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2001	5
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Proprietary Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2001	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by Government Auditing Standards	13
Schedule of Findings	15
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	





INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of Bowerston Harrison County P.O. Box 2 205 Water Alley Bowerston, Ohio 44695

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Bowerston, Harrison County, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001. 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 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 the Village of Bowerston, Harrison County, as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, 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 March 5, 2003 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 Bowerston Harrison County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Butty Montgomery

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

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

March 5, 2003

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types		T-4-1-	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Property Tax and Other Local Taxes Intergovernmental Receipts Fines, Licenses, and Permits Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$49,118 30,742 1,179 5,668 52	\$4,705 13,419 445 35	\$4,803 89,598	\$58,626 133,759 1,179 6,113 87
Total Cash Receipts	86,759	18,604	94,401	199,764
Cash Disbursements: Current: Security of Persons and Property Public Health Services Leisure Time Activities Community Environment Basic Utility Services Transportation General Government Capital Outlay Total Cash Disbursements	7,044 284 7,729 10 720 22,306 23,620 10,175 71,888	1,307 1,902 7,733 1,952 ————————————————————————————————————	<u>89,598</u> 89,598	7,044 284 9,036 10 2,622 30,039 25,572 99,773
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	14,871	5,710	4,803	25,384
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements): Transfers-In Transfers-Out	(12,511)		12,511	12,511 (12,511)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(12,511)		12,511	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	2,360	5,710	17,314	25,384
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	178,113	27,339	3,983	209,435
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$180,473</u>	\$33,049	\$21,297	\$234,819

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Proprietary Fund Type
	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts:	
Charges for Services	\$119,557
Miscellaneous	3,608
Total Operating Cash Receipts	123,165
Operating Cash Disbursements:	
Personal Services	40,994
Travel	191
Contractual Services	21,793
Supplies and Materials	16,640
Capital Outlay	9,373
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	88,991
Operating Income/(Loss)	34,174
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:	
Debt Service	37,914
DODE COLVIDO	01,011
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	37,914
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	
Before Interfund Transfers and Advances	(3,740)
Transfers-In	41,454
Transfers-Out	(41,454)
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(3,740)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	144,332
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$140,592

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

	Governmental Fund Types				
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts: Property Tax and Other Local Taxe Intergovernmental Receipts	\$45,227 51.073	\$5,065 12,877	\$4,266	\$54,558 63,950	
Fines, Licenses, and Permits Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	1,479 11,928 563	904		1,479 12,832 563	
Total Cash Receipts	110,270	18,846	4,266	133,382	
Cash Disbursements					
Current: Security of Persons and Property Public Health Services	4,241 182			4,241 182	
Leisure Time Activities Community Environmen	7,250 10	2,372		9,622 10	
Basic Utility Services Transportation General Governmen	717 20,127 19,565	2,057 11,195 1,652	00.050	2,774 31,322 21,217	
Capital Outlay		·	28,950	28,950	
Total Cash Disbursements	52,092	17,276	28,950	98,318	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	58,178	1,570	(24,684)	35,064	
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements)	0.050		05.000	07.050	
Transfers-In Transfers-Out	2,050 (25,000)		25,000 (2,050)	27,050 (27,050)	
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements	(22,950)		22,950		
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	35,228	1,570	(1,734)	35,064	
Fund Cash Balances, January ′	142,885	25,769	5,717	174,371	
Fund Cash Balances, December 3	\$178,113	\$27,339	\$3,983	\$209,435	

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

	Proprietary Fund Type
	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts: Charges for Services Miscellaneous	\$119,205 1,525
Total Operating Cash Receipts	120,730
Operating Cash Disbursements: Personal Services Travel Contractual Services Supplies and Materials	37,487 225 15,280
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	68,852
Operating Income/(Loss)	51,878
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements: Debt Service	38,564
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	38,564
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers	13,314
Transfers-In Transfers-Out	42,504 (42,504)
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	13,314
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	131,018
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$144,332</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Village of Bowerston, Harrison 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 street maintenance, water and sewer utilities, and park operations. The Village contracts with the Bowerston Volunteer Fire Department 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. 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 fund:

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

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:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Capital Improvement Fund - This fund receives transfers from the General Fund and intergovernmental receipts to construct, repair, and/or improve the Village streets.

4. 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 funds:

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

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

D. Budgetary Process

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

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. Appropriations lapse at year end.

