



JACKSON TOWNSHIP VINTON COUNTY DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Prepared by Management:	
Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2021	5
Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2021	7
Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2020	13
Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020	15
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	21
Schedule of Findings	23
Prepared by Management:	
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	31

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Jackson Township Vinton County 59665 Mt. Olive Road McArthur, Ohio 45651

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Jackson Township, Vinton County, Ohio (the Township), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

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* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township, as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, or the changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Township, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Jackson Township Vinton County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by Township on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(C), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 2 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 14 to the 2020 financial statements, the Township restated the January 1, 2020 fund balances in the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds for prior year errors.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(C) permit. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Jackson Township Vinton County Independent Auditor's Report Page 3

- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September XX, 2022, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's 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 Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

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Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

September 30, 2022

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COMBINED STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$116,245	\$102,014	\$218,259
Intergovernmental	48,700	190,903	239,603
Special Assessments	9	0	9
Earnings on Investments	263	480	743
Miscellaneous	0	6,920	6,920
Total Cash Receipts	165,217	300,317	465,534
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	51,794	38,025	89,819
Public Safety	0	51,189	51,189
Public Works	0	86,297	86,297
Health	0	33,526	33,526
Capital Outlay	1,100	0	1,100
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	0	12,724	12,724
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	1,129	1,129
Total Cash Disbursements	52,894	222,890	275,784
Excess of Receipts Over Disbursements	112,323	77,427	189,750
Special Item	704	0	704
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	113,027	77,427	190,454
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	122,221	203,790	326,011
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$235,248	\$281,217	\$516,465

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statement.

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Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jackson Township, Vinton County, Ohio (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection services.

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

The Township 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 Township 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 Township 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 Township had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

Gasoline Tax Fund The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Fire Fund The fire fund accounts for receipts generated from real estate special tax levy which relates to the portion of the tax levy for fire protection to the township.

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.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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, object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees 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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2021 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

Deposits and Investments

The Township does not have any investments.

Capital Assets

The Township 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 Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable The Township 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 Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend 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.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

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 Township 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 11.

Note 3 – Compliance

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the Fire Fund by \$4,189 as of December 31, 2021.

Note 4- Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending 2021 follows:

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$126,000	\$165,921	\$39,921
Special Revenue	256,705	300,317	43,612
Total	\$382,705	\$466,238	\$83,533
2021 Budgeted vs.			
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$126,000	\$52,894	\$73,106
Special Revenue	281,977	222,890	59,087
Total	\$407,977	\$275,784	\$132,193

Note 5 – Deposits

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled. Monies from all funds are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. A summary of the Township's deposit account is as follows:

Note 5 – Deposits (Continued)

	2021
Demand Deposits	\$516,465

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2021, the Township is holding no unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits

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

Note 6 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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 Township.

Note 7 - Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs, if material.

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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

Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Township employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, 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 Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

Note 9 – 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 OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2021. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2021.

Note 10 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2021 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Promissory Note	\$20,000	3.85%

In 2018, the Township entered into a loan for the purchase of a new truck for Township road maintenance.

Amortization of the loan, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	Promissory
Year ending December 31:	Note
2022	\$13,853
2023	6,925
Total	\$20,778

Note 11 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. 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 12 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. As of December 31, 2021, there were no nonspendable balances.

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. These restricted and committed amounts in the special revenue funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Note 13 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During 2021, the Township received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

		Special	Totals (Memorandum
	General	Revenue	Only)
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$106,615	\$92,968	\$199,583
Intergovernmental	31,236	147,165	178,401
Earnings on Investments	396	278	674
Miscellaneous	0	6,650	6,650
Total Cash Receipts	138,247	247,061	385,308
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
General Government	66,960	29,602	96,562
Public Safety	0	47,212	47,212
Public Works	0	70,073	70,073
Health	0	28,434	28,434
Capital Outlay Debt Service:	7,598	0	7,598
Principal Retirement	0	12,264	12,264
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	1,589	1,589
Interest and I isear charges		1,000	1,009
Total Cash Disbursements	74,558	189,174	263,732
Excess of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	63,689	57,887	121,576
Special Item	2,991	0	2,991
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	66,680	57,887	124,567
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	55,541	145,903	201,444
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$122,221	\$203,790	\$326,011

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statement.

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Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Jackson Township, Vinton County, Ohio (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection services.

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

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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 Township had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

Gasoline Tax Fund The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Fire Fund The fire fund accounts for receipts generated from real estate special tax levy which relates to the portion of the tax levy for fire protection to the township.

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.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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, object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees 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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2020 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

Deposits and Investments

The Township does not have any investments.

