

***VILLAGE OF BREWSTER***

***STARK COUNTY***

Regular Audit

For the Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020







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Village Council  
Village of Brewster  
302 South Wabash Avenue  
Brewster, Ohio 44613

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Village of Brewster, Stark County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Village of Brewster is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

August 26, 2022

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***Village of Brewster***  
***Stark County***  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020

**Table of Contents**

Title	Page
Independent Auditors’ Report - 2021 .....	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 .....	4
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Proprietary Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 .....	5
Notes to the Financial Statements – For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 .....	6
Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> - 2021.....	20
Independent Auditors’ Report - 2020 .....	22
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2020.....	25
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Proprietary Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2020.....	26
Notes to the Financial Statements – For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 .....	27
Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> - 2020.....	41

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Village of Brewster  
Stark County  
302 South Wabash Ave  
Brewster, OH 44613

To the Village Council:

***Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements***

***Unmodified and Adverse Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Brewster, Stark County, Ohio (the Village), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, 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 and proprietary fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 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 Village, as of December 31, 2021, or the changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year 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 Village, 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.

***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 the Village on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 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 15 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Village. We did not modify our opinions regarding this matter.

***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 Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 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 Village'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 Village's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- 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 Village'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 June 22, 2022, 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. 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 Village'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 Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



*Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.*  
June 22, 2022

**Village of Brewster**  
**Stark County**  
*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in*  
*Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)*  
*All Governmental Fund Types*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

	Governmental Fund Types					Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Permanent	
<b>Cash Receipts</b>						
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 88,722	\$ 119,696	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 208,418
Municipal Income Tax	934,616	749,242	164,694	20,000	-	1,868,552
Intergovernmental Revenue	141,351	330,818	-	708,649	-	1,180,818
Special Assessments	1,195	-	-	-	-	1,195
Charges for Services	-	348,918	-	83,327	-	432,245
Fines, Licenses and Permits	934	464	-	-	-	1,398
Earnings on Investments	42,831	1,074	-	-	15	43,920
Miscellaneous	22,671	45,787	-	-	-	68,458
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	1,232,320	1,595,999	164,694	811,976	15	3,805,004
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>						
Current:						
Security of Persons and Property	601,728	674,607	-	-	-	1,276,335
Public Health Services	8,325	15,880	-	-	-	24,205
Leisure Time Activities	82,250	-	-	-	-	82,250
Community Environment	4,631	-	-	-	-	4,631
Basic Utility Services	7,710	-	-	-	-	7,710
Transportation	30,800	213,329	-	-	-	244,129
General Government	194,886	28,394	-	-	-	223,280
Capital Outlay	87,526	529,758	-	775,651	-	1,392,935
Debt Service:						
Redemption of Principal	-	-	-	953	-	953
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	-	8,290	-	-	-	8,290
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	1,017,856	1,470,258	-	776,604	-	3,264,718
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	214,464	125,741	164,694	35,372	15	540,286
<b>Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>						
Other Debt Proceeds	-	149,485	-	-	-	149,485
Transfers-In	-	93,462	-	109,385	-	202,847
Transfers-Out	(202,847)	-	-	-	-	(202,847)
Other Financing Sources	26,371	-	-	-	18,190	44,561
Other Financing Uses	(18,800)	-	-	-	-	(18,800)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(195,276)	242,947	-	109,385	18,190	175,246
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	19,188	368,688	164,694	144,757	18,205	715,532
<i>Fund Cash Balance, January 1, Restated</i>	445,361	1,019,024	-	408,723	-	1,873,108
<i>Fund Cash Balance, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 464,549</u>	<u>\$ 1,387,712</u>	<u>\$ 164,694</u>	<u>\$ 553,480</u>	<u>\$ 18,205</u>	<u>\$ 2,588,640</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**Village of Brewster**  
**Stark County**  
*Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements  
and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)*  
*All Proprietary Fund Types*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

	<u>Enterprise</u>
<b>Operating Cash Receipts</b>	
Charges for Services	\$ 6,432,650
Fines, Licenses and Permits	5,781
Miscellaneous	31,064
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	6,469,495
<b>Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	
Personal Services	1,095,661
Contractual Services	4,126,235
Supplies and Materials	339,559
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	5,561,455
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	908,040
<b>Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	
Capital Outlay	(912,588)
Intergovernmental Receipts	22,878
Other Debt Proceeds	164,495
Redemption of Principal	(327,194)
Other Financing Sources	9,360
Other Financing Uses	(12,999)
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(1,056,048)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(148,008)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	5,870,628
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 5,722,620

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements.*

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The Village of Brewster, Stark County, Ohio (the Village), 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 general governmental services such as water, sewer, and electric utilities, and police, fire, and ambulance protective services. The Village contracts with Local Organized Governments in Cooperation (LOGIC) RED Center Operations for dispatch services. The Village is part of the Stark County Council of Governments (COG).

***Joint Venture***

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal Electric Generation Agency (OMEGA), a joint venture. Note 11 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

***Jointly Governed Organizations***

The Village participates in the Stark Council of Governments (SCOG), Stark Regional Planning Commission and Municipal Energy Services Agency (MESA), all jointly governed organizations. Note 12 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities.

***Public Entity Risk Pool***

The Village participates in the Stark County Schools Council of Governments, 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.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***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 Fund:

***Fire Income Tax Fund*** The fire income tax fund accounts for and reports the receipt of local tax monies for the purpose of providing fire protection and purchasing fire equipment.

***Debt Service Funds*** These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest. The Village had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

***Fire Debt Fund*** The fire debt fund accounts for and reports the receipt of local tax monies for the purpose of repaying an upcoming debt for the Village fire department.

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

***Capital Construction Projects*** The capital construction projects fund accounts for and reports the receipts of federal and state grants for the purpose of funding upcoming construction projects.

***Permanent Funds*** These funds account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the Village's programs (for the benefit of the Village or its citizenry). The Village had the following Permanent Fund:

***Cemetery Endowment Fund*** The cemetery endowment fund accounts for and reports interest earned on the unexpended corpus from a trust agreement restricted for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Village's cemetery.

