



Rea & associates *a brighter way*

# City of Martins Ferry

## Belmont County, Ohio

### *Audited Financial Statements*

For the Year Ended  
December 31, 2014





# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

City Council  
City of Martins Ferry  
35 South Fifth Street  
Martins Ferry, OH 43935

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the City of Martins Ferry, Belmont County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. 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 City of Martins Ferry is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost  
Auditor of State

September 29, 2015

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**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
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*December 31, 2014*

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June 29, 2015

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council  
City of Martins Ferry  
Belmont County, Ohio  
Fifth & Walnut Streets  
Martins Ferry, OH 43935

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Martins Ferry, Belmont County, Ohio, (the City) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

#### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

***Opinions***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City, as of December 31, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparisons for the general fund and the fire and ambulance fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Other Matters***

***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the accompanying *Management's Discussion and Analysis* on pages 3-10 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 29, 2015 on our consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 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 City's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Rea & Associates, Inc.*

New Philadelphia, Ohio

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
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*(Unaudited)*

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The discussion and analysis of the City of Martins Ferry's (the "City") financial performance provides an overall review of the City's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2014. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the City's performance as a whole; readers should also review the notes to the basic financial statements and financial statements to enhance their understanding of the City's financial performance.

***Financial Highlights***

Key financial highlights for 2014 are as follows:

- In total, net position decreased \$566,972, which represents a 5 percent decrease from 2013. Net position of governmental activities decreased \$605,025. Net position of business-type activities increased \$38,053.
- Total capital assets decreased \$819,075 in 2014. Capital assets of governmental activities decreased \$194,721 and capital assets of business-type activities decreased \$624,354.
- Outstanding debt decreased from \$8,290,187 to \$7,483,299 due to principal payments made during the year.

***Using this Annual Financial Report***

This report is designed to allow the reader to look at the financial activities of the City of Martins Ferry as a whole and is intended to allow the reader to obtain a summary view or a more detailed view of the City's operations, as they prefer.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information from a summary perspective showing the effects of the operations for the year 2014 and how they affected the operations of the City as a whole.

***Reporting the City of Martins Ferry as a Whole***

*Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities*

The *Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities* provide information about the activities of the whole City, presenting both an aggregate view of the City's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the City's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. In the case of the City of Martins Ferry, the general fund, the fire and ambulance fund and the permanent improvement fund are the most significant funds. Business-type funds consist of the water, sanitation, sewer and other non-major enterprise funds.



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A question typically asked about the City's finances is "How did we do financially during 2014?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities answer this question. These statements include *all assets* and *deferred outflows of resources* and *liabilities* and *deferred inflows of resources* using the *accrual basis of accounting* similar to the accounting method used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the City's *net position* and *changes in net position*. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the City as a whole, the *financial position* of the City has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the City's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio which restrict revenue growth, facility conditions, and other factors.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the City is divided into two distinct kinds of activities:

- **Governmental Activities** - Most of the City's programs and services are reported here, including general government, security of persons and property, public health, community and economic development, leisure time activities and transportation.
- **Business-Type Activities** - These services are provided on a charge for goods or services basis to recover all of the expenses of the goods or services provided. The City's water, sanitation and sewer funds are reported as major business-type activities.

***Reporting the City of Martins Ferry's Most Significant Funds***

*Fund Financial Statements*

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been safeguarded for specific activities or objectives. The City uses many funds to account for financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the City's most significant funds. The City's major governmental funds are the general fund, the fire and ambulance fund and the permanent improvement fund.

***Governmental Funds*** Most of the City's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the City's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance future services. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the financial statements.

***Proprietary Funds*** Proprietary funds use the same basis of accounting as business-type activities; therefore, these statements will essentially match.

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**Fiduciary Funds** Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the City's own programs. The accounting used for the fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

**The City as a Whole**

Recall that the Statement of Net Position provides the perspective of the City as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the City's net position for 2014 compared to 2013:

**Table 1**  
**Net Position**

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
<b>Assets</b>						
Current and Other Assets	\$ 3,251,486	\$ 3,748,168	\$ 894,755	\$ 948,069	\$ 4,146,241	\$ 4,696,237
Capital Assets	3,048,620	3,243,341	13,122,398	13,746,752	16,171,018	16,990,093
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>6,300,106</u>	<u>6,991,509</u>	<u>14,017,153</u>	<u>14,694,821</u>	<u>20,317,259</u>	<u>21,686,330</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Current and Other Liabilities	238,552	246,419	287,025	271,797	525,577	518,216
Long-Term Liabilities	589,451	682,539	7,096,329	7,827,278	7,685,780	8,509,817
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>828,003</u>	<u>928,958</u>	<u>7,383,354</u>	<u>8,099,075</u>	<u>8,211,357</u>	<u>9,028,033</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>365,272</u>	<u>350,695</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>365,272</u>	<u>350,695</u>
<b>Net Position</b>						
Net Investment in						
Capital Assets	2,705,350	2,795,092	6,128,428	6,034,945	8,833,778	8,830,037
Restricted	1,639,418	2,213,603	0	0	1,639,418	2,213,603
Unrestricted	<u>762,063</u>	<u>703,161</u>	<u>505,371</u>	<u>560,801</u>	<u>1,267,434</u>	<u>1,263,962</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 5,106,831</u>	<u>\$ 5,711,856</u>	<u>\$ 6,633,799</u>	<u>\$ 6,595,746</u>	<u>\$ 11,740,630</u>	<u>\$ 12,307,602</u>

At year end, capital assets represented 80 percent of total assets. Capital assets include land, buildings, building improvements, machinery and equipment, vehicles, infrastructure and construction in progress. The net investment in capital assets was \$8,833,778 at December 31, 2014, with \$2,705,350 in governmental activities and \$6,128,428 in business-type activities. These capital assets are used to provide services to citizens and are not available for future spending. Although the City's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the City's net position, \$1,639,418 or 14 percent, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The balance of unrestricted net position of \$1,267,434 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

The decrease in current and other assets, primarily cash and investments, can be attributed to continued deficit spending, mostly in the general and permanent improvement funds. Capital assets decreased in business-type activities due to disposals and depreciation exceeding additions in 2014.

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Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal year 2014 and 2013.

**Table 2**  
**Changes in Net Position**

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
<b>Revenues</b>						
<i>Program Revenues:</i>						
Charges for Services	\$ 1,281,800	\$ 1,579,187	\$ 4,091,575	\$ 3,954,162	\$ 5,373,375	\$ 5,533,349
Operating Grants	460,204	486,015	0	0	460,204	486,015
Capital Grants	0	1,600	0	1,000	0	2,600
<i>General Revenues:</i>						
Property Taxes	397,783	373,144	0	0	397,783	373,144
Income Taxes	1,295,193	1,087,290	0	0	1,295,193	1,087,290
Grants and Entitlements	156,640	363,294	0	0	156,640	363,294
Gain on Sale of Capital Assets	89,421	70,000	0	0	89,421	70,000
Premium on Debt Issued	0	0	0	3,712	0	3,712
Investment Earnings	3,286	10,091	0	0	3,286	10,091
Miscellaneous	133,318	130,575	107,174	69,543	240,492	200,118
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>3,817,645</u>	<u>4,101,196</u>	<u>4,198,749</u>	<u>4,028,417</u>	<u>8,016,394</u>	<u>8,129,613</u>
<b>Program Expenses</b>						
General Government	636,522	721,682	0	0	636,522	721,682
Security of Persons and Property	2,996,177	3,186,403	0	0	2,996,177	3,186,403
Public Health	75,054	83,456	0	0	75,054	83,456
Leisure Time Services	100,766	100,986	0	0	100,766	100,986
Community Development	61,934	141,180	0	0	61,934	141,180
Transportation	568,262	573,875	0	0	568,262	573,875
Interest and Fiscal Charges	14,838	19,227	0	0	14,838	19,227
<i>Enterprise Operations:</i>						
Water	0	0	3,034,346	3,018,786	3,034,346	3,018,786
Sewer	0	0	297,402	303,214	297,402	303,214
Sanitation	0	0	793,472	769,644	793,472	769,644
Off Street Parking	0	0	0	838	0	838
Parking Meter	0	0	4,593	41,142	4,593	41,142
<i>Total Program Expenses</i>	<u>4,453,553</u>	<u>4,826,809</u>	<u>4,129,813</u>	<u>4,133,624</u>	<u>8,583,366</u>	<u>8,960,433</u>
<i>Increase (Decrease) in Net Position</i>	<u>(635,908)</u>	<u>(725,613)</u>	<u>68,936</u>	<u>(105,207)</u>	<u>(566,972)</u>	<u>(830,820)</u>
Transfers	30,883	68,143	(30,883)	(68,143)	0	0
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	<u>\$ (605,025)</u>	<u>\$ (657,470)</u>	<u>\$ 38,053</u>	<u>\$ (173,350)</u>	<u>\$ (566,972)</u>	<u>\$ (830,820)</u>
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>5,711,856</u>	<u>6,369,326</u>	<u>6,595,746</u>	<u>6,769,096</u>	<u>12,307,602</u>	<u>13,138,422</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 5,106,831</u>	<u>\$ 5,711,856</u>	<u>\$ 6,633,799</u>	<u>\$ 6,595,746</u>	<u>\$ 11,740,630</u>	<u>\$ 12,307,602</u>

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
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**Governmental Activities**

The funding for the governmental activities comes from several different sources, the most significant being the municipal income tax and charges for services. Other prominent sources are property taxes, grants and entitlements and investment interest.