Capital Assets

The Township 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 Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable The Township 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 Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend 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.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Assigned Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

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 Township 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 11.

Note 3 – Compliance

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the Fire Fund by \$28,712 for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Note 4- Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending 2020 follows:

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$62,884	\$141,238	\$78,354
Special Revenue	199,861	247,061	47,200
Total	\$262,745	\$388,299	\$125,554
2020 Budgeted vs.	Actual Budgetary I Appropriation	Basis Expenditures Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$177,399	\$74,558	\$102,841
Special Revenue	258,078	189,174	68,904
Total	\$435,477	\$263,732	\$171,745

Note 5 – Deposits

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled. Monies from all funds are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. A summary of the Township's deposit account is as follows:

Note 5 – Deposits (Continued)

	2020
Demand Deposits	\$326,011

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2020, the Township is holding no unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits

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

Note 6 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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 Township.

Note 7 - Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs, if material.

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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

Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Township employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, 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 Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2020.

Note 9 – 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 OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2020. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2020.

Note 10 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2020 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Promissory Note	\$32,724	3.85%

In 2018, the Township entered into a loan for the purchase of a new truck for Township road maintenance.

Amortization of the loan, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	Promissory
Year ending December 31:	Note
2021	\$13,853
2022	13,853
2023	6,925
Total	\$34,631

Note 11 – Contingent Liabilities

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. 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 12 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. As of December 31, 2020, there were no nonspendable balances.

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. These restricted and committed amounts in the special revenue funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Note 13 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from the emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

Note 14 – Restatement

The Township had the following restatement due to posting a prior period adjustment:

	General	Special
	Fund	Revenue
Reported Fund Balance at December 31, 2019:	\$114,515	\$86,929
Prior Period errors:	(58,974)	58,974
Restated Fund Balance at January 1, 2020:	55,541	145,903

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

88 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov (800) 282-0370

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

Jackson Township Vinton County 59665 Mt. Olive Road McArthur, Ohio 45651

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements of Jackson Township, Vinton County, Ohio (the Township), and have issued our report thereon dated September 30, 2022, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(C) permit.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purposes of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. 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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2021-005 and 2021-006 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Jackson Township Vinton County Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards

Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2021-001 through 2021-004.

Township's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Township's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. The Township's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

September 30, 2022

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

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

FINDING NUMBER 2021-001

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 133 authorizes certain methods by which subdivisions may incur debt.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.22 provides a subdivision may issue anticipatory- securities if it meets the requirements outlined in the statute.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.10 permits a subdivision to issue anticipation securities in anticipation of current property tax revenues or in anticipation of current revenues in and for any fiscal year from any source or combination of sources, including distributions of any federal or state monies, other than the proceeds of property taxes levied by the subdivision.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.15 provides a subdivision is authorized to issue securities for the purpose of paying all or any portion of the costs of any permanent improvement that the subdivision is authorized, alone or in cooperation with other persons, to acquire, improve, or construct.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.18 provides the taxing authority of a subdivision, may be legislation submit to the electors of the subdivision the question of issuing any general obligation bonds, for one purpose, that the subdivision has power or authority to issue.

During 2021 and 2020, the Township made principal payments on outstanding promissory notes in the amount of \$12,724 and \$12,264 respectively. The promissory note was used by the Township to purchase a truck.

This type of debt is not authorized in Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 133. The Township had no statutory authority to incur debt through either installment loans or promissory notes with any banking institutions. Inadequate policies and procedures related to debt issuance can result in illegal expenditures by the Township.

The Township should consult with legal counsel before incurring debt to determine if the debt is authorized by statute.

Officials' Response: The Township will consult with legal counsel in the future before incurring any debt.

FINDING NUMBER 2021-002

Noncompliance/Finding for Recovery Resolved Under Audit

Ohio Rev. Code § 505.24(A) provides, in calendar year 2018 each township trustee is entitled to compensation in an amount for each day of service in the business of the township, to be paid from the township treasury as follows: In townships having a budget of more than five hundred thousand but not more than seven hundred fifty thousand dollars, forty-nine dollars and sixty-three cents per day for not more than two hundred days. In calendar year 2019 and in each calendar year thereafter through calendar year 2028, the amounts paid as specified in division (A) of this section shall be increased by one and three-quarters per cent.

The Township's annual budget was between \$500,000.01 and \$750,000 for 2021. Based on this budget amount, Ohio Rev. Code § 505.24(A) limits the annual salary of Township Trustees to \$9,926 for officials who were elected prior to December 27, 2018.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2021-002 (Continued)

Noncompliance/Finding for Recovery Resolved Under Audit (Continued)

Trustees Bret Sowers and Ray Seitz, Jr. had terms of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2021. As such, they should have received a total salary of \$9,926 in 2021. However, they were incorrectly paid \$10,456 which is the 2021 rate applicable to officials elected or appointed after December 27, 2018. This resulted in Trustee Bret Sowers and Trustee Ray Seitz, Jr. each being overpaid \$530.