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

***Electric Fund*** The electric fund accounts for and reports the receipt of charges for services from residents to cover the cost of providing electric service.

***Basis of Accounting***

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village 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 disbursements 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 Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Budgetary Process***

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

***Appropriations*** Budgetary disbursements (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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

***Estimated Resources*** Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must 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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2021 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.

Investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value. Nonnegotiable certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

***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.

***Accumulated Leave***

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***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. For regulatory purposes nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Village and the nonexpendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

***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 (ordinance or resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless Council amends the ordinance or 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. 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 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 14.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

**Note 3 – Budgetary Activity**

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2021 follows:

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 1,427,654	\$ 1,258,691	\$ (168,962)
Special Revenue	2,133,458	1,838,946	(294,513)
Debt Service	242,000	164,694	(77,306)
Capital Projects	999,907	921,361	(78,546)
Permanent	18,140	18,205	65
Enterprise	7,296,027	6,666,228	(629,799)

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 1,873,015	\$ 1,265,147	\$ 607,868
Special Revenue	3,146,081	1,844,520	1,301,561
Debt Service	242,000	-	242,000
Capital Projects	1,408,630	776,604	632,026
Permanent	18,140	-	18,140
Enterprise	13,166,655	7,553,015	5,613,640

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

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

	2021
Demand deposits	\$2,322,741
Certificates of deposit	249,869
Total deposits	2,572,610
STAR Ohio	32,650
CDARS	5,706,000
Total investments	5,738,650
Total deposits and investments	\$8,311,260

The Village does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statement reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2021, the Village does not have any unremitted employee payroll withholdings.



**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments (continued)**

***Deposits***

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village; or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

***Investments***

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

**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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Village. The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Village.

***Income Taxes***

The Village levies a municipal income tax of 2% on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

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

**Note 6 – Risk Management**

***Workers' Compensation***

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Village 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.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 6 – Risk Management (continued)**

***Commercial Insurance***

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.
- Commercial inland marine
- General liability
- Public officials' liability
- Employers' liability
- Employee benefits liability

Settled claims have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years. Coverage limits have not changed significantly from last year.

During 2021, the Village elected to use the Stark County Schools Council of Governments (the COG), a public entity risk pool, to provide health, dental, vision and life insurance to qualified employees. Information for this entity can be obtained from the COG's fiscal officer.

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

Most of the Village's 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 Village contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

***Ohio Police and Fire Retirement System***

The Village's full-time police officers belong to the Ohio Police and Fire Retirement System (OP&F). OP&F 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. OP&F members contributed 12.25%, of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 19.5%, of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)**

***Social Security***

The Village’s part-time firefighters, Mayor, and one Council member contribute to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2% of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2% of participants’ gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

**Note 8 – Postemployment Benefit**

Both OPERS and OP&F offer 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. For OPERS, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 0% during calendar year 2021. OP&F contributed 0.5% to fund these benefits during calendar year 2021. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4% during calendar year 2021.

**Note 9 – Debt**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2021 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
OWDA #5277	\$ 17,156	0.00%
OWDA #6691	3,436,639	0.00%
OWDA #CS03X	164,495	0.00%
Commercial & Savings Bank Loan	1,604,432	3.16%
Total	<u>\$5,222,722</u>	

The above outstanding debt does not include the OMEGA JV5 obligations. The Village paid a total of \$71,667 in debt service payments for the OMEGA JV5 obligations during 2021. No amortization schedule is available for these obligations.

In 2009, the Village received loan #5277 from the Ohio Development Water Authority (OWDA) for water improvements for the Hillview Mobile Home Park. During 2010, the Village received a grant which was used to repay a portion of the loan. The remainder of the loan is being paid by the Village in semi-annual payments from user charges.

In 2013, the Village received loan #6691 from the Ohio Developmental Water Authority (OWDA) for water improvements for the Kings Highway Pump Station Relocation. The loan is being paid by the Village in semi-annual payments from user charges of sewer services.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 9 – Debt (continued)**

In 2020, the Village received a loan from the Commercial & Savings Bank to expand the fire station. The loan is being paid by the Village in annual payments.

In 2021, the Village received an OWDA loan for the Jefferson Avenue sanitary sewer replacement. The loan is being paid from the Sewer Fund.

***Amortization***

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

Year Ending December 31:	OWDA Loans	Commercial & Savings Bank Loan
2022	\$ 259,631	\$ 259,088
2023	263,743	259,088
2024	263,743	259,088
2025	263,743	259,088
2026	263,743	259,088
2027-2031	1,318,727	518,179
2032-2036	936,867	-
2037-2041	43,981	-
2042	4,112	-
	<u>\$3,618,290</u>	<u>\$ 1,813,619</u>

**Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities**

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits against the Village.

**Note 11 – Joint Venture**

***OMEGA JV5***

The Village of Brewster is a Financing Participant with an ownership percentage of .79 %, and shares participation with forty-one other subdivisions within the State of Ohio in the Ohio Municipal Electric Generation Agency Joint Venture 5 (OMEGA JV5). Financing Participants own undivided interests, as tenants in common, without right of partition in the OMEGA JV5 Project.

Pursuant to the OMEGA Joint Venture JV5 Agreement (Agreement), the participants jointly undertook as Financing Participants, the acquisition, construction, and equipping of OMEGA JV5, including such portions of OMEGA JV5 as have been acquired, constructed or equipped by AMP.

