



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

#### VILLAGE OF FLUSHING BELMONT COUNTY DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Village of Flushing Belmont County P.O. Box 66 212 High Street Flushing, Ohio 43977

To the Village Council:

## **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Village of Flushing, Belmont County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

## Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Village's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

#### Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the Village prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Village does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

## Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the respective changes in financial position or cash flows thereof for the years then ended.

# **Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Village of Flushing, Belmont County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 19, 2018, 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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

tare Yost

Dave Yost Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

November 19, 2018

# Village of Flushing, Ohio

# Belmont County Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

		Special	Totals (Memorandum
	General	Revenue	Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$18,353	\$78,780	\$97,133
Intergovernmental	44,953	56,956	101,909
Earnings on Investments	5,634	322	5,956
Miscellaneous	148,442	100	148,542
Total Cash Receipts	217,382	136,158	353,540
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	11,961	86,416	98,377
Public Health Services	3,938	0	3,938
Leisure Time Activities	6,005	10,251	16,256
Basic Utility Services	5,465	0	5,465
Transportation	0	50,409	50,409
General Government	50,824	0	50,824
Total Cash Disbursements	78,193	147,076	225,269
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	139,189	(10,918)	128,271
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	167,459	251,101	418,560
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Restricted	0	240,183	240,183
Assigned	304,273	0	304,273
Unassigned (Deficit)	2,375	0	2,375
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$306,648	\$240,183	\$546,831

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

# Village of Flushing, Ohio

Belmont County Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) Proprietary Fund Type For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts	
Charges for Services	\$506,527
Miscellaneous	189
Total Operating Cash Receipts	506,716
Operating Cash Disbursements	
Personal Services	51,177
Employee Fringe Benefits	18,929
Contractual Services	31,656
Supplies and Materials	179,802
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	281,564
Operating Income	225,152
Non-Operating (Disbursements)	
Principal Retirement	(104,782)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(24,402)
Total Non-Operating (Disbursements)	(129,184)
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	95,968
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	665,873
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$761,841

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

# **Note 1 - Reporting Entity**

The Village of Flushing (the Village), Belmont County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides water and sewer utilities, park operations, and police services. The Village contracts with Flushing Volunteer Fire Department to receive fire protection services.

# Public Entity Risk Pools

The Village participates in the Public Entity Pool of Ohio (PEP), a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

# Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

# **Basis of Presentation**

The Village's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types, and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

# Fund Accounting

The Village uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Village are presented below:

*General Fund* The general fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Village for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

*Special Revenue Funds* These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

*Street Construction Maintenance and Repair* The street construction maintenance and repair fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax and motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for construction, maintenance, and repair of streets within the Village.

*Fire Equipment* The fire equipment fund receives property tax money to provide fire apparatus.

*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 Funds:

## Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

*Water Fund* The water fund accounts for the provision of water treatment and distribution to the residents and commercial users located within the Village.

*Sewer Fund* The sewer fund accounts for the provision of sanitary sewer services to the residents and commercial users within the Village.

## **Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit.

## **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 Village Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. 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 approve estimated resources.

*Encumbrances* The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village 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 2017 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### **Deposits and Investments**

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

# Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

# Capital Assets

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

# Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Village must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* The Village classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

**Restricted** Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

*Committed* Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Village Council or a Village official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

*Unassigned* Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Village applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

## Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2017 follows:

2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$54,753	\$217,382	\$162,629
Special Revenue	119,660	136,158	16,498
Enterprise	585,000	506,716	(78,284)
Total	\$759,413	\$860,256	\$100,843

## 2017 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$222,199	\$78,193	\$144,006
Special Revenue	367,794	147,076	220,718
Enterprise	1,250,233	410,748	839,485
Total	\$1,840,226	\$636,017	\$1,204,209

# Note 4 – Deposits

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

	2017
Demand deposits	\$1,162,935
Certificates of deposit	145,737
Total deposits	\$1,308,672

#### Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS).

At December 31, 2017, the Village had deposits with two financial institutions, one of which was in the process of joining OPCS. Therefore, this financial institution still maintained its own collateral pool at year end.