The City's income tax rate increased to 1.0 percent, effective June 1, 2014 from the prior tax rate of 0.75 percent. Both residents of the City and non-residents who work inside the City are subject to the income tax. However if residents work in a locality that has a municipal income tax, the City provides 100 percent credit up to 1.0 percent for those who pay income tax to another city. City Council could by Ordinance, choose to vary that income tax credit and create additional revenues for the City.

Governmental revenue is comprised of program revenue and general revenue. General revenues include grants and entitlements, such as local government funds. Governmental activities are primarily funded with the combination of property tax, income tax and intergovernmental revenues. The City monitors its sources of revenues very closely for fluctuations.

Grants and entitlements decreased in 2014 due to a decrease in estate taxes. The decrease in governmental charges for services is mainly due to a decrease in fire and ambulance services from 2013.

Police and fire represent the largest expense of the governmental activities. This expense of \$2,996,177 represents 67 percent of the total governmental activities expenses. The police department operates out of the general fund.

The City's street maintenance and repair department provides the City and its citizens many services that include public road salting, leaf and debris pickup, paint striping and alley profiling. These expenses totaled \$568,262, or 13 percent of total governmental activities expenses during 2014.

The City also maintains a cemetery (public health services) and a park (leisure time activities) within the City. These areas had expenses of \$175,820 in 2014 equaling 4 percent of the total governmental services expenses.

**Business-Type Activities**

Business-type activities include water, sanitation, sewer and parking meter operations. The revenues are generated primarily from charges for services. In 2014, charges for services of \$4,091,575 accounted for 97 percent of the business type revenues. The total expenses for the utilities were \$4,129,813. The increase in net position was \$38,053 for the business-type activities.

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**Belmont County, Ohio**  
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***The City's Funds***

***Governmental Funds***

Information about the City's governmental funds begins on page 13. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual method of accounting. All governmental funds had revenues of \$3,876,806 and expenditures of \$4,460,444, resulting in a decrease in fund balance of \$355,017. The funds are monitored consistently with adjustments made throughout the year in budgets to accommodate yearly revenues.

The general fund's net change in fund balance for fiscal year 2014 was a decrease of \$179,718. This is primarily due to continued deficit spending.

The fire and ambulance fund's net change in fund balance for fiscal year 2014 was a decrease of \$54,058. Charges for services revenue decreased compared to 2013 levels by almost 17 percent.

The City's permanent improvement fund saw a decrease in fund balance of \$123,753 from 2013, also due to continued deficit spending.

***Proprietary Funds***

The City's proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements for the business-type activities, but in more detail.

Unrestricted net position of the water fund at the end of the year amounted to \$316,686, the unrestricted net position of the sanitation fund was \$125,831, and the unrestricted net position of the sewer fund was \$62,854. The total increase in net position for all funds was \$38,053, with the largest increase in the sewer fund, which had an increase in net position of \$97,717.

***General Fund Budgeting Highlights***

The City's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

During the course of 2014, the City amended its general fund budget on various occasions. All recommendations for appropriation changes come to Council from the City Auditor. The Finance Committee of Council reviews them, and they make their recommendation to the Council as a whole.

For the general fund, the original budget basis revenues of \$2,140,572 were \$149,658 higher than the final budget estimate. This is due to a decrease in the amount of income tax revenue expected. The actual budget basis revenue was \$1,978,908, representing \$12,006 under the final budget estimate of \$1,990,914. Most of this difference was attributable to an overestimation of revenue received from fines and forfeitures.

Final expenditure appropriations of \$2,110,298 were \$26,618 higher than the actual expenditures of \$2,083,680.

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**Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

**Capital Assets**

At the end of year 2014, the City had \$16,171,018 invested in capital assets. A total of \$3,048,620 of this was for governmental activities and \$13,122,398 was attributable to business-type activities. Table 3 shows 2014 balances compared with 2013.

**Table 3**  
**Capital Assets at December 31**  
**(Net of Depreciation)**

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Land	\$ 712,451	\$ 760,330	\$ 171,440	\$ 194,141	\$ 883,891	\$ 954,471
Infrastructure	506,521	530,612	5,158,901	5,271,216	5,665,422	5,801,828
Buildings	667,414	657,452	3,164,984	3,312,274	3,832,398	3,969,726
Building Improvements	178,681	189,086	1,045,582	1,137,084	1,224,263	1,326,170
Machinery and Equipment	343,484	360,851	3,066,032	3,302,350	3,409,516	3,663,201
Vehicles	640,069	745,010	336,527	365,000	976,596	1,110,010
Construction in Progress	0	0	178,932	164,687	178,932	164,687
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,048,620</b>	<b>\$ 3,243,341</b>	<b>\$ 13,122,398</b>	<b>\$ 13,746,752</b>	<b>\$ 16,171,018</b>	<b>\$ 16,990,093</b>

The \$819,075 decrease in capital assets was attributable to current year depreciation and disposals exceeding additional purchases. Capital assets of business-type activities decreased by \$624,354 while capital assets of governmental activities decreased by \$194,721. See Note 9 for additional information about the capital assets of the City.

**Debt**

The outstanding debt for the City as of December 31, 2014 was \$7,483,299. See Note 15 for additional details. Table 4 summarizes outstanding debt.

**Table 4**  
**Outstanding Debt, at December 31**

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
OPWC Loans	\$ 4,262	\$ 4,763	\$ 658,479	\$ 701,967	\$ 662,741	\$ 706,730
OWDA Loans	0	0	6,174,631	6,815,708	6,174,631	6,815,708
Notes Payable	72,903	86,713	0	0	72,903	86,713
Revolving Loan	28,700	36,900	0	0	28,700	36,900
General Obligation Bonds	230,000	310,000	155,000	170,000	385,000	480,000
Police and Fire Pension	159,324	164,136	0	0	159,324	164,136
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 495,189</b>	<b>\$ 602,512</b>	<b>\$ 6,988,110</b>	<b>\$ 7,687,675</b>	<b>\$ 7,483,299</b>	<b>\$ 8,290,187</b>

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*(Unaudited)*

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***Economic Factors***

The year of 2014 has brought several changes in the City. An ongoing study of upgrading the lights Citywide to LED is progressing and work may begin in 2015 on that project.

The City will obtain a grant during 2015 for the resurfacing of Old Route 7 which is an alternative route through Martins Ferry if the main state route is closed. The City also will receive a grant in 2015 for a new water line to be put in on County Road 4 from Hill and Dale to Colerain. Work on both projects is planned to begin mid-2015.

For the new year the City is looking into the possibility of selling mineral rights on other City property.

***Contacting the City's Finance Department***

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the City's finances and to show the City's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Rita Randall, Auditor of Martins Ferry, Ohio, at 35 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Martins Ferry, Ohio 43935 or [mfauditor@yahoo.com](mailto:mfauditor@yahoo.com).

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Net Position*  
*December 31, 2014*

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
<b>Assets</b>			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 1,377,928	\$ 373,494	\$ 1,751,422
Investments in Segregated Accounts	179,569	0	179,569
Accounts Receivable	345,268	471,946	817,214
Intergovernmental Receivable	316,198	0	316,198
Taxes Receivable	977,416	0	977,416
Loans Receivable	15,380	0	15,380
Internal Balances	31,404	(31,404)	0
Materials and Supplies Inventory	8,323	72,369	80,692
Restricted Assets:			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	0	8,350	8,350
Non-Depreciable Capital Assets	712,451	350,372	1,062,823
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	2,336,169	12,772,026	15,108,195
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>6,300,106</u>	<u>14,017,153</u>	<u>20,317,259</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	7,706	36,491	44,197
Accrued Wages	96,951	65,835	162,786
Contracts Payable	0	95,975	95,975
Intergovernmental Payable	131,557	79,938	211,495
Accrued Interest Payable	2,338	436	2,774
Customer Deposits Payable	0	8,350	8,350
Long-Term Liabilities:			
Due Within One Year	117,469	739,798	857,267
Due in More Than One Year	471,982	6,356,531	6,828,513
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>828,003</u>	<u>7,383,354</u>	<u>8,211,357</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Property Taxes Levied for the Next Year	365,272	0	365,272
<b>Net Position</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,705,350	6,128,428	8,833,778
Restricted for Capital Outlay	1,036,540	0	1,036,540
Restricted for Other Purposes	602,878	0	602,878
Unrestricted	762,063	505,371	1,267,434
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 5,106,831</u>	<u>\$ 6,633,799</u>	<u>\$ 11,740,630</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.



