



Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

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Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

Village of Seven Mile Butler County 201 High Street Seven Mile, Ohio 45062

To the Village Council:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

Bitty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

September 18, 2006

Corporate Centre of Blue Ash / 11117 Kenwood Rd. / Blue Ash, OH 45242 Telephone: (513) 361-8550 (800) 368-7419 Fax: (513) 361-8577 www.auditor.state.oh.us This page intentionally left blank.



Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of Seven Mile Butler County 201 High Street Seven Mile, Ohio 45062

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Seven Mile, Butler County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003. 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure 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. The Village processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Village because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Village has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Village to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the year ended December 31, 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2004 (and 2003), the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2004. While the Village does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Village has elected not to reformat its statements. Since this Village does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

Corporate Centre of Blue Ash / 11117 Kenwood Rd. / Blue Ash, OH 45242 Telephone: (513) 361-8550 (800) 368-7419 Fax: (513) 361-8577 www.auditor.state.oh.us Village of Seven Mile Butler County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the year ended December 31, 2004 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village as of December 31, 2004, or its changes in financial position or cash flows of its proprietary funds for the year then ended.

Also, 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 Village of Seven Mile, Butler County, as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Village to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2004. The Village has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 18, 2006, 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 grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

September 18, 2006

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:					
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	36133	\$0	\$11.997	\$0	\$48.130
Intergovernmental Receipts	48459	29,870	763	1,600	80,692
Charges for Services	8500	39,371	0	0	47,871
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	38104	1,835	0	0	39,939
Earnings on Investments	3192	1,167	0	0	4,359
Miscellaneous	176	1,104	0	0	1,280
Total Cash Receipts	134,564	73,347	12,760	1,600	222,271
Cash Disbursements: Current:					
Security of Persons and Property	43,983	13,977	0	0	57,960
Public Health Services	43,983	13,977	0	0	272
Leisure Time Activities	2,870	0	0	0	2,870
Community Environment	32	199	0 0	Ő	2,070
Transportation	0	11,492	Ő	Õ	11,492
General Government	72,039	0	Õ	Õ	72,039
Debt Service:	,				
Principal Payments	0	0	10,000	0	10,000
Interest Payments	0	0	2,193	0	2,193
Capital Outlay	1430	2097	0	90	3,617
Total Cash Disbursements	120,626	27,765	12,193	90	160,674
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	13,938	45,582	567	1,510	61,597
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):					
Transfers-In		1,447			1,447
Transfers-Out	(1,939)	0	0	0	(1,939)
Other Financing Sources	2,796				2,796
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	857	1,447	0	0	2,304
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing					
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	14,795	47,029	567	1,510	63,901
_				·	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	33,685	218,601	11,011	0	263,297
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$48,480	\$265,630	<u>\$11,578</u>	<u>\$1,510</u>	\$327,198
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$5,295	\$1,231	\$0	\$0	\$6,526

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, 2004

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Totals
	Enterprise	Agency	(Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Receipts: Charges for Services	\$133,174	\$0	\$133,174
Total Operating Cash Receipts	133,174	0	133,174
Operating Cash Disbursements: Personal Services Fringe Benefits Contractual Services Supplies and Materials Capital Outlay	10,150 1,392 600 72,141 4,100		10,150 1,392 600 72,141 4,100
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	88,383	0	88,383
Operating Income/(Loss)	44,791	0	44,791
Non-Operating Cash Receipts: Other Non-Operating Receipts	4,500	33,908	38,408
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	4,500	33,908	38,408
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements: Debt Service Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	29,934	33,908	29,934 33,908
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	29,934	33,908	63,842
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers and Advances	19,357	0	19,357
Transfers-In	492	0	492
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	19,849	0	19,849
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	97,428	0	97,428
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$117.277</u>	\$0	<u>\$117.277</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$3,806	\$0	\$3,806

