



JIM PETRO
AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF OHIO

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Middlefield Township
Geauga County
P.O. Box 384
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Middlefield Township, Geauga County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of Middlefield Township, Geauga County, as of December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 24, 2000 on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Trustees, management, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro".

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

March 24, 2000

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**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$59,106	\$256,176	\$315,282
Intergovernmental	111,459	88,017	199,476
Earnings on Investments	19,174	0	19,174
Other Revenue	11,684	5,526	17,210
	<u>201,423</u>	<u>349,719</u>	<u>551,142</u>
Total Cash Receipts			
	<u>201,423</u>	<u>349,719</u>	<u>551,142</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	100,450	95,085	195,535
Public Safety	0	76,490	76,490
Public Works	54,489	221,159	275,648
Miscellaneous	22,722	0	22,722
Capital Outlay	112,318	0	112,318
	<u>289,979</u>	<u>392,734</u>	<u>682,713</u>
Total Cash Disbursements			
	<u>289,979</u>	<u>392,734</u>	<u>682,713</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>(88,556)</u>	<u>(43,015)</u>	<u>(131,571)</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>515,575</u>	<u>245,052</u>	<u>760,627</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u><u>\$427,019</u></u>	<u><u>\$202,037</u></u>	<u><u>\$629,056</u></u>

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

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1998**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Taxes	\$58,448	\$255,479	\$313,927
Intergovernmental	130,242	78,093	208,335
Earnings on Investments	17,027	0	17,027
Other Revenue	32,284	0	32,284
Total Cash Receipts	<u>238,001</u>	<u>333,572</u>	<u>571,573</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	95,406	135,421	230,827
Public Works	24,555	241,734	266,289
Capital Outlay	8,144	0	8,144
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>128,105</u>	<u>377,155</u>	<u>505,260</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>109,896</u>	<u>(43,583)</u>	<u>66,313</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>405,679</u>	<u>288,635</u>	<u>694,314</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$515,575</u>	<u>\$245,052</u>	<u>\$760,627</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,121</u>	<u>\$1,121</u>

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Middlefield Township, Geauga County, Ohio, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly elected three member Board of Trustees. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

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

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized 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 prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Ambulance Fund - This fund receives property tax money to provide ambulance service for residents.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process

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

Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. 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 also 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 carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 1999 and 1998 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Demand deposits	\$629,056	\$710,627
Certificates of deposit	0	50,000
Total deposits	\$629,056	\$760,627

Deposits: Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998 follows:

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$152,305	\$201,423	\$49,118
Special Revenue	351,182	349,719	(1,463)
Total	\$503,487	\$551,142	\$47,655

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$355,498	\$289,979	\$65,519
Special Revenue	541,490	392,734	148,756
Total	\$896,988	\$682,713	\$214,275

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$231,829	\$238,001	\$6,172
Special Revenue	353,408	333,572	(19,836)
Total	\$585,237	\$571,573	(\$13,664)

1998 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$293,000	\$128,105	\$164,895
Special Revenue	514,990	378,276	136,714
Total	\$807,990	\$506,381	\$301,609

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 1998**

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payments, 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.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property with the County by each April 30.

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

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The plan provides retirement benefits, including post retirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 1999 and 1998, members of PERS contributed 8.5% of their gross wages to the PERS. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross wages. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 1999.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- General Liability
- Public Officials Liability
- Automobile
- Property Coverage

The Township also provides dental coverage to employees through a private carrier.



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**REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Middlefield Township
Geauga County
P.O. Box 384
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Middlefield Township, Geauga County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 1999 and December 31, 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated March 24, 2000. We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

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

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated March 24, 2000.

This report is intended for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

March 24, 200



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

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MIDDLEFIELD TOWNSHIP

GEAUGA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
APRIL 18, 2000**