**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Activities*  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		Total
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	
<b>Governmental Activities</b>						
General Government	\$ 636,522	\$ 320,941	\$ 0	\$ (315,581)	\$ 0	\$ (315,581)
Security of Persons and Property	2,996,177	931,364	56,277	(2,008,536)	0	(2,008,536)
Public Health	75,054	29,495	777	(44,782)	0	(44,782)
Leisure Time Services	100,766	0	0	(100,766)	0	(100,766)
Community Development	61,934	0	393	(61,541)	0	(61,541)
Transportation	568,262	0	402,757	(165,505)	0	(165,505)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	14,838	0	0	(14,838)	0	(14,838)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>4,453,553</u>	<u>1,281,800</u>	<u>460,204</u>	<u>(2,711,549)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(2,711,549)</u>
<b>Business-Type Activities</b>						
Water	3,034,346	2,991,643	0	0	(42,703)	(42,703)
Sewer	297,402	309,477	0	0	12,075	12,075
Sanitation	793,472	762,277	0	0	(31,195)	(31,195)
Parking Meter	4,593	28,178	0	0	23,585	23,585
<i>Total Business-Type Activities</i>	<u>4,129,813</u>	<u>4,091,575</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(38,238)</u>	<u>(38,238)</u>
<i>Total Primary Government</i>	<u>\$ 8,583,366</u>	<u>\$ 5,373,375</u>	<u>\$ 460,204</u>	<u>(2,711,549)</u>	<u>(38,238)</u>	<u>(2,749,787)</u>
<b>General Revenues:</b>						
Property Taxes Levied for:						
				147,528	0	147,528
				250,255	0	250,255
				1,295,193	0	1,295,193
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to						
				156,640	0	156,640
				89,421	0	89,421
				3,286	0	3,286
				133,318	107,174	240,492
<i>Total General Revenues</i>				<u>2,075,641</u>	<u>107,174</u>	<u>2,182,815</u>
Transfers				30,883	(30,883)	0
<i>Change in Net Position</i>				<u>(605,025)</u>	<u>38,053</u>	<u>(566,972)</u>
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>				<u>5,711,856</u>	<u>6,595,746</u>	<u>12,307,602</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>				<u>\$ 5,106,831</u>	<u>\$ 6,633,799</u>	<u>\$ 11,740,630</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Balance Sheet*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*December 31, 2014*

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire and Ambulance</u>	<u>Permanent Improvement</u>	<u>All Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Assets</b>					
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 9,451	\$ 156,185	\$ 972,695	\$ 239,597	\$ 1,377,928
Investments in Segregated Accounts	0	0	0	179,569	179,569
Accounts Receivable	76,554	268,714	0	0	345,268
Intergovernmental Receivable	100,733	0	0	215,465	316,198
Taxes Receivable	713,753	0	0	263,663	977,416
Loans Receivable	15,380	0	0	0	15,380
Materials and Supplies Inventory	1,048	0	0	7,275	8,323
Advances to Other Funds	0	0	66,770	0	66,770
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$ 916,919</u>	<u>\$ 424,899</u>	<u>\$ 1,039,465</u>	<u>\$ 905,569</u>	<u>\$ 3,286,852</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,507	\$ 1,741	\$ 2,925	\$ 1,533	\$ 7,706
Accrued Wages	55,962	23,491	0	17,498	96,951
Intergovernmental Payable	77,552	33,216	0	20,789	131,557
Advances from Other Funds	0	35,366	0	0	35,366
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>135,021</u>	<u>93,814</u>	<u>2,925</u>	<u>39,820</u>	<u>271,580</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>					
Property Taxes Levied for the Next Year	156,983	0	0	208,289	365,272
Unavailable Revenue	379,769	186,317	0	187,135	753,221
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>536,752</u>	<u>186,317</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>395,424</u>	<u>1,118,493</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>					
Nonspendable	16,428	0	0	187,818	204,246
Restricted	0	0	1,036,540	293,850	1,330,390
Committed	0	144,768	0	0	144,768
Assigned	7,331	0	0	0	7,331
Unassigned	221,387	0	0	(11,343)	210,044
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>245,146</u>	<u>144,768</u>	<u>1,036,540</u>	<u>470,325</u>	<u>1,896,779</u>
<i>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$ 916,919</u>	<u>\$ 424,899</u>	<u>\$ 1,039,465</u>	<u>\$ 905,569</u>	<u>\$ 3,286,852</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to*  
*Net Position of Governmental Activities*  
*December 31, 2014*

<b>Total Governmental Fund Balances</b>		\$ 1,896,779
 <i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:</i>		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		3,048,620
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are unavailable in the funds:		
Property Taxes	\$ 81,641	
Income Taxes	277,153	
Intergovernmental	200,023	
Charges for Services	<u>194,404</u>	
Total		753,221
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and therefore not reported in the funds.		(2,338)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:		
General Obligation Bonds	(230,000)	
Revolving Loan	(28,700)	
OPWC Loan	(4,262)	
Roberts Building Note	(72,903)	
Bond Premium	(7,405)	
Police and Fire Pension	(159,324)	
Compensated Absences	<u>(86,857)</u>	
Total		<u>(589,451)</u>
<i>Net Position of Governmental Activities</i>		<u><u>\$ 5,106,831</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

	General	Fire and Ambulance	Permanent Improvement	All Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>					
Property Taxes	\$ 163,821	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 230,087	\$ 393,908
Income Taxes	1,302,832	0	0	0	1,302,832
Charges for Services	176,870	979,619	0	31,335	1,187,824
Licenses and Permits	70,071	0	0	12,165	82,236
Fines and Forfeitures	74,180	0	0	687	74,867
Intergovernmental	206,677	0	0	483,640	690,317
Interest	2,197	0	1,089	1,407	4,693
Rent	0	9,100	0	0	9,100
Contributions and Donations	0	0	0	200	200
Other	47,011	41,686	2,500	39,632	130,829
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>2,043,659</u>	<u>1,030,405</u>	<u>3,589</u>	<u>799,153</u>	<u>3,876,806</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
Current:					
General Government	576,326	0	0	180	576,506
Security of Persons and Property	1,491,849	1,054,785	0	242,587	2,789,221
Public Health	18,202	0	0	45,562	63,764
Leisure Time Services	0	0	0	47,661	47,661
Community Development	0	0	0	60,335	60,335
Transportation	0	0	2,511	501,550	504,061
Capital Outlay	0	12,760	257,824	23,476	294,060
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	0	13,810	0	93,513	107,323
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	3,108	0	14,405	17,513
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>2,086,377</u>	<u>1,084,463</u>	<u>260,335</u>	<u>1,029,269</u>	<u>4,460,444</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	<u>(42,718)</u>	<u>(54,058)</u>	<u>(256,746)</u>	<u>(230,116)</u>	<u>(583,638)</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>					
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	0	0	160,001	0	160,001
Transfers In	90,000	0	0	232,628	322,628
Transfers Out	(227,000)	0	(27,008)	0	(254,008)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(137,000)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>132,993</u>	<u>232,628</u>	<u>228,621</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	<u>(179,718)</u>	<u>(54,058)</u>	<u>(123,753)</u>	<u>2,512</u>	<u>(355,017)</u>
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	<u>424,864</u>	<u>198,826</u>	<u>1,160,293</u>	<u>467,813</u>	<u>2,251,796</u>
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 245,146</u>	<u>\$ 144,768</u>	<u>\$ 1,036,540</u>	<u>\$ 470,325</u>	<u>\$ 1,896,779</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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**Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds** \$ (355,017)

*Amounts reported for governmental activities in the  
statement of activities are different because:*

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded additions in the current period.

Capital Asset Additions	\$ 102,343	
Current Year Depreciation	(286,016)	(183,673)

Governmental funds only report the disposal of capital assets to the extent proceeds are received from the sale. In the statement of activities, a gain or loss is reported for each disposal. (11,048)

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.

Property Taxes	(16,275)	
Income Tax	(7,639)	
Intergovernmental	(54,930)	
Charges for Services	(69,738)	(148,582)

Repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

General Obligation Bonds	80,000	
Revolving Loan	8,200	
Roberts Building Note	13,810	
OPWC Loan	501	
Police and Fire Pension	4,812	107,323

Premiums related to the issuance of bonds are amortized over the life of the issuance in the statement of activities. 2,468

In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding bonds, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when bonds are issued. 207

Compensated absences, which are reported in the statement of activities, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. (16,703)

*Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities* \$ (605,025)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes*  
*in Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual*  
*General Fund*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Over (Under)
	Original	Final	Actual	
<b>Revenues</b>				
Property Taxes	\$ 177,204	\$ 168,824	\$ 163,821	\$ (5,003)
Income Taxes	1,339,754	1,214,217	1,238,570	24,353
Charges for Services	191,319	183,279	176,870	(6,409)
Licenses and Permits	76,696	72,035	70,904	(1,131)
Fines and Forfeitures	80,240	89,896	74,180	(15,716)
Intergovernmental	218,381	206,402	201,888	(4,514)
Interest	2,376	2,341	2,197	(144)
Other	54,602	53,920	50,478	(3,442)
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>2,140,572</u>	<u>1,990,914</u>	<u>1,978,908</u>	<u>(12,006)</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current:				
General Government	603,154	595,812	574,171	21,641
Security of Persons and Property	1,566,584	1,496,284	1,491,307	4,977
Public Health	19,121	18,202	18,202	0
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>2,188,859</u>	<u>2,110,298</u>	<u>2,083,680</u>	<u>26,618</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	<u>(48,287)</u>	<u>(119,384)</u>	<u>(104,772)</u>	<u>14,612</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Transfers In	97,352	91,694	90,000	(1,694)
Transfers Out	(238,458)	(217,000)	(227,000)	(10,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(141,106)</u>	<u>(125,306)</u>	<u>(137,000)</u>	<u>(11,694)</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	(189,393)	(244,690)	(241,772)	2,918
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	239,216	239,216	239,216	0
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	8,495	8,495	8,495	0
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 58,318</u>	<u>\$ 3,021</u>	<u>\$ 5,939</u>	<u>\$ 2,918</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes*  
*in Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual*  
*Fire and Ambulance Fund*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		Actual	Variance with
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		Final Budget
				Over (Under)
<b>Revenues</b>				
Charges for Services	\$ 1,143,863	\$ 1,184,968	\$ 950,203	\$ (234,765)
Rent	10,955	8,400	9,100	700
Other	50,182	11,632	41,686	30,054
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>1,205,000</u>	<u>1,205,000</u>	<u>1,000,989</u>	<u>(204,011)</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	1,276,359	1,201,750	1,084,033	117,717
Capital Outlay	15,024	13,200	12,760	440
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	16,260	13,864	13,810	54
Interest and Fiscal Charges	3,659	3,560	3,108	452
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>1,311,302</u>	<u>1,232,374</u>	<u>1,113,711</u>	<u>118,663</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	<u>(106,302)</u>	<u>(27,374)</u>	<u>(112,722)</u>	<u>(85,348)</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Advances Out	(21,048)	(17,876)	(17,876)	0
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	(127,350)	(45,250)	(130,598)	(85,348)
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	261,985	261,985	261,985	0
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	7,276	7,276	7,276	0
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 141,911</u>	<u>\$ 224,011</u>	<u>\$ 138,663</u>	<u>\$ (85,348)</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Fund Net Position*  
*Proprietary Funds*  
*December 31, 2014*

