OLIVE TOWNSHP NOBLE COUNTY, OHIO

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021





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Board of Trustees Olive Township 16910 Bronze Heights Lane Caldwell, OH 43724

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Olive Township, Noble County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022. 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 Olive Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

November 03, 2023



TABLE OF CONTENTS

HILE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 2022	4
Notes to the Financial Statements – 2022	5
Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) - All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 2021	11
Notes to the Financial Statements – 2021	12
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards	18
Schedule of Findings	20
Summary Schedule of Prior Findings (Prepared by Management)	24
Corrective Action Plan (Prepared by Management)	25



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Olive Township Noble County 16910 Bronze Heights Lane Caldwell, OH 43724

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Olive Township, Noble County, Ohio (the Township), which comprise the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 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 fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 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 Township, as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, or the changes in financial position, thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

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

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by Township on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code 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.

Olive Township Noble County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 10 to the financial statements for 2022 and 2021, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. 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 Township's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

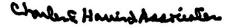
- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
 fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such
 procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in
 the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
 that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
 effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Olive Township Noble County Independent Auditor's Report Page 3

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 August 15, 2023, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc. August 15, 2023

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	General	Special Revenue	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 50,228	\$ 106,172	\$ -	\$ 156,400
Intergovernmental	45,664	374,148	_	419,812
Earnings On Investments	252	16	_	268
Miscellaneous	4,926	9,149	_	14,075
Wildelianous	4,020	0,140		14,010
Total Cash Receipts	101,070	489,485		590,555
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	50,534	3,387	-	53,921
Public Safety	_	10,600	_	10,600
Public Works	5,648	280,664	_	286,312
Health	26,674	-	_	26,674
Capital Outlay	, -	101,816	-	101,816
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Total Cash Disbursements	82,856	396,467	-	479,323
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	18,214	93,018	-	111,232
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	113,650	332,634	1,508	447,792
Fund Cook Balances December 24	¢ 424.064	Φ 40E 6E0	1 500	¢ 550.004
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 131,864	\$ 425,652	1,508	\$ 559,024

Noble County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Olive Township, Noble County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

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

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

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

Gasoline Tax Fund This fund receives gasoline tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Road and Bridge Fund This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

American Rescue Plan Act The Federal funds received were distributed through the Ohio Office of Budget Management (OBM).

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Accounting (Continued)

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 reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

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

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 Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code 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 expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

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

A summary of 2022 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Capital Assets

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

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.

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

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

Nonspendable The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. 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 Township and the nonspendable 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 Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

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

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 9.

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2022 follows:

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	В	Budgeted		Actual		
Fund Type	F	Receipts	eceipts Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	58,649	\$	101,070	\$	42,421
Special Revenue		471,742		489,485		17,743

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements

,	Apı	Appropriation		Budgetary		
Fund Type	Authority		Authority Disbursements		V	ariance
General	\$	172,299	\$	82,856	\$	89,443
Special Revenue		797,798		396,467		401,331

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D), certain disbursements were not properly certified prior to commitment to expend the funds.

Note 4 - Deposits

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

	_	2022
Cash Management Pool:		
Demand deposits		\$ 559,024

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2022, the Township is holding no unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits

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

Note 5 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

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

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 6 - Risk Management

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

2022

Cash and investments \$32,288,098

Actuarial liabilities \$9,146,434

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

Note 8 - Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement, and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2022. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2022.

Effective January 1, 2022, OPERS discontinued the group plans currently offered to non-Medicare retirees and re-employed retirees. Instead, eligible non-Medicare retirees will select an individual medical plan. OPERS will provide a subsidy or allowance via an HRA allowance to those retirees who meet health care eligibility requirements. Retirees will be able to seek reimbursement for plan premiums and other qualified medical expenses.

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 9 - Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. The amount of the corpus is not determinable. 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. There were no outstanding encumbrances at year end.

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

Note 10 - 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 2022, the Township received \$215,029 American Rescue Plan Act funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

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

	 General	Special Revenue	Permanent	(M	Totals emorandum Only)
Cash Receipts					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 39,511	\$ 107,407	\$ -	\$	146,918
Intergovernmental	16,758	420,596	-		437,354
Earnings On Investments	215	-	-		215
Miscellaneous	 31,853	5,635			37,488
Total Cash Receipts	 88,337	533,638			621,975
Cash Disbursements					
Current:					
General Government	55,126	3,145	-		58,271
Public Safety	-	1,200	-		1,200
Public Works	-	274,941	-		274,941
Health	3,342	2,980	-		6,322
Capital Outlay	 	145,188			145,188
Total Cash Disbursements	 58,468	427,454			485,922
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	29,869	106,184	-		136,053
Other Financing Receipts					
Sale of Fixed Assets	 	10,657			10,657
Total Other Financing Receipts	 	10,657			10,657
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	29,869	116,841	-		146,710
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	 83,781	215,793	1,508		301,082
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 113,650	\$ 332,634	1,508	\$	447,792

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Olive Township, Noble County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

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

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

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

Gasoline Tax Fund This fund receives gasoline tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Road and Bridge Fund This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

American Rescue Plan Act The Federal funds received were distributed through the Ohio Office of Budget Management (OBM).