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Property Tax and Other Local Taxes Intergovernmental Receipts Charges for Services Fines, Licenses, and Permits Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$35,293 44692 2,750 25,406 2,863 1,449	\$0 27,529 29,383 245 642 650	\$12,122 1,658 0 0 0 0 0	\$0 130,200 0 0 0 0	\$47,415 204,079 32,133 25,651 3,505 2,099
Total Cash Receipts	112,453	58,449	13,780	130,200	314,882
Cash Disbursements: Current: Security of Persons and Property Public Health Services Leisure Time Activities Transportation General Government Debt Service: Principal Payments Interest Payments Capital Outlay Total Cash Disbursements Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	39,992 269 3,536 86,739 <u>3,650</u> 134,186 (21,733)	21,406 12,883 <u>10,392</u> <u>44,681</u> <u>13,768</u>	10,000 7,616 <u>17,616</u> (3,836)	<u>130,200</u> <u>130,200</u> 0	61,398 269 3,536 12,883 86,739 10,000 7,616 144,242 326,683 (11,801)
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements): Transfers-In Transfers-Out Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(3,042)	2,478	0	0	2,478 (3,042) (564)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(24,775)	16,246	(3,836)	0	(12,365)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	58,460	202,355	14,847	0	275,662
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$33,685	\$218,601	\$11.011	\$0	\$263,297
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$890	\$632	\$0	\$0	\$1,522

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	
	Enterprise	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Receipts: Charges for Services	\$128,517	\$0	\$128,517
Total Operating Cash Receipts	128,517	0	128,517
Operating Cash Disbursements: Personal Services Fringe Benefits Supplies and Materials Capital Outlay	7,800 1,141 81,847 10,820		7,800 1,141 81,847 10,820
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	101,608	0	101,608
Operating Income/(Loss)	26,909	0	26,909
Non-Operating Cash Receipts: Other Non-Operating Receipts	211	19,609	19,820
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	211	19,609	19,820
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements: Debt Service Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	33,677	19,609	33,677 19,609
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	33,677	19,609	53,286
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers and Advances	(6,557)	0	(6,557)
Transfers-In	564		564
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(5,993)	0	(5,993)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	103,421	0	103,421
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$97,428</u>	\$0	\$97,428
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$123	\$0	\$123

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Village of Seven Mile, Butler County, Ohio (the Village), as a body corporate and politic. A publiclyelected six-member Council governs the Village. The Village provides water utilities, fire and ambulance services, 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 accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. This basis recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements adequately disclose material matters the Auditor of State prescribes.

C. Cash and Investments

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

The Village values certificates of deposit at cost. The investment in STAR Ohio (State Treasurer's investment pool) is valued at amounts reported by the State Treasurer.

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 reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds 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:

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

<u>Life Squad Fund</u> - This fund receives charges for services for providing life squad services for the safety of the Village.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

3. Debt Service Fund

These funds account for resources the Village accumulates to pay bond and note debt. The Village had the following significant debt service funds:

<u>Fire Debt Fund</u> – This fund is used to repay the debt issued for the purchase of a fire truck.

<u>Life Squad Debt Fund</u> – This fund is used to repay the debt issued for payment of life squad bonds.

4. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Village had the following significant capital project fund:

<u>Capital Project Fund</u> - This fund receives grant money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Village Streets.

5. Enterprise Funds

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

<u>Water Works Fund</u> - This fund receives charges for services from residents and non-residents to cover the cost of providing this utility. This fund also received loan proceeds from the Ohio Water Development Authority. This debt is being repaid from water department revenue.

6. Fiduciary Funds (Trust and Agency Funds)

Funds for which the Village is acting in an agency capacity are classified as agency funds. The Village had the following significant fiduciary fund:

<u>Mayor's Court Fund</u> – This agency fund accounts for the Village court activity.

E. 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. Village 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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 2004 and 2003 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Village records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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

2004	2003
\$161,100	\$259,662
101,063	101,063
262,163	360,725
182,312	
\$444,475	\$360,725
	\$161,100 101,063 262,163 182,312

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

Investments: Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2004 and 2003 follows:

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$111,235	\$137,360	\$26,125	
Special Revenue	58,488	74,794	16,306	
Debt Service	13,600	12,760	(840)	
Capital Projects	82,800	1,600	(81,200)	
Enterprise	130,000	138,166	8,166	
Total	\$396,123	\$364,680	(\$31,443)	

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

<u>0</u>			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$145,315	\$127,860	\$17,455
Special Revenue	244,640	28,996	215,644
Debt Service	17,616	12,193	5,423
Capital Projects	82,800	90	82,710
Enterprise	227,268	122,123	105,145
Total	\$717,639	\$291,262	\$426,377

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$111,319	\$112,453	\$1,134
Special Revenue	54,875	60,927	6,052
Debt Service	13,600	13,780	180
Capital Projects	130,200	130,200	0
Enterprise	138,750	129,292	(9,458)
Total	\$448,744	\$446,652	(\$2,092)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	propriation Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$169,854	\$138,118	\$31,736
Special Revenue	236,965	45,313	191,652
Debt Service	19,100	17,616	1,484
Capital Projects	130,200	130,200	0
Enterprise	242,170	135,408	106,762
Total	\$798,289	\$466,655	\$331,634

Contrary to Ohio law, the Village did not obtain prior certification of the fiscal officer for all purchases nor were commitments properly encumbered.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Village Council adopts tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The State pays the Village amounts equaling these deductions. The Village includes these with Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half payment 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.