	Enterprise Funds			
	Water	Sanitation	Sewer	Total
<b>Assets</b>				
<i>Current Assets:</i>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 255,717	\$ 70,673	\$ 47,104	\$ 373,494
Accounts Receivable	319,035	109,861	43,050	471,946
Materials and Supplies Inventory	69,825	1,272	1,272	72,369
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	<u>644,577</u>	<u>181,806</u>	<u>91,426</u>	<u>917,809</u>
<i>Non-Current Assets:</i>				
<i>Restricted Assets:</i>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	5,660	2,004	686	8,350
Non-Depreciable Capital Assets	345,372	5,000	0	350,372
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	12,335,765	260,892	175,369	12,772,026
<i>Total Non-Current Assets</i>	<u>12,686,797</u>	<u>267,896</u>	<u>176,055</u>	<u>13,130,748</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>13,331,374</u>	<u>449,702</u>	<u>267,481</u>	<u>14,048,557</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
<i>Current Liabilities:</i>				
Accounts Payable	14,412	21,579	500	36,491
Accrued Wages	43,166	15,657	7,012	65,835
Contracts Payable	95,975	0	0	95,975
Intergovernmental Payable	52,609	18,739	8,590	79,938
Accrued Interest Payable	436	0	0	436
Compensated Absences Payable	9,723	0	548	10,271
Capital Leases Payable	7,166	0	7,166	14,332
OPWC Loans Payable	43,728	0	0	43,728
OWDA Loans Payable	656,467	0	0	656,467
General Obligation Bonds Payable	15,000	0	0	15,000
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	<u>938,682</u>	<u>55,975</u>	<u>23,816</u>	<u>1,018,473</u>
<i>Long-Term Liabilities:</i>				
Compensated Absences Payable - Net of Current Portion	70,253	0	11,922	82,175
Capital Leases Payable - Net of Current Portion	720	0	721	1,441
OPWC Loans Payable - Net of Current Portion	614,751	0	0	614,751
OWDA Loans Payable - Net of Current Portion	5,518,164	0	0	5,518,164
General Obligation Bonds Payable - Net of Current Portion	140,000	0	0	140,000
Refundable Deposits	5,660	2,004	686	8,350
Advances from Other Funds	31,404	0	0	31,404
<i>Total Long-Term Liabilities</i>	<u>6,380,952</u>	<u>2,004</u>	<u>13,329</u>	<u>6,396,285</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>7,319,634</u>	<u>57,979</u>	<u>37,145</u>	<u>7,414,758</u>
<b>Net Position</b>				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	5,695,054	265,892	167,482	6,128,428
Unrestricted	316,686	125,831	62,854	505,371
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 6,011,740</u>	<u>\$ 391,723</u>	<u>\$ 230,336</u>	<u>6,633,799</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.



**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position*  
*Proprietary Funds*  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Enterprise Funds				Totals
	Water	Sanitation	Sewer	All Other Enterprise Funds	
<b>Operating Revenues</b>					
Charges for Services	\$ 2,991,643	\$ 762,277	\$ 309,477	\$ 28,178	\$ 4,091,575
Other	34,191	11,609	3,975	36	49,811
<i>Total Operating Revenues</i>	<u>3,025,834</u>	<u>773,886</u>	<u>313,452</u>	<u>28,214</u>	<u>4,141,386</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
Personal Services	1,377,351	486,438	211,360	891	2,076,040
Contractual Services	469,139	213,788	30,147	411	713,485
Materials and Supplies	362,186	63,255	33,782	3,291	462,514
Depreciation	683,819	29,991	21,539	0	735,349
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<u>2,892,495</u>	<u>793,472</u>	<u>296,828</u>	<u>4,593</u>	<u>3,987,388</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	<u>133,339</u>	<u>(19,586)</u>	<u>16,624</u>	<u>23,621</u>	<u>153,998</u>
<b>Non-Operating Revenues (Expense)</b>					
Other Non-Operating Revenues	34,412	15,060	7,891	0	57,363
Interest and Fiscal Charges	(141,851)	0	(574)	0	(142,425)
<i>Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expense)</i>	<u>(107,439)</u>	<u>15,060</u>	<u>7,317</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(85,062)</u>
<i>Income (Loss) Before Capital Contributions and Transfers</i>	<u>25,900</u>	<u>(4,526)</u>	<u>23,941</u>	<u>23,621</u>	<u>68,936</u>
Capital Contributions	0	0	73,776	0	73,776
Transfers In	21,380	0	0	0	21,380
Transfers Out	0	0	0	(126,039)	(126,039)
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	47,280	(4,526)	97,717	(102,418)	38,053
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>5,964,460</u>	<u>396,249</u>	<u>132,619</u>	<u>102,418</u>	<u>6,595,746</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 6,011,740</u>	<u>\$ 391,723</u>	<u>\$ 230,336</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 6,633,799</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Cash Flows*  
*Proprietary Funds*  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Enterprise Funds				Totals
	Water	Sanitation	Sewer	All Other Enterprise Funds	
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>					
Cash Received from Customers	\$ 2,957,833	\$ 707,932	\$ 288,581	\$ 28,178	\$ 3,982,524
Cash Received from Other Operating Receipts	35,137	11,609	3,975	36	50,757
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(354,728)	(60,539)	(33,759)	(3,291)	(452,317)
Cash Payments to Employees for Services and Benefits	(1,375,038)	(496,046)	(210,458)	(4,808)	(2,086,350)
Cash Payments for Contractual Services	(469,139)	(213,788)	(30,147)	(411)	(713,485)
<i>Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities</i>	<u>794,065</u>	<u>(50,832)</u>	<u>18,192</u>	<u>19,704</u>	<u>781,129</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities</b>					
Transfers Out	0	0	0	(90,000)	(90,000)
<b>Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities</b>					
Acquisition of Capital Assets	(67,283)	0	0	0	(67,283)
Advances In	42,165	0	0	0	42,165
Advances Out	(24,761)	0	0	0	(24,761)
Principal Payments on Debt	(706,401)	0	(6,836)	0	(713,237)
Interest Payments on Debt	(143,782)	0	(574)	0	(144,356)
<i>Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Capital and Related Financing Activities</i>	<u>(900,062)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(7,410)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(907,472)</u>
<i>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Investments</i>	(105,997)	(50,832)	10,782	(70,296)	(216,343)
<i>Cash and Investments Beginning of Year</i>	<u>367,374</u>	<u>123,509</u>	<u>37,008</u>	<u>70,296</u>	<u>598,187</u>
<i>Cash and Investments End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 261,377</u>	<u>\$ 72,677</u>	<u>\$ 47,790</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 381,844</u>

**Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash  
Provided by Operating Activities**

Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 133,339	\$ (19,586)	\$ 16,624	\$ 23,621	\$ 153,998
Adjustments:					
Depreciation	683,819	29,991	21,539	0	735,349
(Increase) Decrease in Assets:					
Accounts Receivable	(33,144)	(54,108)	(20,822)	0	(108,074)
Materials and Supplies Inventory	4,568	908	908	0	6,384
Increase (Decrease) in Liabilities:					
Accounts Payable	2,890	1,808	(885)	0	3,813
Customer Deposits	280	(237)	(74)	0	(31)
Accrued Wages	1,411	1,786	1,171	(202)	4,166
Compensated Absences Payable	(1,295)	(12,743)	(1,253)	(2,421)	(17,712)
Intergovernmental Payable	2,197	1,349	984	(1,294)	3,236
<i>Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities</i>	<u>\$ 794,065</u>	<u>\$ (50,832)</u>	<u>\$ 18,192</u>	<u>\$ 19,704</u>	<u>\$ 781,129</u>

**Noncash Capital Financing Activities:**

The water fund had items purchased on account in the amount of \$95,975 and \$90,000 as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively.

Governmental activities purchased capital assets in the amount of \$73,776 for the sewer fund in 2014.

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities*  
*Fiduciary Funds*  
*December 31, 2014*

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	<u>Agency Funds</u>
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	<u>\$ 72,601</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Undistributed Monies	<u>\$ 72,601</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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**NOTE 1: REPORTING ENTITY AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The City of Martins Ferry (the "City") is a municipal corporation established under the laws of the State of Ohio. The City operates under a Mayor/Council form of government. Legislative power is vested in an eight member Council, each elected for two year terms, and other elected officials that include a Mayor, Auditor, Treasurer, and Law Director. The Mayor appoints the department directors and public members of various boards and commissions.

The City is located in Belmont County, in Eastern Ohio, on the Ohio River and is the largest city in Belmont County. The City became a settlement in 1835 and was chartered as a city in 1865.

***Reporting Entity***

In evaluating how to define the City for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all agencies, departments, and organizations making up the City (the primary government) and its potential component units consistent with Government Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity* and No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*, as amended by GASB 61.

The City provides various services including police and fire protection, emergency medical, recreation (including parks), planning, zoning, street maintenance and repair, water and water pollution control, sanitation and general administrative services. The operation of each of these activities is directly controlled by the Council through the budgetary process. None of these services are provided by a legally separate organization; therefore these operations are included in the primary government.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the City is financially accountable. The City is financially accountable for an organization if the City appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the City is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the City is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the City is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the City is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations for which the City approves the budget, the levying of taxes or the issuance of debt. The City has no component units.

