

VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS

HARRISON COUNTY, OHIO

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023





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Village Council
Village of New Athens
P.O. Box 126
New Athens, Ohio 43981

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Village of New Athens, Harrison County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

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

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State

Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

July 21, 2025

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**VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS
HARRISON COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Village of New Athens
Harrison County
P.O. Box 126
New Athens, Ohio 43981

To the Village Council:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of New Athens, Harrison County, Ohio (the Village), which comprise the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, or the changes in financial position or cash flows 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 Village, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

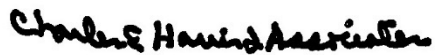
In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

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

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 16, 2025, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles E. Harris".

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
May 16, 2025

**VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS
HARRISON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Project	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 25,957	\$ 14,866	\$ -	\$ 40,823
Intergovernmental	35,062	28,758	-	63,820
Fines, Forfeitures and Settlements	-	205	-	205
Earnings on Investments	752	175	-	927
Miscellaneous	12,606	-	-	12,606
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>74,377</u>	<u>44,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,381</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	16,023	4,031	-	20,054
Community Environment	344	-	-	344
Transportation	-	16,584	-	16,584
General Government	39,692	-	-	39,692
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>56,059</u>	<u>20,615</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,674</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	18,318	23,389	-	41,707
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Other Financing Sources	143	-	-	143
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>143</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	18,461	23,389	-	41,850
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>29,164</u>	<u>68,437</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>97,654</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 47,625</u>	<u>\$ 91,826</u>	<u>\$ 53</u>	<u>\$ 139,504</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS
HARRISON COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	Proprietary Fund Type
	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts	
Charges for Services	\$ 234,436
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>234,436</u>
Operating Cash Disbursements	
Personal Services	81,363
Fringe Benefits	9,678
Contractual Services	104,078
Supplies and Materials	57,600
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>252,719</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	(18,283)
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)	
Principal Retirement	(2,900)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(256)
Other Financing Sources	1,709
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(1,447)</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(19,730)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>40,717</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$ 20,987</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Village of New Athens (the Village), Harrison County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides water and sewer utilities. The Village has a police department to provide security of persons and property. The New Athens Fire Department provides emergency services as a separate entity.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

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

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

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

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

Police Levy Fund – The police levy fund was authorized by voters for renewal as a 2.0 levy for five years. This fund supports police salaries, cruiser, building & equipment repairs.

Permissive Motor Vehicle License Fund – The permissive vehicle tax fund is funded as 7.5% of the State Highway gasoline tax and motor vehicle license registration fees.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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

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

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

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary 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 Village Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2024 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Deposits and Investments

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

Capital Assets

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

Accumulated Leave

Village employees earn sick and vacation time that can be used for time off. In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

SBITAs

The Village has entered into noncancelable Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA) contracts (as defined by GASB 96) for several types of software including contracts related to financial systems. Subscription disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

Fund Balance

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

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

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

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

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

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 10.

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2024 follows:

2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 101,578	\$ 74,520	\$ (27,058)
Special Revenue	90,440	44,004	(46,436)
Enterprise	288,433	236,145	(52,288)

2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 101,121	\$ 56,251	\$ 44,870
Special Revenue	90,456	20,615	69,841
Enterprise	296,176	255,875	40,301

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 4 – Deposits

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

	<u>2024</u>
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$ 160,491

The Village does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statement reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2024, the Village does not have any unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits

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

Note 5 – Taxes

Property Taxes

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

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

Note 6 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

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

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 6 – Risk Management (continued)

Risk Pool Membership

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool, (the "Pool"), an unincorporated nonprofit association available to municipal corporations and their instrumentalities. The Pool is a separate legal entity per Section 2744 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Pool provides property and casualty insurance for its members. The Pool pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting for covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

The Pool cedes portions of its gross contribution written to a reinsurer under excess reinsurance agreements in order to limit its losses. Treaty basis excess-of-loss contracts in force protect the Pool against losses over the retention level; at March 31, 2024, retention levels are \$100,000 for property and casualty coverages, respectively.

The Pool remains liable to the extent the reinsuring companies are unable to meet their contractual obligations under reinsurance agreements.

The Pool's financial statements (audited by other auditors) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported following assets, liabilities and accumulated surplus at March 31, 2024:

	2024
Assets	\$ 2,648,058
Liabilities	(2,417,110)
Accumulated Surplus	<u>\$ 230,948</u>

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Most of the Village 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 Village contributed an amount equaling 14% percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Social Security

Village council members contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2% of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offer cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans. 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 2024, the portion of OPERS employer contributions allocated to health care was 0% for members in the traditional pension plan and 2% for members in the combined plan. For 2024, the portion of employer contributions OPERS allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4%; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2024, was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
USDA Bond - Dump Truck	\$ 6,002	2.875%
Total	<u><u>\$ 6,002</u></u>	

The Village, on May 16, 2016, issued bonds from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in the amount of \$27,000 to purchase a dump truck to be used for Village operations. It will be repaid in annual installments from the Water and Sewer Fund over 10 years. The bonds are collateralized by the dump truck.

