

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023-2022

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

Township Trustees
Augusta Township
3005 Aurora Road, NE
Carrollton, Ohio 44615

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Augusta Township, Carroll County, prepared by Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. 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. Augusta Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

June 11, 2024

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**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023-2022**

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**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Augusta Township
Carroll County
3005 Aurora Road NE
Carrollton, Ohio 44615

To the Township Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Augusta Township, Carroll County, Ohio (the Township) which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, 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 combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, 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 Augusta Township, Carroll County as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards general 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 Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of Augusta 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 Augusta 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 general 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 described in Note 12 to the financial statements for 2022, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for 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 Augusta 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 Responsibility 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.

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 March 28, 2024, on our consideration of Augusta 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 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.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
March 28, 2024

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN
FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	Governmental Fund Types					Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Permanent	
Cash Receipts:						
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 76,945	\$ 160,132	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 237,077
License, Permits and Fees	-	3,900	-	-	-	3,900
Intergovernmental	30,192	179,927	-	-	-	210,119
Special Assessments	-	2,020	-	-	-	2,020
Earnings on Investments	-	-	-	-	156	156
Miscellaneous	1,564	13,635	-	-	4	15,203
Total Cash Receipts	108,701	359,614	-	-	160	468,475
Cash Disbursements:						
Current:						
General Government	55,024	720	-	-	-	55,744
Public Safety	-	57,723	-	-	-	57,723
Public Works	2,730	296,204	-	-	-	298,934
Health	8,382	9,030	-	-	-	17,412
Conservation-Recreation	3,500	-	-	-	-	3,500
Capital Outlay	8,491	167,042	-	-	-	175,533
Debt Service:						
Principal Retirement	-	17,584	15,699	-	-	33,283
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	2,084	2,520	-	-	4,604
Total Cash Disbursements	78,127	550,387	18,219	-	-	646,733
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	30,574	(190,773)	(18,219)	-	160	(178,258)
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)						
Transfer In	-	-	18,255	-	-	18,255
Transfer Out	(18,255)	-	-	-	-	(18,255)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(18,255)	-	18,255	-	-	-
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	12,319	(190,773)	36	-	160	(178,258)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	18,888	450,173	79	4,871	7,095	481,106
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 31,207	\$ 259,400	\$ 115	\$ 4,871	\$ 7,255	\$ 302,848

See notes to financial statements.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

1. REPORTING ENTITY

Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Augusta Township, Carroll County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Notes 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.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

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

B. 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 accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the township.

Special Levy Fund – This fund accounts for and reports real estate monies (outside millage) collected and restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the township.

American Rescue Plan Fund - This fund accounts for and reports American Rescue Plan monies from the federal government, to be used for general government administration.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Debt Service Funds

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

Equipment Bond Retirement Fund – This fund accounts for and reports resources restricted for the retirement of debt issued to finance a truck and tractor with the related equipment.

Capital Projects Funds

Western Star Truck Fund – The Township received a grant and a loan from the United States Department of Agriculture for the purchase of a truck and related equipment with the residual amount to be spent in the future.

Permanent Funds

These funds account for and report financial 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:

Mt. Zion Cemetery Fund – This fund accounts for and reports interest- earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement restricted for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Townships' cemetery.

C. 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 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 117-2-03(C) permit.

D. 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 and 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.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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 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 2023 appears in Note 3.

E. Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investment as assets. This basis does not record disbursement for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively. The Township values certificates of deposits at cost.

F. 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.

G. Leases

The Township is the lessee (as defined by GASB 87) related to the backhoe vehicle under noncancelable leases. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

H. 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.

I. 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.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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

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

Unassigned

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

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

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2023 follows:

	2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 108,700	\$ 108,701	\$ 1
Special Revenue	359,615	359,614	(1)
Debt Service	18,255	18,255	-
Permanent	141	160	19
Total	\$ 486,711	\$ 486,730	\$ 19

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 111,284	\$ 96,382	\$ 14,902
Special Revenue	608,337	550,387	57,950
Debt Service	18,219	18,219	-
Total	\$ 737,840	\$ 664,988	\$ 72,852

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Township made expenditures prior to certification.

4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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 deposits and investment accounts are as follows:

	2023
<i>Cash Management Pool</i>	
Demand deposits	\$ 295,601
Certificates of Deposit	7,247
Total Carrying Amount of Deposits and Investments held in Pool	\$ 302,848

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, 2023, the Township is holding \$0 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits: Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation 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.