The City is involved with the Belmont Metropolitan Housing Authority, Eastern Ohio Regional Transit Authority, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association, Jefferson-Belmont Joint Solid Waste Authority, Belmont County Sewer Authority, and Bel-O-Mar Regional Council which are defined as jointly governed organizations. Additional information concerning the jointly governed organizations is presented in Note 17.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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**NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the City have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to local government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The most significant of the City's accounting policies are described below.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

The City's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**Government-wide Financial Statements** The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the City as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between those activities of the City that are governmental and those that are considered business-type.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental and business-type activities at year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the City's governmental activities and for the business-type activities of the City. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the City, with certain limitations. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the City.

**Fund Financial Statements** During the year, the City segregates transactions related to certain City functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the City at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental and enterprise fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

**B. Fund Accounting**

The City 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. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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**Governmental Funds** Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. The following are the City's major governmental funds:

**General Fund** The general fund accounts for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the City for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

**Fire and Ambulance Fund** The fire and ambulance special revenue fund is used to account for fees charged and collected for ambulance services.

**Permanent Improvement Fund** The permanent improvement capital projects fund is used to account for financial resources for the acquisition and construction of improvements to the City.

The other governmental funds of the City account for grants and other resources to which the City is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources.

**Proprietary Funds** Proprietary fund reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows. The following is the City's proprietary fund type:

**Enterprise Funds** Enterprise funds may be used to account for any activity for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or services. The water, sanitation, and sewer funds are the City's major enterprise funds.

**Water Fund** The water fund accounts for the provision of water service to the residents and commercial users located within the City.

**Sanitation Fund** The sanitation fund accounts for the provision of sanitation service to the residents and commercial users located within the City.

**Sewer Fund** The sewer fund accounts for the provision of sanitary sewer service to the residents and commercial users located within the City.

The other enterprise fund of the City accounts for the parking meter operations.

**Fiduciary Funds** Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds, and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the City under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the City's own programs. The City has no trust funds. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The City's agency fund accounts for monies acquired by the police department in the course of arrests and funds set aside to be used in the reclamation of properties destroyed by fire where insurance proceeds are not sufficient.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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***C. Measurement Focus***

***Government-wide Financial Statements*** The government-wide financial statements are prepared using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the City are included on the statement of net position. The statement of activities presents increases (i.e. revenues) and decreases (i.e. expenses) in total net position.

***Fund Financial Statements*** All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and deferred outflows of resources and current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing resources) and uses (i.e. expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Like the government-wide statements, all proprietary fund types are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of these funds are included on the statement of fund net position. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net position presents increases (i.e. revenues) and decreases (i.e. expenses) in net total position. The statement of cash flows provides information about how the City finances and meets the cash flow needs of its proprietary fund activities.

***D. Basis of Accounting***

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported in the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Proprietary and fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and modified accrual basis arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred inflows of resources, and in the preparation of expenses versus expenditures.

***Revenues – Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions*** Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the City, available means expected to be received within sixty days of the fiscal year-end.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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Non-exchange transactions, in which the City receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which taxes are levied. (See Note 6) Revenue from grants is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the City must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the City on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: investment earnings, state-levied locally shared taxes (including gasoline tax, motor vehicle license tax, government estate tax, and homestead and rollback), and fines and forfeitures.

***Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources*** In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The City does not have any deferred outflows of resources.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the City, deferred inflows of resources include property taxes and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of December 31, 2014, but which were levied to finance 2015 operations. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the City, unavailable revenue includes delinquent property taxes, homestead and rollback, income taxes, ambulance services, delinquent mowing assessments and intergovernmental grants. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available.

***Expenses/Expenditures*** On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.



**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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***E. Budgetary Data***

All funds, except agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount Council may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is Council's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by Council. The legal level of control has been established by Council at the object level within each department. Budgetary modifications may only be made by resolution of the City Council at the legal level of control.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the City Auditor. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time the final appropriations were passed by Council.

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by Council during the year.

***F. Cash and Investments***

To improve cash management, cash received by the City is pooled. Monies for all funds, including proprietary funds, are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through City records. Interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and investments." Investments are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices, with the exception of nonparticipating certificates of deposit and repurchase agreements, which are reported at cost.

During fiscal year 2014, the City's investments were limited to certificates of deposit, a money market, and a repurchase agreement.

Investment procedures are restricted by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and the City's investment policy. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during 2014 amounted to \$2,197, which includes \$2,175 assigned from other City funds.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with a maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the City are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an original maturity of more than three months that are not made from the pool are reported as investments. See Note 4.

***G. Materials and Supplies Inventory***

Inventories are presented at the lower of cost or market on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed when used. Inventory consists of expendable supplies held for consumption.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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***H. Restricted Assets***

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either externally imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments, or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Customer deposits have been restricted in the enterprise funds because the deposit remains the property of the customer. The restricted asset account is balanced by a customer deposit payable liability account.

***I. Capital Assets***

General capital assets are capital assets that are associated and generally arise from governmental activities. They generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. General capital assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements. Capital assets utilized by proprietary funds are reported in both the business-type activities column of the government-wide statement of net position and in the respective funds.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and are updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market value as of the date received. The City maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000 and \$10,000 for infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not. Interest incurred during the construction of proprietary fund capital assets is also capitalized.

All reported capital assets, except for land and construction in progress, are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Useful lives for infrastructure were estimated based on the City's historical records of necessary improvements and replacement. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Description	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
Buildings	40 Years	40 Years
Building Improvements	20-50 Years	20-50 Years
Infrastructure	15-50 Years	15-50 Years
Equipment and Machinery	3-25 Years	3-25 Years
Vehicles	5-10 Years	5-10 Years

For 2004, the City reported governmental activities infrastructure for the first time. The City only reports the amounts acquired after 2004.

***J. Interfund Balances***

On fund financial statements, long-term interfund loans are classified as "advances to/from other funds" on the balance sheet and are equally offset by a fund balance reserve account which indicates that they do not constitute available expendable resources. These amounts are eliminated in the governmental and business-type activities columns of the statement of net position, except for any net residual amounts due between governmental and business-type activities, which are presented as "internal balances."

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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***K. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations***

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements, and all payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations payable from proprietary funds are reported on the proprietary fund financial statements.

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources are reported as obligations of the funds. However, claims and judgments and compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year. Bonds and long-term loans are recognized as a liability on the governmental fund financial statements when due.

***L. Compensated Absences***

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employee's right to receive compensation is attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the employer will compensate the employee for the benefits through paid time off or some other means.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the City has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the City's termination policy.

***M. Fund Balance***

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, the City classifies its fund balance based on the purpose for which the resources were received and the level of constraint placed on the resources. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* – The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of loans receivable, as well as property acquired for resale, unless the use of the proceeds from the collection of those receivables or from the sale of those properties is restricted, committed or assigned.

*Restricted* – Fund balance is reported as 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* – The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of City Council. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless Council removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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*Assigned* – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the City for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the City. The City has by resolution authorized the Auditor to assign fund balance. The City may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget.

*Unassigned* – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed or assigned.

The City 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.

***N. Net Position***

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through constitutional provisions, enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

The City applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position applies.

***O. Operating Revenues and Expenses***

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the proprietary funds. For the City, these revenues are primarily for charges for services for water, sanitation and sewer services. Operating expenses are necessary costs that have been incurred in order to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the fund. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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***P. Interfund Activity***

Transfers between governmental and business-type activities on the government-wide statements are reported in the same manner as general revenues.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and after non-operating revenues/expenses in proprietary funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

***Q. Extraordinary and Special Items***

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the City Administration and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during 2014.

***R. Estimates***

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

***S. Implementation of New Accounting Policies***

For the year ended December 31, 2014, the City has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 69, *Government Combinations and Disposals of Government Operations* and GASB Statement No. 70, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Financial Guarantees*.

GASB Statement No. 69 addresses accounting and financial reporting for government combinations (including mergers, acquisitions and transfers of operations) and disposals of government operations. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 69 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the City.

GASB Statement No. 70 improves comparability of financial statements by requiring consistent reporting and specifying information required to be disclosed for extending and receiving nonexchange financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 70 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the City.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2014*

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**NOTE 3: BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balances on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP basis), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual presented for the general fund and major special revenue fund are presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures/expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as expenditures/expenses (budget basis) rather than as a reservation of fund balance (GAAP basis).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis statements to the budget basis statements for the general fund and fire and ambulance special revenue fund.

**Net Change in Fund Balance**

	General	Fire and Ambulance
GAAP Basis	\$ (179,718)	\$ (54,058)
Revenue Accruals	(64,751)	(29,416)
Expenditure Accruals	6,211	(29,603)
Encumbrances	(3,514)	(17,521)
Budget Basis	\$ (241,772)	\$ (130,598)

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**NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

The City maintains a cash deposit and investment pool for all funds. Each fund's share of cash deposits and investments is shown separately on the statement of net position and balance sheet as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments."

State statutes classify monies held by the City into three categories.

Active deposits are public deposits necessary to meet current demands on the treasury. Such monies must be maintained either as cash in the City Treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the City has identified as not required for use within the current two-year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit, or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

Protection of the City's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the treasurer by the financial institution, or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited with the institution.

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States treasury notes, bills, bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal or interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;

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5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio and STAR Plus);
7. Certain bankers acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty days from the purchase date in any amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time; and
8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests noted in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the City, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

According to State law, public depositories must give security for all uninsured public funds on deposit. These institutions may either specifically collateralize individual accounts in lieu of amounts insured by FDIC, or may pledge a pool of government securities valued at least 105 percent of the total value of uninsured public monies on deposit at the institution. Repurchase agreements must be secured by the specific government securities upon which the repurchase agreements are based. These securities must be obligations of or guaranteed by the United States and mature or be redeemable within 5 years of the date of the related repurchase agreement. State law does not require security for uninsured public deposits and investments to be maintained in the City's name. During 2014, the City and public depositories complied with the provisions of these statutes.