OMEGA JV5 was created to construct a 42 Megawatt (MW) run-of-the-river hydroelectric plant (including 40MW of backup generation) and associated transmission facilities (on the Ohio River near the Bellville, West Virginia Locks and Dam) and sells electricity from its operations to OMEGA JV5 Participants.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 11 – Joint Venture (continued)**

Pursuant to the Agreement each participant has an obligation to pay its share of debt service on the Beneficial Interest Certificates (Certificates) from the revenues of its electric system, subject only to the prior payment of Operating & Maintenance Expenses (O&M) of each participant's System, and shall be on a parity with any outstanding and future senior electric system revenue bonds, notes or other indebtedness payable from any revenues of the System. On dissolution of OMEGA JV5, the net assets will be shared by the financing participants on a percentage of ownership basis. Under the terms of the Agreement each participant is to fix, charge and collect rates, fees and charges at least sufficient in order to maintain a debt coverage ratio equal to 110% of the sum of OMEGA JV5 debt service and any other outstanding senior lien electric system revenue obligations. As of December 31, 2017, Brewster has met their debt coverage obligation.

The Agreement provides that the failure of any JV5 participant to make any payment due by the due date thereof constitutes a default. In the event of a default, OMEGA JV5 may take certain actions including the termination of a defaulting JV5 Participant's entitlement to Project Power. Each Participant may purchase a pro rata share of the defaulting JV5 Participant's entitlement to Project Power, which together with the share of the other non-defaulting JV5 Participants, is equal to the defaulting JV5 Participant's ownership share of the Project, in kilowatts provided that the sum of any such increases shall not exceed, without consent of the non-defaulting JV5 Participant, an accumulated maximum kilowatts equal to 25% of such non-defaulting JV5 Participant's ownership share of the project prior to any such increases.

OMEGA JV5 is managed by AMP, which acts as the joint venture's agent. During 1993 and 2001 AMP issued \$153,415,000 and \$13,899,981 respectively of 30-year fixed rate Beneficial Interest Certificates (Certificates) on behalf of the Financing Participants of OMEGA JV5. The 2001 Certificates accrete to a value of \$56,125,000 on February 15, 2030. The net proceeds of the bond issues were used to construct the OMEGA JV5 Project. On February 17, 2004 the 1993 Certificates were refunded by issuing 2004 Beneficial Interest Refunding Certificates in the amount of \$116,910,000, which resulted in a savings to the membership of \$34,951,833 from the periods 2005 through 2024. On February 15, 2014, all of the 2004 BIRCs were redeemed from funds held under the trust agreement securing the 2004 BIRCs and the proceeds of a promissory note issued to AMP by OMEGA JV5. This was accomplished with a draw on AMP's revolving credit facility. The resulting balance was \$65,891,509 at February 28, 2014. On January 29, 2016, OMEGA JV5 issued 2016 Beneficial Interest Certificates (2016 Certificates) in the amount of \$49,745,000 for the purpose of refunding the promissory note to AMP in full. The outstanding amount on the promissory note had been reduced to \$49,243,377 at the time of refunding as compared to its value at December 31, 2015 of \$49,803,187. The promissory note represented the February 2014 redemption of the 2004 Certificates from funds held under the trust agreement securing the 2004 BIRCs.

The Village's net investment to date in OMEGA JV5 was \$23,690 at December 31, 2021. Complete financial statements for OMEGA JV5 may be obtained from AMP or from the State Auditor's website at [www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us).

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 11 – Joint Venture (continued)**

***OMEGA JV2***

The Village of Brewster is a Non-Financing Participant and an Owner Participant with an ownership percentage of .75% and shares participation with thirty-five other subdivisions within the State of Ohio in the Ohio Municipal Electric Generation Agency (OMEGA JV2). Owner Participants own undivided interests, as tenants in common, in the OMEGA JV2 Project in the amount of their respective Project Shares. Purchaser Participants agree to purchase the output associated with their respective Project Shares, ownership of which is held in trust for such Purchaser Participants.

Pursuant to the OMEGA JV2 Agreement, the participants jointly undertook as either Financing Participants or Non-Financing Participants and as either Owner Participants or Purchaser Participants, the acquisition, construction, and equipping of OMEGA JV2, including such portions of OMEGA JV2 as have been acquired, constructed or equipped by AMP and to pay or incur the costs of the same in accordance with the JV2 Agreement.

OMEGA JV2 was created to provide additional sources of reliable, reasonably priced electric power and energy when prices are high or during times of generation shortages or transmission constraints, and to improve the reliability and economic status of the participants' respective municipal electric utility system. The Project consists of 138.65 MW of distributed generation of which 134.081 MW is the participants' entitlement and 4.569 MW are held in reserve. On dissolution of OMEGA JV2, the net position will be shared by the participants on a percentage of ownership basis. OMEGA JV2 is managed by AMP, which acts as the joint venture's agent. The Village's net investment in OMEGA JV2 was (\$3,937) at December 31, 2021. Complete financial statements for OMEGA JV2 may be obtained from AMP or from the State Auditor's website at [www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us).

OMEGA JV2 was created to provide additional sources of reliable, reasonably priced electric power and energy when prices are high or during times of generation shortages or transmission constraints, and to improve the reliability and economic status of the participants' respective municipal electric utility system. The Project consists of 138.65 MW of distributed generation of which 134.081 MW is the participants' entitlement and 4.569 MW are held in reserve. On dissolution of OMEGA JV2, the net position will be shared by the participants on a percentage of ownership basis. OMEGA JV2 is managed by AMP, which acts as the joint venture's agent. During 2001, AMP issued \$50,260,000 of 20-year fixed rate bonds on behalf of the Financing Participants of OMEGA JV2. The net proceeds of the bond issue of \$45,904,712 were contributed to OMEGA JV2. On January 3, 2011, AMP redeemed all of the \$31,110,000 OMEGA JV2 Project Distributive Generation Bonds then outstanding by borrowing on AMP's revolving credit facility. As such, the remaining outstanding bond principal of the OMEGA JV2 indebtedness was reduced to zero, with the remaining principal balance now residing on the AMP credit facility. As of December 31, 2017, the outstanding debt was \$188,606 (latest information available). The Village's net investment in OMEGA JV2 was \$75,324 at December 31, 2017 (latest information available). Complete financial statements for OMEGA JV2 may be obtained from AMP or from the State Auditor's website at [www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us).