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Accounting (Continued)

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 reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

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

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 Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code 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 expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

Estimated Resources Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

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

A summary of 2021 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Capital Assets

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

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.

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

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

Nonspendable The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. 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 Township and the nonspendable 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 Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

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

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 9.

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

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

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	В	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	F	Receipts		Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	203,873	\$	88,337	\$	(115,536)	
Special Revenue		518,859		544,295		25,436	

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements

	Ap	Appropriation		ion Budgetary		_
Fund Type	Authority		Disbursements		Variance	
General	\$	287,654	\$	58,468	\$	229,186
Special Revenue		728,199		427,454		300,745

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D), certain disbursements were not properly certified prior to commitment to expend the funds.

Note 4 - Deposits

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

	 2021
Cash Management Pool:	
Demand deposits	\$ 446,284
Certificates of deposit	 1,508
Total deposits	\$ 447,792

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

Deposits

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

Note 5 - Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

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

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 6 - Risk Management

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

2021

Cash and investments \$34,880,599

Actuarial liabilities \$10,601,444

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

Note 8 - Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement, and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2021. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2021.

Noble County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Note 9 - Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. The amount of the corpus is not determinable. 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. There were no outstanding encumbrances at year end.

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

Note 10 - COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June, 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During 2021, the Township received \$213,326 American Rescue Plan Act funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

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

Olive Township Noble County 16910 Bronze Heights Lane Caldwell, OH 43724

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental by fund type of Olive Township, Noble County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated Augusts 15, 2023, wherein we noted the Township 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 continuing emergency measures which may impact subsequent periods of the Township.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2022-001 through 2022-003 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Olive Township
Noble County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2022-004.

We also noted certain other matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated August 15, 2023.

Township's Responses to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

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

Charles Having Association

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.

August 15, 2023

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

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

FINDING 2022-001 - Material Weakness

Financial Reporting - Posting Receipts and Disbursements

The Township should have procedures and controls in place to prevent and detect errors in financial reporting. During 2022 and 2021, receipts and disbursements were not always posted or classified correctly. The following posting errors were noted:

For 2022

- A reimbursement from the County in the amount of \$29,318 was posted to Taxes instead of Intergovernmental.
- Homestead and Rollback in the amount of \$4,673 was posted 100% to the General Fund Property and Other Local Tax line in error. This amount should have been split between the General and Road and Bridge Funds in the amounts of \$1,382 and \$3,291; respectively and posted to the Intergovernmental line item.
- Homestead and Rollback in the General Fund and Road and Bridge Funds in the amounts of \$1,426 and \$3,291; respectively was posted to the Property and Other Local Tax line item instead of the Intergovernmental line item.
- The Township purchased equipment in the amount of \$88,160 and posted the disbursement to the Health line item instead of Capital Outlay.

For 2021

- Homestead and Rollback in the amount of \$9,454 was posted 100% to the General Fund Property and Other Local Tax line in error. This amount should have been split between the General Fund and Road and Bridge in the amounts of \$2,876 and \$6,578; respectively and posted to the Intergovernmental line item.
- Sale of fixed assets in the Road and Bridge Fund for the amount of \$10,657 was posted to the Miscellaneous line item instead of Sale of Fixed Asset.

Not posting receipts and disbursements correctly resulted in the financial statements requiring reclassification and adjusting entries. The audited financial statements and Township records have been adjusted.

Also, during 2022 and 2021 aspects of the notes to the financial statements were corrected from the Hinkle filing to agree to the financial statements in the audit report and to include all necessary note disclosures. We made corrections to the following note disclosures:

- Deposits and Investments
- Risk Management
- Postemployment Benefits
- Fund Balances
- Defined Benefit Pension Plans
- Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

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

FINDING 2022-001 - Material Weakness (Continued)

Financial Reporting - Posting Receipts and Disbursements (Continued)

We recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to the Ohio Township Handbook, Uniform Accounting Network (UAN) Manual and Auditor of State guidance to determine the proper establishment of disbursement accounts and proper posting. Also, to help ensure accuracy and reliability in the financial reporting process, we recommend management perform a detailed review of its draft financial statements and notes to the financial statements. Such review should include procedures to ensure that all receipts and disbursements are properly identified and classified on the financial statements. We recommend the Township use the most current available templates for financial statements and notes to the financial statements on the Auditor of State's website http://www.ohioauditor.gov/references/shells/regulatory.html to prepare an accurate annual financial report.