Property owners assess tangible personal property tax. They must file a list of tangible 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 the Village's behalf.

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2004 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
1995 Ohio Water Development Authority Loan #2870	\$258,344	2.00%
1997 Ohio Water Development Authority Loan #2871	33,596	2.00%
1995 Ohio Water Development Authority Loan #3056	104,768	6.24%
1997 Life Squad Bonds	30,000	5.15%
Total	\$426,708	

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loans relate to a water and sewer plant expansion project that was mandated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. The Village received the proceeds from three separate loans from the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) of \$392,530, \$136,929, and \$44,483 to improve the Village's existing water treatment plant. These loans were to be repaid over a period of twenty-five years. Interest is paid semi-annually, and the principal is paid annually. The loans are collateralized by revenue receipted from residents for the cost of providing water utilities. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements.

In March 1997, the Village issued \$80,000 of revenue bonds for the purchase of a new ambulance. These bonds are to be repaid over a period of ten years. Interest is paid semi-annually and bonds are paid annually with revenue received from real estate and property taxes.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

5. DEBT (Continued)

Year ending December 31:	OWDA Loan #2870	OWDA Loan #2871	OWDA Loan #3056	Life Squad Bonds
2005	\$20,105	\$2,615	\$10,957	\$11,545
2006	20,105	\$2,615	\$10,957	11,030
2007	20,105	\$2,615	\$10,957	10,515
2008	20,105	\$2,615	\$10,957	
2009	20,105	\$2,615	\$10,957	
2010-2014	100,525	13,075	54,785	
2015-2019	100,525	13,075	54,785	
Total	\$301,575	\$39,225	\$164,355	\$33,090

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's full-time employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plans' retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2004 and 2003, OPERS members contributed 8.5 percent of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2004.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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



Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

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

Village of Seven Mile Butler County 201 High Street Seven Mile, Ohio 45062

To the Village Council:

We have audited the financial statements of Village of Seven Mile, Butler County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated September18, 2006, wherein we noted the Village prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State established rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted that the Village uses the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) to process its financial transactions. *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the Auditor of State's independence to audit the Village because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and, as requested, operates UAN. 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures in order to express our opinions on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted a certain matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider a reportable condition. 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 management's assertions in the financial statements. A Reportable condition is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2004-001.

A material weakness is a reportable 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 caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when 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 material weaknesses. However, we do not believe the reportable condition described above is a material weakness. In a separate letter to the Village's management dated September 18, 2006, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting which we did not deem reportable conditions.

Village of Seven Mile Butler County Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standardsⁱ* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2004-001. In a separate letter to the Village's management dated September 18, 2006, we reported an other matter related to noncompliance we deemed immaterial.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and Village Council. It is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomeny

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

September 18, 2006

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

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

FINDING NUMBER 2004-001

Noncompliance Citation/Reportable Condition

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41(D)(1), prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. "Then and Now" certificate – If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Village can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Village has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 (\$1,000 prior to April 7, 2003) may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Village.

- 2. Blanket Certificate Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. (Prior to September 26, 2003, blanket certificates were limited to \$5,000 and three months.) The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- 3. Super Blanket Certificate The Village may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The availability of funds was not certified in fifty-five percent of the Village's expenditures tested, nor did the Village use the aforementioned exceptions. Every effort should be made by the Village to properly utilize the encumbrance method of accounting by certifying funds on purchase orders. Failure to properly certify funds could result in overspending the Village's funds.

Village of Seven Mile Butler County Schedule of Findings Page 2

FINDING NUMBER 2004-001 (Continued)

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Village's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Clerk certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Village. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Village certify purchases to which section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The fiscal officer should sign the certification at the time the Village incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The fiscal officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

Officials' Response

We did not receive a response to this find from Village Officials.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2002-001	Village failed to provide complete documentation for water billings and meter readings	Yes	
2002-002	Delinquent water accounts were not shut off and certified to the county auditor to be placed on the tax duplicate	Yes	
2002-003	Actual water meter readings were not occurring at least quarterly	Yes	
2002-004	Water department records were incomplete and possibly inaccurate	Yes	



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VILLAGE OF SEVEN MILE

BUTLER 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED OCTOBER 3, 2006