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

**Note 11 – Joint Venture (continued)**

The thirty-six participating subdivisions and their respective ownership shares at December 31, 2021 are:

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Percent Ownership</u>	<u>Kw Entitlement</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Percent Ownership</u>	<u>Kw Entitlement</u>
Hamilton	23.87%	32,000	Grafton	0.79%	1,056
Bowling Green	14.32%	19,198	Brewster	0.75%	1,000
Niles	11.49%	15,400	Monroeville	0.57%	764
Cuyahoga	7.46%	10,000	Milan	0.55%	737
Wadsworth	5.81%	7,784	Oak Harbor	0.55%	737
Painesville	5.22%	7,000	Elmore	0.27%	364
Dover	5.22%	7,000	Jackson	0.22%	300
Galion	4.29%	5,753	Napoleon	0.20%	264
Amherst	3.73%	5,000	Lodi	0.16%	218
St. Mary's	2.98%	4,000	Genoa	0.15%	199
Montpelier	2.98%	4,000	Pemberville	0.15%	197
Shelby	1.89%	2,536	Lucas	0.12%	161
Versailles	1.24%	1,660	South Vienna	0.09%	123
Edgerton	1.09%	1,460	Bradner	0.09%	119
Yellow Springs	1.05%	1,408	Woodville	0.06%	81
Oberlin	0.91%	1,217	Haskins	0.05%	73
Pioneer	0.86%	1,158	Arcanum	0.03%	44
Seville	<u>0.79%</u>	<u>1,066</u>	Custar	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>95.20%</u>	<u>127,640</u>		<u>4.80%</u>	<u>6,441</u>
			Grand Total	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>134,081</u>

**Note 12 – Jointly Governed Organizations**

***Stark Council of Governments***

The Village participates in Stark Council of Governments (the Council), which is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State. The Council is jointly governed among Stark County, municipalities and Villages with twenty-four participants providing twenty seven representatives. The Village appoints a representative and has a membership share based on the percentage of contractual financial contributions to the total funding. Each participant is entitled to vote its percentage share. The board exercises total authority over the operation of the Council including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Continued existence of the Council is not dependent on the Village's continued participation. The Council does not provide specific financial benefits or impose specific financial burdens in the Village. The Village did not make any contributions during the fiscal year and does not have an equity interest in the Council. Financial statements of the Council can be obtained from Stark Council of Governments, Canton, Ohio.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 12 – Jointly Governed Organizations (continued)**

***Stark County Regional Planning Commission***

The Village participates in the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (Commission) which is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State. The Commission is jointly governed among Stark County and other villages and cities. The principal aim of the Commission is to provide comprehensive planning, both long and short term range, dealing with economic and physical environment of Stark County. The board exercises total authority for the day-to-day operations of the Commission. These include budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. The Village has no financial responsibility for any of the Commission's liabilities. Complete financial statements can be obtained from the Stark County Regional Planning Commission, Stark County, Ohio.

***Municipal Energy Services Agency***

The Municipal Energy Services Agency (MESA) is a jointly governed organization among the Village and approximately thirty other municipal electric systems. MESA was formed to provide access to a pool of personnel experienced in the planning, management, engineering, construction, safety training and other technical aspects of the operation and maintenance of municipal electric and other utility systems. The continued existence of MESA is not dependent on the Village's continued participation and the Village does not have an equity interest in or financial responsibility for MESA. MESA has no outstanding debt.

**Note 13 – American Municipal Power Generating Station Project (latest information available)**

The Village is a member of American Municipal Power (AMP) and has participated in the AMP Generating Station (AMPGS) Project. This project was intended to develop a pulverized coal power plant in Meigs County, Ohio. The Village's share was 4,276 kilowatts of a total 771,281 kilowatts, giving the Village a .55% project share. The AMPGS Project required participants to sign "take or pay" contracts with AMP. As such, the participants are obligated to pay any costs incurred for the project. Until November 2009, AMP had been developing a 960 MW twin unit, supercritical boiler, coal-fired, steam and electric generating facility, to be known as the American Municipal Power Generating Station ("AMPGS"), in Meigs County, in southeastern Ohio, on the Ohio River. AMP had planned for AMPGS to enter commercial operation in 2014 at a total capital cost of approximately \$3 billion. In the fourth quarter of 2009, however, the estimated capital costs increased by 37% and Bechtel Power Corporation ("Bechtel"), the EPC (engineer, procure and construct) contractor, would not guarantee that the costs would not continue to escalate. As a result of the estimated cost increases and prior to the commencement of major construction at the project site, the 81 AMP Members that had subscribed for capacity from AMPGS ("AMPGS Participants") voted to cease development of AMPGS as a coal fired project. The Village is one of the 81 AMPGS Participants.

In August 2016, AMP and Bechtel engaged in court-ordered mediation to resolve disputes raised in litigation relating to the cancellation of the AMPGS Project. Following the mediation, AMP and Bechtel reached a comprehensive settlement which resolved all claims. The terms of such settlement are confidential.

As of December 31, 2019, the Village's allocated share of the stranded costs recoverable from the AMPGS Participants is \$6,853.



**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2021*

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**Note 14 – Fund Balances**

Included in fund balance are amounts the Village 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 facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end, the balances of these amounts were as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nonspendable				
Unclaimed Monies	\$ 2,650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,650
Corpus	-	-	18,190	18,190
Outstanding Encumbrances	25,644	374,262	-	399,906
<i>Total</i>	<u>28,294</u>	<u>374,262</u>	<u>\$ 18,190</u>	<u>\$420,746</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of debt service and capital projects funds are restricted, committed or assigned. The fund balance of permanent funds that is not part of the nonspendable corpus is either restricted or committed. These restricted, committed and assigned amounts in the special revenue, debt service, capital projects and permanent funds include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

**Note 15 – 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 Village received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Village. The impact on the Village’s future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

**Note 16 – Transfers**

During 2021, transfers were made from the General Fund to the Street Construction, Maintenance, and Repair Fund, Capital Projects Fund, and Sidewalk Capital Improvement Fund. All transfers were made in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code.