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. 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 Township.

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

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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 (latest information available):

	<u>2022</u>
Cash and investments	\$32,288,098
Actuarial liabilities	9,146,434

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The Township’s full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plan benefits, which include postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2023, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.0% of participant’s gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. For calendar year 2023, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2023, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

9. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member’s deductible.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

10. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2023 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest rate
Equipment Bonds 2016	\$ 26,000	2.38%
Equipment Bonds 2018	41,300	3.50%
Kansas State Bank Loader Backhoe Financed Purchase	55,804	3.50%
Total	\$ 123,104	

The Township issued general obligation equipment bonds series 2016 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to finance the purchase of a new dump truck and plowing equipment for Township Road Maintenance. The principal amount of the bond is \$80,000 for a ten year term. The interest rate is 2.375%. The bond will mature in 2026. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the bonds.

The Township issued general obligation equipment bonds series 2018 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to finance the purchase of a new tractor and related equipment for Township Road Maintenance. The principal amount of the bond is \$76,000 for a ten year term. The interest rate is 3.50%. The bond will mature in 2026. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the bonds.

Financed Purchases:

The township entered into a financed purchase agreements for a loader backhoe where ownership of the underlying asset transfers to the Township by the end of the contract. The Township disbursed \$19,668 to pay these costs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

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

Year Ended December 31	2016 Bonds	2018 Bonds	Financed Purchased
2024	\$ 9,118	\$ 9,146	\$ 19,668
2025	9,016	9,176	19,668
2026	9,111	9,096	19,668
2027	-	9,209	-
2028	-	9,108	-
Total	\$ 27,245	\$ 45,735	\$ 59,004

11. FUND BALANCES

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the expendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of those amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
Nonspendable:						
Corpus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
O/S Encumbrances	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

11. FUND BALANCES (Continued)

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

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN
FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

	Governmental Fund Types					Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Permanent	
Cash Receipts:						
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 66,766	\$ 148,083	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 214,849
License, Permits and Fees	-	4,100	-	-	-	4,100
Intergovernmental	28,457	255,126	-	207,587	-	491,170
Special Assessments	-	1,804	-	-	-	1,804
Earnings on Investments	-	-	-	-	20	20
Miscellaneous	4,296	7,564	-	-	4	11,864
Total Cash Receipts	<u>99,519</u>	<u>416,677</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>207,587</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>723,807</u>
Cash Disbursements:						
Current:						
General Government	56,301	1,875	-	-	-	58,176
Public Safety	-	58,372	-	-	-	58,372
Public Works	2,730	222,399	-	207,587	-	432,716
Health	11,561	8,778	-	-	500	20,839
Conservation-Recreation	3,080	-	-	-	-	3,080
Capital Outlay	4,331	11,097	-	-	-	15,428
Debt Service:						
Principal Retirement	-	17,098	15,200	-	-	32,298
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	2,570	2,962	-	-	5,532
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>78,003</u>	<u>322,189</u>	<u>18,162</u>	<u>207,587</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>626,441</u>
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	21,516	94,488	(18,162)	-	(476)	97,366
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)						
Transfer In	-	-	18,161	-	-	18,161
Transfer Out	(18,161)	-	-	-	-	(18,161)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	<u>(18,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,161</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	3,355	94,488	(1)	-	(476)	97,366
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>15,533</u>	<u>355,685</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>4,871</u>	<u>7,571</u>	<u>383,740</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$ 18,888</u>	<u>\$ 450,173</u>	<u>\$ 79</u>	<u>\$ 4,871</u>	<u>\$ 7,095</u>	<u>\$ 481,106</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

1. REPORTING ENTITY

Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Augusta Township, Carroll County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

The Township participates in a public entity risk pool. Notes 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.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

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

B. 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 accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the township.

Special Levy Fund – This fund accounts for and reports real estate monies (outside millage) collected and restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the township.

American Rescue Plan Fund - This fund accounts for and reports American Rescue Plan monies from the federal government, to be used for general government administration.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Debt Service Funds

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

Equipment Bond Retirement Fund – This fund accounts for and reports resources restricted for the retirement of debt issued to finance a truck and tractor with the related equipment.

Capital Projects Funds

Western Star Truck Fund – The Township received a grant and a loan from the United States Department of Agriculture for the purchase of a truck and related equipment with the residual amount to be spent in the future.