## Note 5 – Taxes

# **Property Taxes**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council adopted 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 financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

## Note 6 - Risk Management

The Village is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Village insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Village belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York) functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

#### Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2017, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

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

#### Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other auditor's) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and net position at December 31, 2017.

## Note 6 - Risk Management (Continued)

	<u>2017</u>
Assets	\$44,452,326
Liabilities	<u>(13,004,011)</u>
Net Position	<u>\$31,448,315</u>

At December 31, 2017 the liabilities above include approximately \$11.8 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$11.2 million of unpaid claims to be billed. The Pool's membership increased to 527 members in 2017. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2017, the Village's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$6,000.

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to PEP for each year of membership.

2017 Contributions to PEP
\$10,257

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to PEP. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

# **Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

# **Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

Most employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a costsharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2017.

## Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (Continued)

## Social Security

A few of the Village's employees contributed to social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2017.

## **Note 8 - Postemployment Benefits**

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 1.0 percent during calendar year 2017.

# Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2017 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Ohio Water Development Authority Loans	\$1,587,613	0-2.0%
Ohio Public Works Commission Loan	92,700	0%
Total	\$1,680,313	

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loans relate to water treatment improvements, water system improvements/ supplement, a waterline replacement, a force main and lift station replacement and an automatic meter reading system payable in semi-annual installments at annual percentage rates of 0% to 2.0%, with final payment due July 1, 2042. The loans are secured by water and sewer utility 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 force main and lift station replacement payable in semi-annual installments at an annual percentage rate of 0%, with the final payment due January 1, 2043. The loan is secured by water and sewer utility receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements.

# Note 9 – Debt (Continued)

## Amortization

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

Year Ending		
December 31:	OWDA Loans	OPWC Loan
2018	\$125,550	\$3,635
2019	125,550	3,635
2020	125,550	3,635
2021	114,010	3,635
2022	85,179	3,635
2023-2027	425,900	18,175
2028-2032	408,671	18,175
2033-2037	295,257	18,175
2038-2042	270,237	18,175
2043	0	1,818
Total	\$1,975,904	\$92,693
2021 2022 2023-2027 2028-2032 2033-2037 2038-2042 2043	114,010 85,179 425,900 408,671 295,257 270,237 0	3,63 3,63 18,17 18,17 18,17 18,17 18,17

# **Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities**

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Village are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

# Village of Flushing, Ohio

#### Belmont County Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

		0	Quitel	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	(Memorandum
Cash Receipts	General	Revenue	Projects	Only)
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$17,460	\$73,502	\$0	\$90,962
Intergovernmental	44,500	59,679	0	104,179
Fines, Licenses and Permits	100	0	0	100,179
Earnings on Investments	5,054	336	0	5,390
Miscellaneous	1,123	500	0	1,623
Total Cash Receipts	68,237	134,017	0	202,254
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	13,766	75,251	0	89,017
Public Health Services	3,382	0	0	3,382
Leisure Time Activities	6,561	4,844	0	11,405
Basic Utility Services	6,672	0	0	6,672
Transportation	0	32,474	0	32,474
General Government	57,534	0	0	57,534
Capital Outlay	0	0	22,561	22,561
Total Cash Disbursements	87,915	112,569	22,561	223,045
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(19,678)	21,448	(22,561)	(20,791)
Other Financing Receipts				
Other Debt Proceeds	0	0	22,561	22,561
Total Other Financing Receipts	0	0	22,561	22,561
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(19,678)	21,448	0	1,770
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	187,137	229,653	0	416,790
Fund Cash Balances, December 31				
Restricted	0	251,101	0	251,101
Assigned	167,446	0	0	167,446
Unassigned (Deficit)	13	0	0	13
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$167,459	\$251,101	\$0	\$418,560

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

#### Village of Flushing, Ohio Belmont County Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) Proprietary Fund Type For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