**Note 17 – Fund Balance Reclassification**

During 2021, the fund balance of the Special Revenue DARE Fund was reclassified to the General Fund due to the fund no longer receiving funding with outside restrictions.

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

Village of Brewster  
Stark County  
302 South Wabash Ave  
Brewster, OH 44613

To the Village Council:

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 the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021 and the related notes to the financial statements of the Village of Brewster, Stark County, (the Village) and have issued our report thereon dated June 22, 2022, wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(C) permit. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Village.

***Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Village'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 the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village'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 Village'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Village'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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

However, we noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Village's management in a separate letter dated June 22, 2022.

***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 Village'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 Village's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



*Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.*  
June 22, 2022

**Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.**

*Certified Public Accountants*

5510 Pearl Road Ste 102

Parma OH 44129-2550

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Village of Brewster  
Stark County  
302 South Wabash Ave  
Brewster, OH 44613

To the Village Council:

***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type and related notes of the Village of Brewster, Stark County, (the Village) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020.

***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of 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 have 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 Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 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.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determined, 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 Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) 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, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year 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 for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020 and related notes of the Village in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

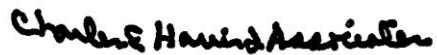
***Emphasis of Matters***

As discussed in Note 17 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Village. We did not modify our opinions regarding this matter.

As discussed in Note 16 to the financial statements, the Village made several changes to its reporting model. We did not modify our opinions regarding this matter.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 22, 2022, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 Village'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 Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



*Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.*  
June 22, 2022

**Village of Brewster**  
**Stark County**  
*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in*  
*Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)*  
*All Governmental Fund Types*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	
<b>Cash Receipts</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 88,222	\$ 119,177	\$ -	\$ 207,399
Municipal Income Tax	803,784	731,669	-	1,535,453
Intergovernmental Revenue	108,365	595,514	51,964	755,843
Special Assessments	379	-	-	379
Charges for Services	-	288,533	7,541	296,074
Fines, Licenses and Permits	1,130	67	-	1,197
Earnings on Investments	85,235	2,275	-	87,510
Miscellaneous	46,653	170,010	99,999	316,662
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	1,133,768	1,907,245	159,504	3,200,517
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	544,474	525,147	-	1,069,621
Public Health Services	7,782	-	-	7,782
Leisure Time Activities	54,255	-	-	54,255
Community Environment	13,666	-	-	13,666
Basic Utility Services	7,402	-	-	7,402
Transportation	30,806	246,434	-	277,240
General Government	219,141	117,520	-	336,661
Capital Outlay	144,189	2,121,098	68,408	2,333,695
Debt Service:				
Redemption of Principal	-	-	953	953
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	-	13,662	-	13,662
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	1,021,715	3,023,861	69,361	4,114,937
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	112,053	(1,116,616)	90,143	(914,420)
<b>Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>				
Other Debt Proceeds	-	1,454,948	-	1,454,948
Transfers-In	-	76,775	77,710	154,485
Transfers-Out	(154,485)	-	-	(154,485)
Advances-In	70,000	-	-	70,000
Advances-Out	-	(70,000)	-	(70,000)
Other Financing Sources	1,244	-	-	1,244
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(83,241)	1,461,723	77,710	1,456,192
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	28,812	345,107	167,853	541,772
<i>Fund Cash Balance, January 1</i>	414,946	675,520	240,870	1,331,336
<i>Fund Cash Balance, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 443,758</u>	<u>\$ 1,020,627</u>	<u>\$ 408,723</u>	<u>\$ 1,873,108</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**Village of Brewster**  
**Stark County**  
*Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements*  
*and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)*  
*All Proprietary Fund Types*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

	<u>Enterprise</u>
<b>Operating Cash Receipts</b>	
Charges for Services	\$ 6,747,840
Fines, Licenses and Permits	13,024
Miscellaneous	106,837
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	6,867,701
<b>Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	
Personal Services	957,529
Contractual Services	4,522,096
Supplies and Materials	270,174
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	5,749,799
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	1,117,902
<b>Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	
Capital Outlay	(2,224,612)
Other Debt Proceeds	2,132,600
Sale of Fixed Assets	2,522,377
Redemption of Principal	(2,781,794)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(29,218)
Other Financing Sources	9,437
Other Financing Uses	(10,725)
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(381,935)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	735,967
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	5,134,661
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 5,870,628

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements.*



**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The Village of Brewster, Stark County, Ohio (the Village), 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 general governmental services such as water, sewer, and electric utilities, and police, fire, and ambulance protective services. The Village contracts with Local Organized Governments in Cooperation (LOGIC) RED Center Operations for dispatch services.

***Joint Venture***

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal Electric Generation Agency (OMEGA), a joint venture. Note 11 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

***Jointly Governed Organizations***

The Village participates in the Stark Council of Governments (SCOG), Stark Regional Planning Commission and Municipal Energy Services Agency (MESA), all jointly governed organizations. Note 12 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities.

***Public Entity Risk Pool***

The Village participates in the Stark County Schools Council of Governments, 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.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

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

***Fire Income Tax Fund*** The fire income tax fund accounts for and reports the receipt of local tax monies and contract services for the purpose of providing protection and purchasing equipment.

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

***Capital Projects Fund*** The capital projects fund reports expenditures for capital outlays and acquisitions of capital assets.

***Ambulance Replacement Fund*** The ambulance replacement fund accounts for and reports the receipt of General Fund transfers that are committed to the acquisition of an ambulance for the Village's EMS.

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

***Electric Fund*** The electric fund accounts for and reports the receipt of charges for services from residents to cover the cost of providing electric service.

***Basis of Accounting***

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village 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 disbursements 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 Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

***Budgetary Process***

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

***Appropriations*** Budgetary disbursements (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. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Estimated Resources*** Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must 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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2020 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.

Investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value. Nonnegotiable certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

***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.

***Accumulated Leave***

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

***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. For regulatory purposes nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Village and the nonexpendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

***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.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

**Committed** Council can commit amounts via formal action (ordinance or resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless Council amends the ordinance or 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. 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 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 14.

**Note 3 – Budgetary Activity**

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2020 follows:

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 1,380,920	\$ 1,135,012	\$ (245,908)
Special Revenue	4,132,652	3,438,968	(693,684)
Capital Projects	204,864	237,214	32,350
Enterprise	13,249,564	11,532,115	(1,717,449)

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 1,795,866	\$ 1,214,857	\$ 581,009
Special Revenue	4,738,172	3,283,910	1,454,262
Capital Projects	445,734	109,590	336,144
Enterprise	18,384,222	11,550,909	6,833,313

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

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

	<u>2021</u>
Demand deposits	\$3,003,491
Certificates of deposit	<u>248,622</u>
Total deposits	<u>3,252,113</u>
STAR Ohio	32,623
CDARS	<u>4,459,000</u>
Total investments	<u>4,491,623</u>
Total deposits and investments	<u><u>\$7,743,736</u></u>

The Village does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statement reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2020, the Village does not have any unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

***Deposits***

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village; or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

***Investments***

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

**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.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Village. The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Village.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 5 – Taxes (continued)**

***Income Taxes***

The Village levies a municipal income tax of 1.5% on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

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

**Note 6 – Risk Management**

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Village 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.

***Commercial Insurance***

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.
- Commercial inland marine
- General liability
- Public officials' liability
- Employers' liability
- Employee benefits liability

Settled claims have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years. Coverage limits have not changed significantly from last year.

During 2020, the Village elected to use the Stark County Schools Council of Governments (the COG), a public entity risk pool, to provide health, dental, vision and life insurance to qualified employees. Information for this entity can be obtained from the COG's fiscal officer.

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

Most of the Village's 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.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)**

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, 2020.

***Ohio Police and Fire Retirement System***

The Village’s full-time police officers belong to the Ohio Police and Fire Retirement System (OP&F). OP&F 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. OP&F members contributed 12.25%, of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 19.5%, of participants’ gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2020.

***Social Security***

Several of the Village’s volunteer firefighters and one Council member contribute to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2% of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2% of participants’ gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2020.

**Note 8 – Postemployment Benefit**

Both OPERS and OP&F offer 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. For OPERS, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 0% during calendar year 2020. OP&F contributed 0.5% to fund these benefits during calendar year 2020. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4% during calendar year 2020.

**Note 9 – Debt**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2020 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
OWDA Loan #5277	\$ 18,109	0.00%
OWDA Loan #6691	3,691,205	0.00%
OPWC Loan #CS12D	961	0.00%
Commercial & Savings Bank Loan	1,454,947	3.16%
Total	<u>\$5,165,222</u>	

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 9 – Debt (continued)**

The above outstanding debt does not include the OMEGA JV5 obligations. The Village paid a total of \$393,665 in debt service payments for the OMEGA JV5 obligations during 2020. No amortization schedule is available for these obligations.

The OPWC loan #CS12D was for the Northeast Waterline Loop and will be paid from user charges.

In 2009, the Village received loan #5277 from the Ohio Development Water Authority (OWDA) for water improvements for the Hillview Mobile Home Park. During 2010, the Village received a grant which was used to repay a portion of the loan. The remainder of the loan is being paid by the Village in semi-annual payments from user charges.

In 2013, the Village received loan #6691 from the Ohio Developmental Water Authority (OWDA) for water improvements for the Kings Highway Pump Station Relocation. The loan is being paid by the Village in semi-annual payments from user charges of sewer services.

In 2020, the Village received a loan from the Commercial & Savings Bank to expand the fire station. The loan is being paid by the Village in annual payments. No amortization schedule is available at this time.

***Amortization***

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

Year Ending December 31:	OWDA Loans	OPWC Loan
2021	\$ 255,519	\$ 961
2022	255,519	-
2023	255,519	-
2024	255,519	-
2025	255,519	-
2026-2030	1,277,595	-
2031-2035	1,150,312	-
2036-2041	3,812	-
	<u>\$3,709,314</u>	<u>\$ 961</u>

**Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities**

Management believes there are no pending claims or lawsuits against the Village.



**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 11 – Joint Venture**

***OMEGA JV5***

The Village of Brewster is a Financing Participant with an ownership percentage of .79 %, and shares participation with forty-one other subdivisions within the State of Ohio in the Ohio Municipal Electric Generation Agency Joint Venture 5 (OMEGA JV5). Financing Participants own undivided interests, as tenants in common, without right of partition in the OMEGA JV5 Project.

Pursuant to the OMEGA Joint Venture JV5 Agreement (Agreement), the participants jointly undertook as Financing Participants, the acquisition, construction, and equipping of OMEGA JV5, including such portions of OMEGA JV5 as have been acquired, constructed or equipped by AMP.

OMEGA JV5 was created to construct a 42 Megawatt (MW) run-of-the-river hydroelectric plant (including 40MW of backup generation) and associated transmission facilities (on the Ohio River near the Bellville, West Virginia Locks and Dam) and sells electricity from its operations to OMEGA JV5 Participants.

Pursuant to the Agreement each participant has an obligation to pay its share of debt service on the Beneficial Interest Certificates (Certificates) from the revenues of its electric system, subject only to the prior payment of Operating & Maintenance Expenses (O&M) of each participant's System, and shall be on a parity with any outstanding and future senior electric system revenue bonds, notes or other indebtedness payable from any revenues of the System. On dissolution of OMEGA JV5, the net assets will be shared by the financing participants on a percentage of ownership basis. Under the terms of the Agreement each participant is to fix, charge and collect rates, fees and charges at least sufficient in order to maintain a debt coverage ratio equal to 110% of the sum of OMEGA JV5 debt service and any other outstanding senior lien electric system revenue obligations. As of December 31, 2020, Brewster has met their debt coverage obligation.