Permanent Funds

These funds account for and report financial 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:

Mt. Zion Cemetery Fund – This fund accounts for and reports interest- earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement restricted for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Townships' cemetery.

C. 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 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 117-2-03(C) permit.

D. 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 and 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.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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 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 appears in Note 3.

E. Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investment as assets. This basis does not record disbursement for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively. The Township values certificates of deposits at cost.

F. 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.

G. Leases

The Township is the lessee (as defined by GASB 87) related to the backhoe vehicle under noncancelable leases. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

H. 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.

I. 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.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

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

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

Unassigned

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

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

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

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2022 follows:

	2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 99,520	\$ 99,519	\$ 1
Special Revenue	416,676	416,677	(1)
Debt Service	18,161	18,161	-
Capital Projects	207,587	207,587	-
Permanent	24	24	-
Total	\$ 741,968	\$ 741,968	\$ -

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 109,249	\$ 96,164	\$ 13,085
Special Revenue	586,826	323,389	263,437
Debt Service	18,162	18,162	-
Capital Projects	207,587	207,587	-
Permanent	500	500	-
Total	\$ 922,324	\$ 645,802	\$ 276,522

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Township made expenditures prior to certification.

4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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 deposits and investment accounts are as follows:

	2022
<i>Cash Management Pool</i>	
Demand deposits	\$ 474,019
Certificates of Deposit	7,087
Total Carrying Amount of Deposits and Investments held in Pool	\$ 481,106

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 \$0 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits: Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation 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.

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. 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 Township.

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

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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:

	<u>2022</u>
Cash and investments	\$32,288,098
Actuarial liabilities	9,146,434

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2022, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.0% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

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.

9. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

10. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2022 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest rate
Equipment Bonds 2016	\$ 34,300	2.38%
Equipment Bonds 2018	48,700	3.50%
Kansas State Bank Loader Backhoe Financed Purchase	73,388	3.50%
Total	\$ 156,388	

The Township issued general obligation equipment bonds series 2016 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to finance the purchase of a new dump truck and plowing equipment for Township Road Maintenance. The principal amount of the bond is \$80,000 for a ten year term. The interest rate is 2.375%. The bond will mature in 2026. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the bonds.

The Township issued general obligation equipment bonds series 2018 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to finance the purchase of a new tractor and related equipment for Township Road Maintenance. The principal amount of the bond is \$76,000 for a ten year term. The interest rate is 3.50%. The bond will mature in 2026. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the bonds.

Financed Purchases:

The township entered into a financed purchase agreements for a loader backhoe where ownership of the underlying asset transfers to the Township by the end of the contract. The Township disbursed \$19,668 to pay these costs for the year ended December 31, 2022.

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

Year Ended December 31	2016 Bonds	2018 Bonds	Financed Purchased
2023	\$ 9,115	\$ 9,105	\$ 19,668
2024	9,118	9,146	19,668
2025	9,016	9,176	19,668
2026	9,111	9,096	19,668
2027	-	9,209	-
2028-2032	-	9,108	-
Total	\$ 36,360	\$ 54,840	\$ 78,672

11. FUND BALANCES

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the expendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of those amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
Nonspendable:						
Corpus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
O/S Encumbrances	-	1,200	-	-	-	1,200
Total	\$ -	\$ 1,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,200

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

11. FUND BALANCES (Continued)

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

12. COVID-19

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

The Township received \$79,455 from the American Rescue Relief Fund in 2022.

**WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC.
1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701**

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

Augusta Township
Carroll County
3005 Aurora Road NE
Carrollton, Ohio 44615

To the Township Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standard* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 and the related notes to the financial statements of Augusta Township, Carroll County (the Township) and have issued our report thereon dated March 28, 2024, 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 ensuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Augusta Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion 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. 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.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Augusta Township'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 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 one instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standard* and is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2023-001.

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.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
March 28, 2024

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2023-001

Noncompliance

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

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in §§ 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 Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has thirty days from receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.
2. Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.
3. Blanket Certificate – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the 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.
4. 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 exceed beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Fiscal Officer did not certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitments for 16% of the expenditures tested in 2023 and 2022, and there was no evidence the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions.

**AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
CARROLL COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AD 2022**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2022-001 (CONTINUED)

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend 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.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer certify purchases to which § 5705.41 (D) applies. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41 (D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

Client Response: We have not yet received a response from the client.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP

CARROLL 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 6/25/2024

65 East State 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