In accordance with the foregoing facts, and pursuant to Ohio Rev. § 117.28, a Finding for Recovery is hereby issued for public money illegally expended against Bret Sowers, Township Trustee, and his surety company, Westfield Insurance Company, Bond No. BND8914267, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$530, \$53 in favor of the Jackson Township's General Fund and \$477 in favor of the Township's Gasoline Tax Fund.

In accordance with the foregoing facts, and pursuant to Ohio Rev. § 117.28, a Finding for Recovery is hereby issued for public money illegally expended against Ray Seitz, Jr., Township Trustee, and his surety company, Westfield Insurance Company, Bond No. BND8917333, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$530, \$53 in favor of the Jackson Township's General Fund and \$477 in favor of the Township's Gasoline Tax Fund.

Under Ohio law, public officials are strictly liable for all public money received or collected by them or their subordinates under color of law. Ohio Rev. Code § 9.39; *Cordray v. Internatl. Preparatory School*, 128 Ohio St.3d 50 (2010). Public officials controlling public funds or property are liable for the loss incurred should such funds or property be fraudulently obtained by another, converted, misappropriated, lost or stolen to the extent that recovery or restitution is not obtained from the persons who unlawfully obtained such funds or property, 1980 Op. Att'y Gen. No. 80-074.

Fiscal Officer, Terri Sowers, approved these payments in 2021 for Trustees Sowers and Seitz, Jr. Accordingly, Terri Sowers and her bonding company, Westfield Insurance Company, Bond No. BND9660729, will be jointly and severally liable in the amount of \$1,060, \$106 in favor of the Township's General Fund, and \$954, in favor of the Township's Gasoline Tax Fund, to the extent that recovery is not obtained from Bret Sowers and Ray Seitz, Jr.

On September 22, 2022, Trustees Bret Sowers and Ray Seitz, Jr. signed a repayment agreement to each repay \$530.

Officials' Response: Trustees Sowers and Seitz, Jr. have agreed to a repayment plan to reimburse the Township's Gas and General funds in the amount of \$75 per month until the total of \$530 is reached.

FINDING NUMBER 2021-003

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority unit from making any expenditure of money unless it has been appropriated in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code.

Due to inadequate policies and procedures in approving and reviewing budget versus actual information, the Township's Fire Fund had expenditures in excess of appropriations of \$28,712.00 and \$4,189 as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2021, respectively.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2021-003 (Continued)

Noncompliance (Continued)

Failure to have adequate appropriations in place at the time expenditures are made could cause expenditures to exceed available resources, further resulting in deficit spending practices.

The Board of Trustees should closely monitor expenditures and appropriations and make the necessary appropriation amendments, if possible, to reduce the likelihood of expenditures exceeding appropriations. Additionally, the Fiscal Officer should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations when appropriations are inadequate to cover the expenditures.

Officials' Response: The Fiscal Officer shall more closely monitor appropriations and expenditures and request an Amended Certificate from the county Auditor when needed.

FINDING NUMBER 2021-004

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D)(1) provides that no orders or contracts involving the expenditure of money are to be made unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer certifying that the amount required meet the obligation or, the case of continuing contract to be performed in whole or in part in an ensuing fiscal year, the amount required to meet the obligation in the fiscal year in which the contract is made has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be void and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that treasurer'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 Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively.

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

Amounts less than \$100 in counties and less than \$3,000 in all other subdivisions or taxing units 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 Board.

2. Blanket Certificate – The auditor or fiscal officer 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. 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.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2021-004 (Continued)

Noncompliance (Continued)

3. Super Blanket Certificate – The Board 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, gasoline, food items, roadway materials, utilities, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. This certification is not to extend beyond the current fiscal year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

Due to deficiencies in internal controls, 100% of the transactions tested at year-end were not certified by the Fiscal Officer at the time the commitment was incurred, and there was no evidence the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

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 help ensure purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, the Fiscal Officer should certify the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

Officials' Response: The Fiscal Officer will certify funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. If this isn't possible, the Fiscal Officer will generate and "then and now" certification.