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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2002 and 2001 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. 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, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Village's basis of accounting.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

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

 2002
 2001

 Demand deposits
 \$375,411
 \$353,767

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2002 and 2001 follows:

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$69,173	\$86,759	\$17,586
Special Revenue	15,705	18,604	2,899
Capital Projects	105,700	106,912	1,212
Enterprise	154,114	164,619	10,505
Total	\$344,692	\$376,894	\$32,202

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$122,703	\$84,399	\$38,304
Special Revenue	17,400	12,894	4,506
Capital Projects	90,000	89,598	402
Enterprise	195,862	168,359	27,503
Total	\$425,965	\$355,250	\$70,715

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$69,538	\$112,320	\$42,782
Special Revenue	15,999	18,846	2,847
Capital Projects	3,000	29,266	26,266
Enterprise	155,764	163,234	7,470
Total	\$244,301	\$323,666	\$79,365

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$95,259	\$77,092	\$18,167
Special Revenue	18,057	17,276	781
Capital Projects	6,000	31,000	(25,000)
Enterprise	153,948	149,920	4,028
Total	\$273,264	\$275,288	(\$2,024)

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the Capital Improvement Fund by \$25,000 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001.

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. LOCAL INCOME TAX

The Village levies a municipal income tax of one percent on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

5. LOCAL INCOME TAX (Continued)

Employers within the Village withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the Village either monthly or quarterly, as required. Corporations and other individual taxpayers pay estimated taxes quarterly and file a declaration annually.

6. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2002 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Ohio Water Development Authority Loan	\$7,339	6.36%
Ohio Public Works Commission Loan	50,000	0.00%
FHA Mortgage Revenue Bonds	430,000	5.00%
Total	\$487,339	

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loan relates to a water and sewer plant expansion project that was mandated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. The OWDA has approved up to \$20,000 in loans to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$2,764, including interest, over 10 years. The scheduled payment amount below assumes that \$1,411,000 will be borrowed. The loan is collateralized by water and sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan relates to a Penn Avenue/State Street widening and resurfacing capital project within the Village. The original loan was for \$50,000 dated August 29, 2001 at 0% interest for 10 years. The loan will be repaid in semiannual payments of \$2,500 starting when the project is complete.

The FHA Sanitary Sewer System Mortgage Revenue Bonds were issued for the construction of a new sanitary sewer system. The original amount was \$600,000 dated March 1, 1981. These bonds are redeemed at a rate of approximately \$35,500, including interest, paid annually over 40 years. The bonds are collateralized by sewer receipts.

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

Year Ending			Mortgage
December 31	OWDA Loan	OPWC Loan	Revenue Bonds
2003	\$2,764	\$5,000	\$35,500
2004	2,764	5,000	35,800
2005	2,764	5,000	36,050
2006	0	5,000	35,250
2007	0	5,000	35,450
Subsequent	0	25,000	497,650
Total	\$8,292	\$50,000	\$675,700

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

7. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Village's full-time 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 2002 and 2001, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of Bowerston Harrison County P.O. Box 2 205 Water Alley Bowerston, Ohio 44695

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Bowerston, Harrison County, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated March 5, 2003. 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 an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and is described in the Schedule of Findings as finding number 2002-31234-001. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated March 5, 2003.

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.

Voinovich Government Center / 242 Federal Plaza W. / Suite 302 / Youngstown, OH 44503 Telephone: (330) 797-9900 (800) 443-9271 Fax: (330) 797-9949 www.auditor.state.oh.us Village of Bowerston
Harrison County
Independent Accountants' 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 audit committee, management and Village Council, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomery

March 5, 2003

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

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

FINDING NUMBER 2002-31234-001

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision from making expenditures unless they have been properly appropriated.

The Capital Improvement Fund had disbursements of \$31,000 and appropriations of \$6,000, thereby exceeding appropriations during fiscal year 2001 by \$25,000.

The Village Clerk/Treasurer should monitor expenditures by comparing the expenditures to appropriations and should approach Village Council to request amendments, subject resource availability, to the original appropriations as necessary to guard against overspending.

.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

Finding	Finding	Fully	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid;
Number	Summary	Corrected?	Explain:
2000-31234-001	ORC § 5705.41(B) Expenditures exceeded appropriations	No	Cited again as Finding Number 2002-31234-001
2000-31234-002	ORC § 5705.41(D) Expenditures were not	Yes	Corrected
2000-31234-003	properly certified Estimated receipts exceeded actual receipts	Yes	Corrected



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 BOWERSTON

HARRISON 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 MAY 8, 2003