The Agreement provides that the failure of any JV5 participant to make any payment due by the due date thereof constitutes a default. In the event of a default, OMEGA JV5 may take certain actions including the termination of a defaulting JV5 Participant's entitlement to Project Power. Each Participant may purchase a pro rata share of the defaulting JV5 Participant's entitlement to Project Power, which together with the share of the other non-defaulting JV5 Participants, is equal to the defaulting JV5 Participant's ownership share of the Project, in kilowatts provided that the sum of any such increases shall not exceed, without consent of the non-defaulting JV5 Participant, an accumulated maximum kilowatts equal to 25% of such non-defaulting JV5 Participant's ownership share of the project prior to any such increases.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 11 – Joint Venture (continued)**

OMEGA JV5 is managed by AMP, which acts as the joint venture's agent. During 1993 and 2001 AMP issued \$153,415,000 and \$13,899,981 respectively of 30-year fixed rate Beneficial Interest Certificates (Certificates) on behalf of the Financing Participants of OMEGA JV5. The 2001 Certificates accrete to a value of \$56,125,000 on February 15, 2030. The net proceeds of the bond issues were used to construct the OMEGA JV5 Project. On February 17, 2004 the 1993 Certificates were refunded by issuing 2004 Beneficial Interest Refunding Certificates in the amount of \$116,910,000, which resulted in a savings to the membership of \$34,951,833 from the periods 2005 through 2024. On February 15, 2014, all of the 2004 BIRCs were redeemed from funds held under the trust agreement securing the 2004 BIRCs and the proceeds of a promissory note issued to AMP by OMEGA JV5. This was accomplished with a draw on AMP's revolving credit facility. The resulting balance was \$65,891,509 at February 28, 2014. On January 29, 2016, OMEGA JV5 issued 2016 Beneficial Interest Certificates (2016 Certificates) in the amount of \$49,745,000 for the purpose of refunding the promissory note to AMP in full. The outstanding amount on the promissory note had been reduced to \$49,243,377 at the time of refunding as compared to its value at December 31, 2015 of \$49,803,187. The promissory note represented the February 2014 redemption of the 2004 Certificates from funds held under the trust agreement securing the 2004 BIRCs.

The Village's net investment to date in OMEGA JV5 was \$23,690 at December 31, 2021. Complete financial statements for OMEGA JV5 may be obtained from AMP or from the State Auditor's website at [www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us).

**OMEGA JV2**

The Village of Brewster is a Non-Financing Participant and an Owner Participant with an ownership percentage of .75% and shares participation with thirty-five other subdivisions within the State of Ohio in the Ohio Municipal Electric Generation Agency (OMEGA JV2). Owner Participants own undivided interests, as tenants in common, in the OMEGA JV2 Project in the amount of their respective Project Shares. Purchaser Participants agree to purchase the output associated with their respective Project Shares, ownership of which is held in trust for such Purchaser Participants.

Pursuant to the OMEGA JV2 Agreement, the participants jointly undertook as either Financing Participants or Non-Financing Participants and as either Owner Participants or Purchaser Participants, the acquisition, construction, and equipping of OMEGA JV2, including such portions of OMEGA JV2 as have been acquired, constructed or equipped by AMP and to pay or incur the costs of the same in accordance with the JV2 Agreement.

OMEGA JV2 was created to provide additional sources of reliable, reasonably priced electric power and energy when prices are high or during times of generation shortages or transmission constraints, and to improve the reliability and economic status of the participants' respective municipal electric utility system. The Project consists of 138.65 MW of distributed generation of which 134.081 MW is the participants' entitlement and 4.569 MW are held in reserve. On dissolution of OMEGA JV2, the net position will be shared by the participants on a percentage of ownership basis. OMEGA JV2 is managed by AMP, which acts as the joint venture's agent. The Village's net investment in OMEGA JV2 was (\$239) at December 31, 2020. Complete financial statements for OMEGA JV2 may be obtained from AMP or from the State Auditor's website at [www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us).

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

**Note 11 – Joint Venture (continued)**

OMEGA JV2 was created to provide additional sources of reliable, reasonably priced electric power and energy when prices are high or during times of generation shortages or transmission constraints, and to improve the reliability and economic status of the participants’ respective municipal electric utility system. The Project consists of 138.65 MW of distributed generation of which 134.081 MW is the participants’ entitlement and 4.569 MW are held in reserve. On dissolution of OMEGA JV2, the net position will be shared by the participants on a percentage of ownership basis. OMEGA JV2 is managed by AMP, which acts as the joint venture’s agent. During 2001, AMP issued \$50,260,000 of 20-year fixed rate bonds on behalf of the Financing Participants of OMEGA JV2. The net proceeds of the bond issue of \$45,904,712 were contributed to OMEGA JV2. On January 3, 2011, AMP redeemed all of the \$31,110,000 OMEGA JV2 Project Distributive Generation Bonds then outstanding by borrowing on AMP’s revolving credit facility. As such, the remaining outstanding bond principal of the OMEGA JV2 indebtedness was reduced to zero, with the remaining principal balance now residing on the AMP credit facility. As of December 31, 2017, the outstanding debt was \$188,606 (latest information available). The Village’s net investment in OMEGA JV2 was \$75,324 at December 31, 2017 (latest information available). Complete financial statements for OMEGA JV2 may be obtained from AMP or from the State Auditor’s website at [www.auditor.state.oh.us](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us).