Amortization

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

<u>Year Ending December 31:</u>	<u>USDA Bond</u>
2025	\$ 3,073
2026	3,189
Total	<u><u>\$ 6,262</u></u>

Note 10 – Fund Balances

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balance of this amount was as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$ 192

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

**VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS
HARRISON COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Project	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 23,526	\$ 12,631	\$ -	\$ 36,157
Intergovernmental	18,111	28,222	-	46,333
Earnings on Investments	1,791	181	-	1,972
Miscellaneous	17,964	-	-	17,964
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>61,392</u>	<u>41,034</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,426</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	16,018	870	-	16,888
Community Environment	109	-	-	109
Transportation	9,905	54,113	-	64,018
General Government	41,329	-	-	41,329
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>67,361</u>	<u>54,983</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>122,344</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(5,969)	(13,949)	-	(19,918)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>35,133</u>	<u>82,386</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>117,572</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 29,164</u>	<u>\$ 68,437</u>	<u>\$ 53</u>	<u>\$ 97,654</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS
HARRISON COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS)
PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	Proprietary Fund Type
	Enterprise
Operating Cash Receipts	
Charges for Services	\$ 214,081
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>214,081</u>
Operating Cash Disbursements	
Personal Services	79,326
Fringe Benefits	12,585
Contractual Services	94,185
Supplies and Materials	41,337
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>227,433</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	(13,352)
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)	
Special Assessments	1,080
Principal Retirement	(2,800)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(336)
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(2,056)</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	(15,408)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>56,125</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$ 40,717</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Village of New Athens (the Village), Harrison County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides water and sewer utilities. The Village has a police department to provide security of persons and property. The New Athens Fire Department provides emergency services as a separate entity.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for these entities.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

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

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

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

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

Police Levy Fund – The police levy fund was authorized by voters for renewal as a 2.0 levy for five years. This fund supports police salaries, cruiser, building & equipment repairs.

Permissive Motor Vehicle License Fund – The permissive vehicle tax fund is funded as 7.5% of the State Highway gasoline tax and motor vehicle license registration fees.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Coronavirus Relief Fund – This fund receives COVID-19 relief fund money, from the Federal Government, to be used for community businesses, individuals and nonprofit businesses that have COVID-19 related expenses.

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

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

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

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary 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 Village Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

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

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Deposits and Investments

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

Capital Assets

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

Accumulated Leave

Village employees earn sick and vacation time that can be used for time off. In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

SBITAs

The Village has entered into noncancelable Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA) contracts (as defined by GASB 96) for several types of software including contracts related to financial systems. Subscription disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

Fund Balance

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

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

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

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

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

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 10.

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2023 follows:

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 88,665	\$ 61,392	\$ (27,273)
Special Revenue	120,446	41,034	(79,412)
Enterprise	253,433	215,161	(38,272)

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 88,791	\$ 67,492	\$ 21,299
Special Revenue	120,487	54,999	65,488
Enterprise	253,964	230,569	23,395

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 4 – Deposits

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

	<u>2023</u>
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$ 138,371

The Village does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statement reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2023, the Village does not have any unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits

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

Note 5 – Taxes

Property Taxes

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

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

Note 6 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

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

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 6 – Risk Management (continued)

Risk Pool Membership

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool, (the "Pool"), an unincorporated nonprofit association available to municipal corporations and their instrumentalities. The Pool is a separate legal entity per Section 2744 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Pool provides property and casualty insurance for its members. The Pool pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting for covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

The Pool cedes portions of its gross contribution written to a reinsurer under excess reinsurance agreements in order to limit its losses. Treaty basis excess-of-loss contracts in force protect the Pool against losses over the retention level; at March 31, 2023, retention levels are \$100,000 for property and casualty coverages, respectively.

The Pool remains liable to the extent the reinsuring companies are unable to meet their contractual obligations under reinsurance agreements.

The Pool's financial statements (audited by other auditors) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported following assets, liabilities and accumulated surplus at March 31, 2023:

	2023
Assets	\$ 841,929
Liabilities	(1,029,623)
Accumulated Surplus	<u>\$ (187,694)</u>

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Most of the Village 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 Village contributed an amount equaling 14% percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Social Security

Village council members contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2% of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offer cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans. 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 OPERS employer contributions allocated to health care was 0% for members in the traditional pension plan and 2% for members in the combined plan. For 2023, the portion of employer contributions OPERS allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4%; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2023, was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
USDA Bond - Dump Truck	\$ 8,902	2.875%

The Village, on May 16, 2016, issued bonds from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in the amount of \$27,000 to purchase a dump truck to be used for Village operations. It will be repaid in annual installments from the Water and Sewer Fund over 10 years. The bonds are collateralized by the dump truck.

Amortization

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

<u>Year Ending December 31:</u>	<u>USDA Bond</u>
2024	\$ 3,156
2025	3,073
2026	3,189
Total	<u>\$ 9,418</u>

Note 10 – Fund Balances

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balance of this amount was as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$ 131	\$ 16

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

Village of New Athens, Ohio
Harrison County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 11 – 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 ended in 2023. The Village will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

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

Village of New Athens
Harrison County
P.O. Box 126
New Athens, Ohio 43981

To the Village Council:

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type of the Village of New Athens, Harrison County, Ohio (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 16, 2025 wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

We noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Village's management in a separate letter dated May 16, 2025.

Purpose of This Report

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



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
May 16, 2025

VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS
HARRISON COUNTY

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR FINDINGS –
PREPARED BY MANGEMENT
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2022-001	Missing Utility Receipts	Corrected	N/A

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS

HARRISON 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 7/31/2025

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