**Deposits with Financial Institutions**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the City's deposits may not be returned. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105 percent of the carrying value of the deposits. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as collateral against all of the uninsured public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the City.

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the City's deposits was \$1,374,788. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures*, as of December 31, 2014, \$962,207 of the City's bank balance of \$1,425,520 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed above, while \$463,313 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.



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**Investments**

As of December 31, 2014, the City had the following investment and maturity:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>6 Months or Less</u>
Repurchase Agreement	<u>\$ 637,154</u>	<u>\$ 637,154</u>

***Interest Rate Risk*** As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to state law, the City's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

***Custodial Credit Risk*** For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the City will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The City's investment in repurchase agreements is collateralized by underlying securities pledged by the investment's counterparty, not in the name of the City. Ohio law requires the market value of the securities subject to repurchase agreements must exceed the principal value of the securities subject to a repurchase agreement by 2 percent. The City has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in Ohio law that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the auditor or qualified trustee.

***Credit Risk*** The City's investments in the federal agency securities that underlie the City's repurchase agreement were rated AAA by Moody's Investor Services. The City has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

***Concentration of Credit Risk*** The City places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage total of each investment type held by the City as of December 31, 2014:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>
Repurchase Agreement	<u>\$ 637,154</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

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**NOTE 5: INTERFUND ACTIVITY**

***A. Interfund Transfers***

Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2014, consisted of the following:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Transfers Out</u>	<u>Transfers In</u>
Governmental:		
General	\$ 227,000	\$ 90,000
Permanent Improvement	27,008	0
Nonmajor Governmental Funds:		
Street	0	105,628
Recreation	0	42,000
Cemetery	0	10,000
Safety Service	0	30,000
Division of Development	0	45,000
Business-Type:		
Water	0	21,380
Nonmajor Enterprise Fund:		
Parking Meter Operations	<u>90,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 344,008</u>	<u>\$ 344,008</u>

Interfund transfers made from the general fund were done to provide additional resources for current operations. Interfund transfers from the parking meter fund to the general fund were made when that fund was closed per Council in April 2014.

Interfund transfers made from the permanent improvement fund to the street fund and water fund were to forgive a portion of the balance remaining on the long-term advance. See Note 5 B for additional information regarding long-term advances.

In addition, capital assets in the amount of \$36,039 were transferred from the parking meter fund to governmental activities upon closure of that fund.

***B. Interfund Balances***

Interfund balances at December 31, 2014 consisted of the following:

	<u>Advances to Other Funds</u>	<u>Advances from Other Funds</u>
Governmental:		
Permanent Improvement	\$ 66,770	\$ 0
Fire and Ambulance	0	35,366
Business-Type:		
Water	<u>0</u>	<u>31,404</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 66,770</u>	<u>\$ 66,770</u>

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The permanent improvement fund advanced \$31,549 to the fire and ambulance fund during 2011 for the purchase of an EMS transport van. The fire and ambulance fund will be repaying the advance over 5 years and the payments will be \$546 per month which includes interest. The permanent improvement fund advanced \$49,700 to the fire and ambulance fund during 2012 for the purchase of a transport van and a Chevy Cruze. The fire and ambulance fund will be repaying the advance over 5 years and the payments will be \$1,000 per month which includes interest. In 2014, the permanent improvement fund advanced \$31,165 and \$11,000 to the water fund for the purchase of a service truck and diffusers, respectively. Both advances will be repayed over 5 years with monthly payments of \$539 and \$924, including 1.5 percent interest.

**NOTE 6: PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the City. Property tax revenue received during 2014 for real and public utility property taxes represents collections of the 2013 taxes.

2014 real property taxes were levied after October 1, 2014 on the assessed value as of January 1, 2014, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. 2014 real property taxes are collected in and intended to finance 2015.

Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2014 public utility property taxes which became a lien December 31, 2013, are levied after October 1, 2014, and are collected in 2015 with real property taxes.

The full tax rate for all City operations for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$8.10 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The assessed values of real property and public utility tangible property upon which 2014 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

Category	Assessed Value
Real Property	\$ 62,652,360
Public Utilities - Real	77,090
Public Utilities - Personal	4,243,410
Total Assessed Value	\$ 66,972,860

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The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts within the County, including the City. The County Auditor periodically remits to the City its portion of the taxes collected. Property taxes receivable represents real and public utility property taxes and outstanding delinquencies which were measurable as of December 31, 2014, and for which there was an enforceable legal claim. In governmental funds, the portion of the receivable not levied to finance 2014 operations is offset to deferred inflows of resources – property taxes levied for the next year. On the accrual basis, collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as a receivable and revenue while on the modified accrual basis the revenue has been reported as deferred inflows of resources – unavailable revenue.

**NOTE 7: RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at December 31, 2014, consisted of taxes, accounts (billings for user charged services), mortgage loans, advances to other funds and intergovernmental receivables arising from entitlements and shared revenues. All receivables are deemed collectible in full.

The general fund reflects mortgage loans receivable of \$15,380. These mortgage loans receivable are for financing of the sale of City property to individuals as a home mortgage. The mortgages bear interest at annual rates between five and seven percent. The mortgages are to be repaid over periods ranging from five to thirty years.

**NOTE 8: INCOME TAXES**

The City levies a municipal income tax of 1.0 percent, (increased from 0.75 percent effective June 1, 2014) on substantially all income earned within the City. In addition, the residents of the City are required to pay income tax on income earned outside the City; however, the City allows a credit for income taxes paid to another municipality up to 100 percent of the City's current rate.

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

Income tax proceeds are to be used for the purpose of general municipal operations, maintenance, new equipment, extension and enlargement of municipal services, facilities and capital improvements of the City as determined by City Council. In 2014, the proceeds were allocated to the general fund.

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**NOTE 9: CAPITAL ASSETS**

A summary of changes in capital assets during 2014 follows:

	Balance 12/31/2013	Additions	Reductions	Balance 12/31/2014
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>				
<i>Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 760,330	\$ 22,701	\$ (70,580)	\$ 712,451
<i>Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:</i>				
Buildings	1,936,392	47,006	0	1,983,398
Building Improvements	975,458	0	0	975,458
Equipment and Machinery	934,821	37,445	(6,705)	965,561
Infrastructure	777,325	13,338	0	790,663
Vehicles	3,593,195	52,433	(27,856)	3,617,772
<i>Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated</i>	<u>8,217,191</u>	<u>150,222</u>	<u>(34,561)</u>	<u>8,332,852</u>
<i>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</i>				
Buildings	(1,278,940)	(37,044)	0	(1,315,984)
Building Improvements	(786,372)	(10,405)	0	(796,777)
Equipment and Machinery	(573,970)	(53,807)	5,700	(622,077)
Infrastructure	(246,713)	(37,429)	0	(284,142)
Vehicles	(2,848,185)	(147,331)	17,813	(2,977,703)
<i>Total Accumulated Depreciation</i>	<u>(5,734,180)</u>	<u>(286,016)</u>	<u>23,513</u>	<u>(5,996,683)</u>
<i>Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net</i>	<u>2,483,011</u>	<u>(135,794)</u>	<u>(11,048)</u>	<u>2,336,169</u>
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>				
<i>Capital Assets, Net</i>	<u>\$ 3,243,341</u>	<u>\$ (113,093)</u>	<u>\$ (81,628)</u>	<u>\$ 3,048,620</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

General Government	\$ 47,993
Leisure Time Activities	40,539
Security of Persons and Property	141,256
Transportation	45,923
Community and Economic Development	1,220
Public Health	9,085
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 286,016</u>

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	Balance 12/31/2013	Additions	Reductions	Balance 12/31/2014
<b>Business-Type Activities</b>				
<i>Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 194,141	\$ 0	\$ (22,701)	\$ 171,440
Construction in Progress	164,687	14,245	0	178,932
<i>Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated</i>	<u>358,828</u>	<u>14,245</u>	<u>(22,701)</u>	<u>350,372</u>
 <i>Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:</i>				
Buildings	5,918,055	0	0	5,918,055
Building Improvements	2,024,094	0	0	2,024,094
Equipment and Machinery	8,532,194	27,087	(45,579)	8,513,702
Infrastructure	6,922,464	73,776	(16,760)	6,979,480
Vehicles	1,176,343	31,926	(171,321)	1,036,948
<i>Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated</i>	<u>24,573,150</u>	<u>132,789</u>	<u>(233,660)</u>	<u>24,472,279</u>
 <i>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</i>				
Buildings	(2,605,781)	(147,290)	0	(2,753,071)
Building Improvements	(887,010)	(91,502)	0	(978,512)
Equipment and Machinery	(5,229,844)	(263,405)	45,579	(5,447,670)
Infrastructure	(1,651,248)	(172,753)	3,422	(1,820,579)
Vehicles	(811,343)	(60,399)	171,321	(700,421)
<i>Total Accumulated Depreciation</i>	<u>(11,185,226)</u>	<u>(735,349)</u>	<u>220,322</u>	<u>(11,700,253)</u>
<i>Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net</i>	<u>13,387,924</u>	<u>(602,560)</u>	<u>(13,338)</u>	<u>12,772,026</u>
 <i>Total Business-Type Capital Assets, Net</i>	 <u>\$ 13,746,752</u>	 <u>\$ (588,315)</u>	 <u>\$ (36,039)</u>	 <u>\$ 13,122,398</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to the programs as follows:

Water	\$ 683,819
Sanitation	29,991
Sewer	21,539
 Total	 <u>\$ 735,349</u>

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**NOTE 10: RISK MANAGEMENT**

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to or destruction of assets; errors and omissions; employee injuries, and natural disasters.