FINDING NUMBER 2021-005

Material Weakness

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 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 Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

The following errors were noted in the financial statements that required audit adjustment or reclassification:

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2021-005 (Continued)

Material Weakness (Continued)

In 2021:

- General Fund intergovernmental receipts of \$33,735 were incorrectly posted as taxes receipts.
- Gasoline Tax Fund principal and interest disbursements in the amount of \$12,724 and \$1,129, respectively, were incorrectly posted as public works disbursements.
- Cemetery Fund health disbursements of \$33,526 were incorrectly posted as general government and capital outlay disbursements in the amounts of \$33,144 and \$382, respectively.
- Fire Fund public safety disbursements of \$51,189 were incorrectly posted as general government disbursements.
- Mt. Olive Cemetery Fund interest receipts of \$351 were incorrectly posted to the Private Purpose Trust Fund. The Private Purpose Trust fund incorrectly reflected a (\$352) beginning balance. A fund balance adjustment was necessary to zero out this fund.

In 2020:

- General Fund intergovernmental receipts of \$14,450 were incorrectly posted as taxes receipts.
- Gasoline Tax Fund principal and interest disbursements in the amount of \$12,264 and \$1,589, respectively, were incorrectly posted as public works disbursements.
- Cemetery Fund health disbursements of \$28,434 were incorrectly posted as general government and capital outlay disbursements in the amounts of \$22,921 and \$5,513, respectively.
- Fire Fund public safety disbursements of \$47,212 were incorrectly posted as general government disbursements.
- Mt. Olive Cemetery Fund activity was incorrectly recorded in a Private Purpose Trust Fund. Interest receipts of \$102 and the Private Purpose Trust Fund beginning balance of \$8,085 was adjusted to reflect the fund balance and related receipts as a Special Revenue Fund.

In addition, prior period General Fund disbursements relating to salaries and benefits in the amount of \$58,947 were incorrectly posted to the Gasoline Tax Fund.

The audited financial statements and the Township's UAN accounting system have been adjusted for the issues noted above.

The Fiscal Officer should review the Township handbook for guidance to ensure financial statements are complete and accurate

Officials' Response: The Fiscal Officer was appointed in 2018 and the previous Fiscal Officer did not inform her of the obligation that the Gasoline Tax Fund owed to the General Fund. This issue was resolved at the beginning of 2022. In the future, the Fiscal Officer will consult the Township handbook for guidance on preparing complete and accurate financial statements.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2021-006

Material Weakness

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 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 Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

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

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

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

At December 31, 2021, estimated receipts as approved by the Budget Commission did not agree to the Township's accounting system for the following funds:

	Approved	UAN System	Variance
1000 General	\$126,000	\$120,996	(\$5,004)
2041 Cemetery Fund	20,083	47,004	26,921
2281 Fire Department Fund	48,500	54,500	6,000

At December 31, 2021, appropriations as approved by the Board of Trustees did not agree to the Township's accounting system for the following fund:

	Approved	UAN System	Variance
2281 Fire Department Fund	\$47,000	\$51,500	\$4,500

At December 31, 2020, appropriations as approved by the Board of Trustees did not agree to the Township's accounting system for the following funds:

	Approved	UAN System	Variance
2281 Fire Department Fund	\$18,500	\$47,211	\$28,711
2042 Cemetery	8,235	0	(8,235)

For both 2021 and 2020, estimated resources were reported in the notes to the financial statements instead of estimated receipts. The estimated resources reported did not agree to the approved amounts.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2021-006 (Continued)

Material Weakness (Continued)

Special revenue appropriations were overstated \$4,500 in the notes to the financial statements at December 31, 2021. In addition, Special revenue appropriations were overstated \$20,477 in the notes to the financial statements at December 31, 2020.

The Township did not have procedures in place to accurately post authorized budgetary measures to the accounting system. The appropriations (and/or amendments thereof) approved by Board/Council were not properly posted to the accounting system. Additionally, the approved Certificate of Estimated Resources (and/or amendments thereof) was not properly posted to the accounting system.

Failure to accurately post the appropriations and estimated resources to the ledgers 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 Township should post to the ledgers, on a timely basis, estimated resources as certified by the budget commission and appropriations approved by the Board/Council. The Township should then monitor budget versus actual reports to help ensure amended certificates of resources and appropriations have been properly posted to the ledgers.

Officials' Response: Amended certificates of resources and appropriations will be more closely monitored in the future to make sure that the correct amounts are posted to the ledgers.

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SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2019-001	Material Weakness relating to several incorrect postings.	Not corrected.	The Fiscal Officer will make corrections and more closely monitor appropriations and expenditures to make sure that overspending and negative cash balances do not occur.
2019-002	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D)(1) – Not properly encumbering.	Not corrected.	The Fiscal Officer will make corrections and more closely monitor appropriations and expenditures to make sure that overspending and negative cash balances do not occur.



JACKSON TOWNSHIP

VINTON COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 10/25/2022

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