Management's Response - See Corrective Action Plan.

FINDING 2022-002 - Material Weakness

Posting of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Activity

Auditor of State Bulletin 98-013 provides guidance on accounting for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants. This Bulletin states that when a portion or all of the work has been completed and paid for at the time the FEMA money is received, the entity must place all funds into a special FEMA fund. For work completed and paid for, the fund(s) used to pay for the goods and/or services (before the FEMA money as received) can be reimbursed. One way to repay the fund is to transfer the FEMA money from the FEMA fund to the fund that made the original payments.

FEMA grant revenue in the amount of \$36,454 in 2021 was improperly posted to the General and Road and Bridge Funds in the amounts of \$28,243 and \$8,211; respectfully and should have been placed to the special FEMA Fund and should have been posted as Intergovernmental then be reimbursed to the funds used to pay for the goods and/or services before the FEMA money was received.

The Township did not have control procedures in place to ensure that grant revenue was posted to the correct funds when the FEMA monies were received. The adjustment of the FEMA activity, with which Township management agrees, is reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

The Township should implement procedures to ensure that the FEMA grant revenue is properly posted to the FEMA Grant Fund as Intergovernmental revenue and should review Auditor of State Bulletin 98-013 to ensure any reimbursements to other funds are allowable and properly posted.

Management's Response – See Corrective Action Plan.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

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

FINDING 2022-003 - Material Weakness

Posting of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Activity

Auditor of State Bulletin 2021-004 provides guidance on accounting for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants. This Bulletin states that when a portion or all of the work has been completed and paid for at the time the ARPA money is received, the entity must place all funds into a special ARPA fund. For work completed and paid for, the fund(s) used to pay for the goods and/or services (before the ARPA money as received) can be reimbursed. One way to repay the fund is to transfer the ARPA money from the ARPA fund to the fund that made the original payments.

ARPA grant revenue in the amount of \$215,029 and \$213,326 in 2022 and 2021 was improperly posted to the General Fund and should have been posted to the special ARPA Fund and should have been placed into a special ARPA Fund as Intergovernmental then be reimbursed to the funds used to pay for the goods and/or services before the ARPA money was received. Expenditures in the amount of \$13,656 for the 2022 and \$145,188 for 2021 was recorded in the General Fund instead of a special ARPA fund.

The Township did not have control procedures in place to ensure that grant revenue and expenditures was posted to the correct funds when the ARPA monies were received. The reclassification of the ARPA activity, with which Township management agrees, is reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

The Township should implement procedures to ensure that the ARPA grant activity is properly posted to the ARPA Grant Fund and should review Auditor of State Bulletin 2021-004 to ensure any reimbursements to other funds are allowable and properly posted.

Management's Response - See Corrective Action Plan.

Finding 2022-004 - Noncompliance

Certifying the Availability of Funds

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) requires that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required meeting any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance. Only the subdivision's fiscal officer need sign the certificate. Every contract made without such a certificate shall be void, and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

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

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

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

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

Finding 2022-004— Noncompliance (Continued)

Certifying the Availability of Funds (Continued)

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the taxing authority.

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

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 96% and of the expenditures tested for 2022 and 2021. In addition, the Township used Then and Now certificates in all its disbursement transactions, including amounts exceeding \$3,000.

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

Management's Response – See Corrective Action Plan.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS – PREPARED BY MANGEMENT FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2020-001	Timely paying of employee employment tax withholdings	Corrected	N/A
2020-002	ORC 5705.39 Appropriations exceeding estimated resources.	Corrected	N/A
2020-003	Township receipts and disbursements were not recorded in accordance with the Uniform Accounting Network handbooks.	Not Corrected	Still working getting everything properly classified.
2020-004	Budgeted receipts and appropriations in the system didn't match the amounts approved by the County Budget Commission.	Corrected	N/A

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN - PREPARED BY MANAGEMENT FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

Finding Number	Planned Corrective Action	Anticipated Completion Date	Responsible Contact Person
2022-001	Fiscal Officer will follow the guidance obtained during the current audit process to complete upcoming annual financial reports filed on the Hinkle System.	Immediately	Logan Cline – Fiscal Officer
2022-002	Fiscal Officer will follow the guidance outlined in the Auditor of State Bulletin 98-013.	Immediately	Logan Cline – Fiscal Officer
2022-003	Fiscal Officer will follow the guidance outlined in the Auditor of State Bulletin 2021-004.	Immediately	Logan Cline – Fiscal Officer
2022-004	The Fiscal Officer will follow the guidelines outlined in the Ohio Compliance Supplement concerning certification of funds	Immediately	Logan Cline – Fiscal Officer





OLIVE TOWNSHIP

NOBLE 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 11/16/2023

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