The City belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty coverage for its members. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (ARPCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of PEP and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for PEP. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides PEP with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, PEP retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2014, PEP retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge PEP's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

***Financial Position***

PEP's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2014 and 2013:

	2014	2013
<u>Casualty and Property Coverage</u>		
Assets	\$ 35,402,177	\$ 34,411,883
Liabilities	(12,363,257)	(12,760,194)
Net Position	\$ 23,038,920	\$ 21,651,689

At December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, the liabilities above include approximately \$11.2 million and \$11.6 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and net position above also include approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.1 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 488 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The City's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$92,494.

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Based on discussions with PEP, the expected rates PEP charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to PEP for each year of membership.

<u>Contributions to PEP</u>	
2012	\$ 91,110
2013	95,448
2014	98,398

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined PEP provided they provide written notice to PEP 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to PEP. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal. Settlements have not exceeded coverage in any of the last three fiscal years. There has not been a significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

The City 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 to provide coverage to employees for job related injuries.

**NOTE 11: DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

***A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

Plan Description – The City participates in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The Traditional Pension Plan is a cost-sharing, multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. The Member-Directed Plan is a defined contribution plan in which the member invests both member and employer contributions (employer contributions vest over five years at 20 percent per year). Under the Member-Directed Plan, members accumulate retirement assets equal to the value of the member and vested employer contributions plus any investment earnings. The Combined Plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. Under the Combined Plan, OPERS invests employer contributions to provide a formula retirement benefit similar in nature to, but less than, the Traditional Pension Plan benefit. Member contributions, the investment of which is self-directed by the members, accumulate retirement assets in a manner similar to the Member-Directed Plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost-of-living adjustments to members of the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans. Members of the Member-Directed Plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/investments/cafr.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 614-222-5601 or 1-800-222-7377.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions. For 2014, member and employer contribution rates were consistent across all three plans.



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While members in the state and local divisions may participate in all three plans, law enforcement and public safety divisions exist only within the Traditional Pension Plan.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, members in state and local classifications contributed 10.0 percent of covered payroll while public safety and law enforcement members contributed 12.0 percent and 13.0 percent, respectively.

The City's 2014 contribution rate was 14.0 percent, except for those plan members in law enforcement or public safety, for whom the City's contribution was 18.1 percent of covered payroll. The portion of employer contributions used to fund pension benefits is net of postemployment health care benefits. The portion of employer contribution allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Plan was 2.0 percent during calendar year 2014. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Combined Plan was 2.0 percent during calendar year 2014.

The City's required contributions for pension obligations to the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, were \$311,963, \$263,942, and \$248,924, respectively. For 2014, 92 percent has been contributed, with the balance being reported as an intergovernmental payable. The full amount has been contributed for 2013 and 2012. Contributions made to the Member-Directed Plan for 2014 were \$3,936 made by the City and \$2,812 made by the plan members.

***B. Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund***

**Plan Description** - The City contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. OP&F provides retirement and disability pension benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by the Ohio State Legislature and are codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code. OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the plan. That report may be obtained by writing to OP&F, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164. That report is also available on OP&F's website at [www.op-f.org](http://www.op-f.org).

**Funding Policy** - From January 1, 2014 through July 1, 2014, plan members were required to contribute 10.75 percent of their annual covered salary. From July 2, 2014 through December 31, 2014, plan members were required to contribute 11.5 percent of their annual covered salary. Throughout 2014, employers were required to contribute 19.5 percent for police officers and 24.0 percent for firefighters. The City's contributions to OP&F for police were \$126,641, \$64,735 and \$122,405 for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. 92 percent for police has been contributed for 2014. The full amount has been contributed for 2013 and 2012. The City's firefighters are volunteers.

**NOTE 12: POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

***A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

**Plan Description** - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: The Traditional Pension Plan - a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the Member-Directed Plan - a defined contribution plan; and the Combined Plan - a cost sharing, multiple employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

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OPERS maintains a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care plan, which includes a medical plan, a prescription drug program and Medicare Part B premium reimbursement, to qualifying members of both the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans. Members of the Member-Directed plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits, including post-employment health care coverage.

In order to qualify for post-employment health care coverage, age-and-service retirees under the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans must have 10 or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by OPERS meets the definition of an Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement 45. OPERS' eligibility requirements for post-employment health care coverage changed for those retiring on and after January 1, 2015. Please see the Plan Statement in the 2013 stand-alone financial report referred to below.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not mandate, OPERS to provide health care benefits to its eligible members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/investments/cafr.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 614-222-5601 or 1-800-222-7377.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund post-retirement health care through their contributions to OPERS. A portion of each employer's contribution OPERS is set aside for the funding of post-retirement health care coverage.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the covered payroll of active members. In 2014, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of covered payroll, and public safety and law enforcement employers contributed at 18.1 percent. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active members do not make contributions to the OPEB Plan.

OPERS' Postemployment Health Care plan was established under, and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code 401(h). Each year, the OPERS Board of Trustees determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside for funding postemployment health care benefits. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Plan and Combined Plan was 2.0 percent during calendar year 2014. Effective January 1, 2015, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care remains at 2.0 percent for both plans, as recommended by OPERS' actuary. The OPERS Board of Trustees is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected.

The OPERS Board of Trustees is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree, or their surviving beneficiaries, to pay a portion of the health care benefits provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and coverage selected.

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The City's contributions allocated to fund post-employment health care benefits for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 were \$51,994, \$105,577 and \$150,599, respectively. For 2014, 92 percent has been contributed with the balance being reported as an intergovernmental payable. The full amount has been contributed for 2013 and 2012.

Changes to the health care plan were adopted by the OPERS Board of Trustees on September 19, 2012, with a transition plan commencing January 1, 2014. With the recent passage of pension legislation under SB 343 and the approved health care changes, OPERS expects to be able to consistently allocate 4 percent of the employer contributions toward the health care fund after the end of the transition period.

***B. Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund***

Plan Description – The City contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) sponsored health care program, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined post-employment health care plan administered by OP&F. OP&F provides health care benefits including coverage for medical, prescription drugs, dental, vision, Medicare Part B Premium reimbursement and long-term care to retirees, qualifying benefit recipients and their eligible dependents.

OP&F provides access to post-retirement health care coverage for any person who receives or is eligible to receive a monthly service, disability, or statutory survivor benefit or is a spouse or eligible dependent child of such person. The health care coverage provided by OP&F meets the definition of an Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement 45.

The Ohio Revised Code allows, but does not mandate, OP&F to provide OPEB benefits. Authority for the OP&F Board of Trustees to provide healthcare coverage to eligible participants and to establish and amend benefits is codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code.

OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the Plan. That report may be obtained by writing to OP&F, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164. That report is also available on OP&F's website at [www.op-f.org](http://www.op-f.org).

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides for contribution requirements of the participating employers and of plan members to the OP&F defined benefit pension plan. Participating employers are required Ohio Revised Code to contribute to the pension plan at rates expressed as percentages of the payroll of active pension plan members, currently, 19.5 percent and 24.0 percent of covered payroll for police and fire employers, respectively. The Ohio Revised Code states that the employer contribution may not exceed 19.5 percent of covered payroll for police employer units and 24.0 percent of covered payroll for fire employer units. Active members do not make contributions to the OPEB Plan.

OP&F maintains funds for health care in two separate accounts. One for health care benefits under an IRS Code Section 115 trust and one for Medicare Part B reimbursements administrated as an Internal Revenue Code 401(h) account, both of which are within the defined benefit pension plan, under the authority granted by the Ohio Revised Code to the OP&F Board of Trustees.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
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The Board of Trustees is authorized to allocate a portion of the total employer contributions made into the pension plan to the Section 115 trust and the Section 401(h) account as the employer contribution for retiree health care benefits. The portion of employer contribution allocated to health care was 0.5 percent of covered payroll from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. The amount of employer contributions allocated to the health care plan each year is subject to the Trustees' primary responsibility to ensure that pension benefits are adequately funded and is limited by the provisions of Sections 115 and 401(h).

The OP&F Board of Trustees also is authorized to establish requirements for contributions to the health care plan by retirees and their eligible dependents, or their surviving beneficiaries. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected.

The City's contributions to OP&F which were allocated to fund post-employment health care benefits for police were \$3,333, \$34,272 and \$42,371 for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively. 92 percent has been contributed for police for 2014. The full amount has been contributed for 2013 and 2012.

**NOTE 13: OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

The City provides life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to all union employees as well as all non-union full-time employees, excluding elected officials. The amount of the life insurance policy for the union employees is based on the employee's rate of pay while the police receive a \$30,000 policy and all City supervisors receive a \$30,000 policy.

The City contracts with a local Health Management Organization, Health Plan of the Upper Ohio Valley, for hospitalization insurance for all employees. The City pays \$1,194.43 of the total monthly premiums of \$1,327.13 for family coverage and \$459.41 of the monthly premiums of \$510.45 for individual coverage. Premiums are paid from the same funds that pay the employees' salaries. City AFSCME Union employees and full-time police pay \$132.70 for family coverage and \$51.04 for single coverage.

The City contracts with Met Life for dental insurance for all supervisors and police. The City pays 100 percent of the total monthly premiums of \$113.69 for family coverage, \$66.09 for employees with only one dependent, and \$34.10 for single coverage. Premiums are paid from the same funds that pay the employees' salaries. The City contracts with Ohio AFSCME Care Plan for dental insurance for all union employees. The City pays 100 percent of the total monthly premiums of \$34.00 per union employee. Premiums are paid from the same funds that pay the employees' salaries.