_	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts	
Charges for Services	\$417,177
Total Operating Cash Receipts	417,177
Operating Cash Disbursements	
Personal Services	50,622
Employee Fringe Benefits	20,325
Contractual Services	26,761
Supplies and Materials	174,331
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	272,039
Operating Income	145,138
Non-Operating (Disbursements)	
Principal Retirement	(103,382)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(25,802)
Total Non-Operating (Disbursements)	(129,184)
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	15,954
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	649,919
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$665,873

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

# **Note 1 - Reporting Entity**

The Village of Flushing (the Village), Belmont County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides water and sewer utilities, park operations, and police services. The Village contracts with Flushing Volunteer Fire Department to receive fire protection services.

# Jointly Governed Organizations and Public Entity Risk Pools

The Village is involved with Bel-O-Mar Regional Council, which is a jointly governed organization. Note 11 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. The Village also participates in the Public Entity Pool of Ohio (PEP), a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

# **Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

# **Basis of Presentation**

The Village's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types, and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

# Fund Accounting

The Village uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Village are presented below:

*General Fund* The general fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Village for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

*Special Revenue Funds* These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

*Street Construction Maintenance and Repair* The street construction maintenance and repair fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax and motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for construction, maintenance, and repair of streets within the Village.

*Fire Equipment* The fire equipment fund receives property tax money to provide fire apparatus.

## **Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

*Capital Project Funds* These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Village had the following significant capital projects fund:

*Water Meters Fund* The water meters fund accounts for loan proceeds and expenditures relating to the Village's new water meter project.

*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 Funds:

*Water Fund* The water fund accounts for the provision of water treatment and distribution to the residents and commercial users located within the Village.

*Sewer Fund* The sewer fund accounts for the provision of sanitary sewer services to the residents and commercial users within the Village.

# **Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit.

#### **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 Village Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. 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 approve estimated resources.

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

# **Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

A summary of 2016 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

# Deposits and Investments

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

# Capital Assets

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

# Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Village must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* The Village classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

**Restricted** Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

*Committed* Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Village Council or a Village official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

*Unassigned* Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The Village applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

# **Note 3 - Budgetary Activity**

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2016 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$53,574	\$68,237	\$14,663
Special Revenue	117,450	134,017	16,567
Capital Projects	32,110	22,561	(9,549)
Enterprise	585,000	417,177	(167,823)
Total	\$788,134	\$641,992	(\$146,142)

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$240,290	\$87,915	\$152,375
Special Revenue	346,157	112,569	233,588
Capital Projects	32,110	22,561	9,549
Enterprise	1,233,133	401,223	831,910
Total	\$1,851,690	\$624,268	\$1,227,422

# Note 4 – Deposits

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

	2016
Demand deposits	\$938,896
Certificates of deposit	145,537
Total deposits	\$1,084,433

#### Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village.

## Note 5 – Taxes

## **Property Taxes**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council adopted 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 financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

## Note 6 - Risk Management

The Village is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Village insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Village belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York) functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

#### Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2016, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

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

#### Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other auditor's) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and net position at December 31, 2016.

	<u>2016</u>
Assets	\$42,182,281
Liabilities	<u>(13,396,700)</u>
Net Position	<u>\$28,785,581</u>

## Note 6 - Risk Management (Continued)

At December 31, 2016 the liabilities above include approximately 12.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$11.5 million of unpaid claims to be billed. The Pool's membership increased to 520 members in 2016. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2016, the Village's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$7,000.

Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to PEP for each year of membership.

<b>2016 Contributions to PEP</b>		
\$10,380		

After one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining PEP, if the member notifies PEP in writing 60 days prior to the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to PEP. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

# **Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

# **Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

Most employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a costsharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

# Social Security

A few of the Village's employees contributed to social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

#### **Note 8 - Postemployment Benefits**

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 2.0 percent during calendar year 2016.

# Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2016 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Ohio Water Development Authority Loans	\$1,688,761	0-2.0%
Ohio Public Works Commission Loan	96,333	0%
Total	\$1,785,094	

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loans relate to water treatment improvements, water system improvements/ supplement, a waterline replacement, a force main and lift station replacement and an automatic meter reading system payable in semi-annual installments at annual percentage rates of 0% to 2.0%, with final payment due July 1, 2042. The loans are secured by water and sewer utility 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 force main and lift station replacement payable in semi-annual installments at an annual percentage rate of 0%, with the final payment due January 1, 2043. The loan is secured by water and sewer utility receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements.

#### Amortization

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

Year Ending		
December 31:	OWDA Loans	OPWC Loan
2017	\$125,550	\$3,635
2018	125,550	3,635
2019	125,550	3,635
2020	125,550	3,635
2021	114,010	3,635
2022-2026	425,900	18,175
2027-2031	417,286	18,175
2032-2036	295,257	18,175
2037-2041	257,727	18,175
2042-2043	51,545	5,453
Total	\$2,063,925	\$96,328

# Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the Village are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

# Note 11 – Jointly Governed Organizations

Bel-O-Mar Regional Council is operated as a not-for-profit organization formed to provide planning and administrative services to all local governments in a four county region comprised of Belmont County, Ohio and three counties in West Virginia (Ohio, Marshall and Wetzel Counties). The governing board is comprised of 58 officials from the four county service area of which three members and one alternate member are appointed by each local government within Belmont County. The Council is not dependent upon the Village for its continued existence, no debt exists, and the Village does not maintain an equity interest.



Dave Yost · Auditor of State

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

Village of Flushing Belmont County P.O. Box 66 212 High Street Flushing, Ohio 43977

To the Village Council:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements by fund type of the Village of Flushing, Belmont County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2018, wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit.

# Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Village's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings that we consider material weaknesses. We consider findings 2017-001 and 2017-002 to be material weaknesses.

53 Johnson Road, The Plains, Ohio 45780-1231 Phone: 740-594-3300 or 800-441-1389 Fax: 740-594-2110 www.ohioauditor.gov Village of Flushing Belmont County Independent Auditor's 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, opining 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

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Dave Yost Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

November 19, 2018

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016

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

#### FINDING NUMBER 2017-001

#### **Material Weakness**

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C § 210, *Terms of Engagement*, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C § 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

The Village should maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the Village to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

The Ohio Village Officer's Handbook (revised March 2018) provides suggested account classifications. These accounts classify receipts by fund and source (property taxes or intergovernmental revenue, for example). Using these classifications and the aforementioned accounting records will provide the Village with information required to monitor compliance with the budget, and prepare annual reports in the format required by the Auditor of State.

The Village did not always record receipts and disbursements into accurate classifications on the financial statements.

Also, the Village did not properly classify its December 31, 2017 and 2016 governmental fund cash balances in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) *Statement Number 54 - Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions,* effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2010.

We noted the following in 2017:

- The Village improperly classified second half real estate homestead and rollback in the amounts of \$1,678, \$631, \$1,141, \$137, \$3,156 and \$1,621 as taxes, rather than intergovernmental in the General, Parks and Recreation, Police, Fire Levy I, Fire Equipment and Police Levy 2 Funds, respectively.
- Fire levy proceeds in the amounts of \$39,210 and \$1,931 that were disbursed to the fire department were improperly classified as general government, rather than security of persons and property in the Fire Equipment and Fire Levy I Funds, respectively.
- Ending fund balance of \$4,712 in the Parks and Recreation Fund was improperly classified as committed, rather than restricted.
- A significant portion of the General Fund ending balance in the amount of \$304,273 was improperly classified as unassigned, rather than assigned due to subsequent year appropriations exceeding estimated revenues.