The thirty-six participating subdivisions and their respective ownership shares at December 31, 2020 are:

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Ownership</u>	<u>Kw</u> <u>Entitlement</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Ownership</u>	<u>Kw</u> <u>Entitlement</u>
Hamilton	23.87%	32,000	Grafton	0.79%	1,056
Bowling Green	14.32%	19,198	Brewster	0.75%	1,000
Niles	11.49%	15,400	Monroeville	0.57%	764
Cuyahoga	7.46%	10,000	Milan	0.55%	737
Wadsworth	5.81%	7,784	Oak Harbor	0.55%	737
Painesville	5.22%	7,000	Elmore	0.27%	364
Dover	5.22%	7,000	Jackson	0.22%	300
Galion	4.29%	5,753	Napoleon	0.20%	264
Amherst	3.73%	5,000	Lodi	0.16%	218
St. Mary’s	2.98%	4,000	Genoa	0.15%	199
Montpelier	2.98%	4,000	Pemberville	0.15%	197
Shelby	1.89%	2,536	Lucas	0.12%	161
Versailles	1.24%	1,660	South Vienna	0.09%	123
Edgerton	1.09%	1,460	Bradner	0.09%	119
Yellow Springs	1.05%	1,408	Woodville	0.06%	81
Oberlin	0.91%	1,217	Haskins	0.05%	73
Pioneer	0.86%	1,158	Arcanum	0.03%	44
Seville	<u>0.79%</u>	<u>1,066</u>	Custar	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>95.20%</u>	<u>127,640</u>		<u>4.80%</u>	<u>6,441</u>
			Grand Total	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>134,081</u>

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 12 – Jointly Governed Organizations**

***Stark Council of Governments***

The Village participates in Stark Council of Governments (the Council), which is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State. The Council is jointly governed among Stark County, municipalities and Villages with twenty-four participants providing twenty seven representatives. The Village appoints a representative and has a membership share based on the percentage of contractual financial contributions to the total funding. Each participant is entitled to vote its percentage share. The board exercises total authority over the operation of the Council including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Continued existence of the Council is not dependent on the Village's continued participation. The Council does not provide specific financial benefits or impose specific financial burdens in the Village. The Village did not make any contributions during the fiscal year and does not have an equity interest in the Council. Financial statements of the Council can be obtained from Stark Council of Governments, Canton, Ohio.

***Stark County Regional Planning Commission***

The Village participates in the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (Commission) which is a statutorily created political subdivision of the State. The Commission is jointly governed among Stark County and other villages and cities. The principal aim of the Commission is to provide comprehensive planning, both long and short term range, dealing with economic and physical environment of Stark County. The board exercises total authority for the day-to-day operations of the Commission. These include budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. The Village has no financial responsibility for any of the Commission's liabilities. Complete financial statements can be obtained from the Stark County Regional Planning Commission, Stark County, Ohio.

***Municipal Energy Services Agency***

The Municipal Energy Services Agency (MESA) is a jointly governed organization among the Village and approximately thirty other municipal electric systems. MESA was formed to provide access to a pool of personnel experienced in the planning, management, engineering, construction, safety training and other technical aspects of the operation and maintenance of municipal electric and other utility systems. The continued existence of MESA is not dependent on the Village's continued participation and the Village does not have an equity interest in or financial responsibility for MESA. MESA has no outstanding debt.

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

**Note 13 – American Municipal Power Generating Station Project (latest information available)**

The Village is a member of American Municipal Power (AMP) and has participated in the AMP Generating Station (AMPGS) Project. This project was intended to develop a pulverized coal power plant in Meigs County, Ohio. The Village’s share was 4,276 kilowatts of a total 771,281 kilowatts, giving the Village a .55% project share. The AMPGS Project required participants to sign “take or pay” contracts with AMP. As such, the participants are obligated to pay any costs incurred for the project. Until November 2009, AMP had been developing a 960 MW twin unit, supercritical boiler, coal-fired, steam and electric generating facility, to be known as the American Municipal Power Generating Station (“AMPGS”), in Meigs County, in southeastern Ohio, on the Ohio River. AMP had planned for AMPGS to enter commercial operation in 2014 at a total capital cost of approximately \$3 billion. In the fourth quarter of 2009, however, the estimated capital costs increased by 37% and Bechtel Power Corporation (“Bechtel”), the EPC (engineer, procure and construct) contractor, would not guarantee that the costs would not continue to escalate. As a result of the estimated cost increases and prior to the commencement of major construction at the project site, the 81 AMP Members that had subscribed for capacity from AMPGS (“AMPGS Participants”) voted to cease development of AMPGS as a coal fired project. The Village is one of the 81 AMPGS Participants.

In August 2016, AMP and Bechtel engaged in court-ordered mediation to resolve disputes raised in litigation relating to the cancellation of the AMPGS Project. Following the mediation, AMP and Bechtel reached a comprehensive settlement which resolved all claims. The terms of such settlement are confidential.

As of December 31, 2019, the Village’s allocated share of the stranded costs recoverable from the AMPGS Participants is \$6,853.

**Note 14 – Fund Balances**

Included in fund balance are amounts the Village 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 facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nonspendable				
Unclaimed Monies	\$ 1,795	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,795
Outstanding Encumbrances	38,657	260,049	40,229	338,935
<i>Total</i>	<u>40,452</u>	<u>260,049</u>	<u>40,229</u>	<u>\$340,730</u>

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

**Village of Brewster**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2020*

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**Note 15 – Transfers**

During 2020, transfers were made from the General Fund to the Street Construction, Maintenance, and Repair Fund, Capital Projects Fund, and Sidewalk Capital Improvement Fund. All transfers were made in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code.

**Note 16 – Change in Accounting Principle**

For 2020, the Village has made changes to their cash basis reporting model. These changes include modifications to the definition of fiduciary funds, and removing the fund balance classifications from the Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) – All Governmental Fund Types. There were no effects on the beginning fund balance.

**Note 17 – 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 Village. In addition, the impact on the Village's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

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

Village of Brewster  
Stark County  
302 South Wabash Ave  
Brewster, OH 44613

To the Village Council:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and 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 and proprietary fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020 of the Village of Brewster, Stark County (the Village) and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 22, 2022, wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Village and several changes to its reporting model.

***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village'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 Village'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.


***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

However, we noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Village's management in a separate letter dated June 22, 2022.

***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 Village'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 Village's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



***Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc.***  
June 22, 2022



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**VILLAGE OF BREWSTER**

**STARK 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 9/8/2022**

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)