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016 (Continued)

#### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

## FINDING NUMBER 2017-001 (Continued)

#### Material Weakness (Continued)

We noted the following in 2016:

- Fire levy proceeds in the amounts of \$42,001 and \$2,600 that were disbursed to the fire department were improperly classified as general government, rather than security of persons and property in the Fire Equipment and Fire Levy I Funds, respectively.
- OWDA loan proceeds totaling \$22,561 were improperly classified as intergovernmental, rather than other debt proceeds in the Water Meters Fund. In addition, these loan proceeds and the subsequent disbursements were double posted to the Village's accounting system which required adjustment.
- Ending fund balance of \$6,555 in the Parks and Recreation Fund was improperly classified as committed, rather than restricted.
- A significant portion of the General Fund ending balance in the amount of \$167,446 was improperly classified as unassigned, rather than assigned due to subsequent year appropriations exceeding estimated revenues.

The reclassifications noted above, with which management agrees, have been made and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

In addition, we also identified additional misstatements ranging from \$54 to \$782 in 2017 and \$50 to \$1,096 in 2016 that we have brought to the Village's attention and are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements due to their insignificance.

The Village did not have controls in place to ensure transactions are posted to the correct account.

By not properly reporting financial activity could result in material misstatements occurring and remaining undetected and the risk that management would not be provided an accurate picture of the Village's financial position and operations.

The Village should take the necessary steps to ensure that all receipts, disbursements, and fund balances are classified in the correct account. When classifying fund balance in accordance with GASB 54 the Fiscal Officer should refer to Auditor of State Bulletin 2011-004 for guidance.

Officials' Response: We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

#### FINDING NUMBER 2017-002

#### Material Weakness

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C § 210, *Terms of Engagement*, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C § 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016 (Continued)

#### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

## FINDING NUMBER 2017-002 (Continued)

#### **Material Weakness (Continued)**

Sound accounting practices require accurately posting estimated receipts and appropriations to the accounting system to provide information for budget versus actual comparison and to allow the Council to make informed decisions regarding budgetary matters.

The Appropriation resolution and subsequent amendments establish the legal spending authority of the Village and the appropriation ledger provides the process by which the Village controls spending, it is therefore necessary the amounts appropriated by the Council are precisely stated and accurately posted to the appropriation ledger.

The original certificate and amendments establish the amounts available for expenditures for the Village and the receipts ledger provides the process by which the Village controls what is available, it is therefore necessary the amounts estimated by the County Budget Commission are posted accurately to the receipts ledger.

The Fiscal Officer did not properly post amendments for select budgeted receipts or appropriations to the accounting system. Variances existed between the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources and Appropriation Resolutions to the amounts posted to the accounting system.

The following variance occurred in 2017:

	Amount Per	Amount Posted to	
Fund	Amended Certificate	Accounting System	Variance
State Grant - EMS Fund	\$2,160	\$0	\$2,160

The following variances occurred in 2016:

Fund	Amount Per Amended Certificate	Amount Posted to Accounting System	Variance
Water Meters Fund	\$32,110	\$43,625	(\$11,515)
Fund	Approved Appropriations	Amount Posted to Accounting System	Variance
Water Meters Fund	\$32,110	\$43,625	(\$11,515)

The Village did not have procedures in place to accurately post authorized budgetary measures to the accounting system. The appropriations (and/or amendments thereof) approved by Council were not properly posted to the accounting system. Additionally, the approved Certificate of Estimated Resources (and/or amendments thereof) was not posted to the accounting system. Adjustments were made to the budgetary activity reported in the notes to the financial statements in order to accurately present budgeted receipts and appropriations.

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016 (Continued)

## FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

## FINDING NUMBER 2017-002 (Continued)

#### **Material Weakness (Continued)**

Failure to accurately post the appropriations and estimated resources to the accounting system could result in overspending and negative cash balances. In addition, this could lead to inaccurate reporting of the budgetary information in the financial statements.

To effectively control the budgetary cycle and to maintain accountability over receipts and expenditures, the Village Fiscal Officer should post to the accounting system, on a timely basis, estimated resources as certified by the budget commission and appropriations approved by the Council. The Village should then monitor budget versus actual reports to help ensure amended certificates of resources and appropriations have been properly posted to the accounting system.

Officials' Response: We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

VILLAGE OF FLUSHING

BELMONT 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 DECEMBER 27, 2018

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