**NOTE 14: COMPENSATED ABSENCES**

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Employees earn vacation and sick leave at different rates depending upon length of service and type of employment. Vacation leave benefits are lost at year end if employees do not use these balances during the year unless prior approval has been obtained from the department head. Upon retirement or death, employees are paid to a maximum of 720 hours for accumulated unused sick leave. Police are paid upon retirement and completion of twenty-five years of service. Police receive payment for a maximum of 600 hours. As of December 31, 2014, the liability for unpaid long-term compensated absences was \$179,303.

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**NOTE 15: LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

The original issue date, maturity date, interest rate and original issuance amount for the City's debt follows:

Debt Issue	Interest Rate	Original Issue Amount	Date of Maturity
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>			
St. Route 647 OPWC Loan - 2003	0.00	\$ 10,029	July 1, 2023
Roberts Building Note - 2009	3.00	140,000	November 1, 2019
Long-Term General Obligation Bond:			
Fire Truck Acquisition - 2012	3.00	435,000	December 1, 2017
State Fire Marshall Revolving Loan	0.00	41,000	July 1, 2018
<b>Business-Type Activities:</b>			
Ferryview/Sharon Road Waterlines OWDA Loan - 2004	2.00	3,370,848	January 1, 2025
Water Treatment Plant OWDA Loan - 1995	2.00	10,369,124	January 1, 2022
Woodmont Pump Station OPWC Loan - 2004	0.00	20,000	July 1, 2023
Water Tank OPWC Loan - 2007	2.00	255,000	July 1, 2027
Woodmont Street Pump Project OPWC Loan - 2007	0.00	231,526	July 1, 2028
Water Treatment Plant and Well Field Project OPWC Loan - 2009	0.00	379,600	January 1, 2030
Water Meters OWDA Loan - 2011	2.00	1,299,083	January 1, 2042
Water Treatment System Improvement Bonds	3.375-4.00	190,000	December 1, 2022

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**City of Martins Ferry**  
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A schedule of changes in long-term obligations of the City during 2014 follows:

	Outstanding 12/31/2013	Additions	Deletions	Outstanding 12/31/2014	Due in One Year
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
General Obligation Bonds:					
Fire Truck	\$ 310,000	\$ 0	\$ (80,000)	\$ 230,000	\$ 80,000
Unamortized Premium	9,873	0	(2,468)	7,405	0
OPWC Loan:					
State Route 647	4,763	0	(501)	4,262	501
Roberts Building Note	86,713	0	(13,810)	72,903	14,230
State Fire Marshall Revolving Loan	36,900	0	(8,200)	28,700	8,200
Police and Fire Pension	164,136	0	(4,812)	159,324	5,018
Compensated Absences	70,154	24,978	(8,275)	86,857	9,520
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$ 682,539</u>	<u>\$ 24,978</u>	<u>\$ (118,066)</u>	<u>\$ 589,451</u>	<u>\$ 117,469</u>
<b>Business-Type Activities:</b>					
OWDA Loans:					
Ferryview/Sharon Road Waterlines	\$ 2,018,358	\$ 0	\$ (165,780)	\$ 1,852,578	\$ 169,112
Water Treatment Plant	3,890,767	0	(453,296)	3,437,471	462,362
Water Meters	906,583	0	(22,001)	884,582	24,993
<i>Total OWDA Loans</i>	<u>6,815,708</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(641,077)</u>	<u>6,174,631</u>	<u>656,467</u>
OPWC Loans:					
Woodmont Street Pump Project	167,858	0	(11,576)	156,282	11,576
Woodmont Pump Station	9,500	0	(1,000)	8,500	1,000
Water Tank	182,969	0	(11,932)	171,037	12,172
Water Treatment Plant and Well Field	341,640	0	(18,980)	322,660	18,980
<i>Total OPWC Loans</i>	<u>701,967</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(43,488)</u>	<u>658,479</u>	<u>43,728</u>
General Obligation Bonds:					
Water Treatment System Improvement	170,000	0	(15,000)	155,000	15,000
Capital Leases	29,445	0	(13,672)	15,773	14,332
Compensated Absences	110,158	1,922	(19,634)	92,446	10,271
<i>Total Business-Type Activities</i>	<u>\$ 7,827,278</u>	<u>\$ 1,922</u>	<u>\$ (732,871)</u>	<u>\$ 7,096,329</u>	<u>\$ 739,798</u>

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The OWDA loans will be repaid with water fund revenues. The OPWC loans for Woodmont Pump Station, water tank and the water treatment plant and well field project will be paid from water fund revenues. The OPWC loan for the repair of State Route 647 road slippage will be repaid from the state highway fund. The police and fire pension liability will be paid from general property tax revenues. The capital lease is paid from the water and sewer funds. The Roberts Building Note will be repaid from the fire and ambulance fund. The State Fire Marshall Revolving Loan was used to purchase a vehicle for the fire department and will be repaid from the fire apparatus III fund. The Fire Truck Acquisition bond will be repaid from the fire apparatus V fund. Compensated absences will be paid from the fund from which the employee's salaries are paid. These funds include general, street, water, and sewer.

The City has pledged future water revenue and sewer revenue, net of specified operating expenses to repay \$6,833,110 of Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loans and the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loans. Annual principal and interest payments, as a percentage of net customer revenues, on the loans are expected to be similar over the term of the loans as in the current year, which were 21 percent. The total principal and interest remaining to be paid on the loans is \$7,601,920. Principal and interest paid for the current year and total net revenues were \$856,524 and 946,710, respectively.

Principal and interest requirements to retire governmental activities debt at December 31, 2014 are as follows:

Year	General Obligation Bonds		Police and Fire Pension		OPWC Loan
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal
2015	\$ 80,000	\$ 7,130	\$ 5,018	\$ 6,719	\$ 501
2016	75,000	4,650	5,233	6,503	502
2017	75,000	2,325	5,459	6,278	501
2018	0	0	5,693	6,044	502
2019	0	0	5,938	5,799	501
2020-2024	0	0	33,740	24,944	1,755
2025-2029	0	0	41,635	17,048	0
2030-2034	0	0	51,369	7,316	0
2035-2039	0	0	5,239	111	0
Totals	<u>\$ 230,000</u>	<u>\$ 14,105</u>	<u>\$ 159,324</u>	<u>\$ 80,762</u>	<u>\$ 4,262</u>

Year	Roberts Building Note		State Fire Marshall Loan	Total	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Principal	Interest
2015	\$ 14,230	\$ 1,992	\$ 8,200	\$ 107,949	\$ 15,841
2016	14,663	1,560	8,200	103,598	12,713
2017	15,108	1,114	8,200	104,268	9,717
2018	15,568	655	4,100	25,863	6,699
2019	13,334	185	0	19,773	5,984
2020-2024	0	0	0	35,495	24,944
2025-2029	0	0	0	41,635	17,048
2030-2034	0	0	0	51,369	7,316
2035-2039	0	0	0	5,239	111
Totals	<u>\$ 72,903</u>	<u>\$ 5,506</u>	<u>\$ 28,700</u>	<u>\$ 495,189</u>	<u>\$ 100,373</u>

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Principal and interest requirements to retire business-type activities debt at December 31, 2014 are as follows:

Year	OWDA Loans		OPWC Loans		General Obligation Bonds		Total	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2015	\$ 656,467	\$ 122,526	\$ 43,728	\$ 3,360	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,231	\$ 715,195	\$ 131,117
2016	669,615	109,378	43,973	3,116	20,000	4,725	733,588	117,219
2017	683,027	95,967	44,222	2,865	20,000	4,050	747,249	102,882
2018	696,708	82,286	44,477	2,612	20,000	3,375	761,185	88,273
2019	710,663	68,332	44,737	2,352	20,000	2,700	775,400	73,384
2020-2024	2,147,358	154,274	226,269	7,676	60,000	4,050	2,433,627	166,000
2025-2029	158,733	54,067	173,112	1,138	0	0	331,845	55,205
2030-2034	175,339	37,461	37,961	0	0	0	213,300	37,461
2035-2039	193,686	19,115	0	0	0	0	193,686	19,115
2040-2042	83,035	2,285	0	0	0	0	83,035	2,285
Totals	<u>\$ 6,174,631</u>	<u>\$ 745,691</u>	<u>\$ 658,479</u>	<u>\$ 23,119</u>	<u>\$ 155,000</u>	<u>\$ 24,131</u>	<u>\$ 6,988,110</u>	<u>\$ 792,941</u>

**NOTE 16: CAPITALIZED LEASES - LESSEE DISCLOSURE**

During 2011 the City entered into capitalized leases for the acquisition of a case loader. The lease meets the criteria of a capital lease as it transfers benefits and risks of ownership to the lessee.

The assets acquired by the leases were capitalized in the enterprise funds in the amount of \$32,933 in the sewer fund and \$32,933 in the water fund. These amounts were equal to the present value of the future minimum lease payments at the time of acquisition. A corresponding liability was recorded and is reduced for each required principal payment.

The following is a schedule of the future long-term minimum lease payments required under the capital leases and the present value of the minimum lease payments as of December 31, 2014:

	Business-Type Activities
2015	\$ 14,818
2016	1,456
	<u>16,274</u>
Less amount representing interest	501
Present value of minimum lease payments	<u>\$ 15,773</u>



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**NOTE 17: JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS**

***A. Belmont Metropolitan Housing Authority***

Belmont Metropolitan Housing Authority is a non-profit organization established to provide adequate public housing for low income individuals and is statutorily created as a separate and distinct political subdivision of the State. The Authority is operated by a five member board of commissioners. Two members are appointed by the Mayor of Martins Ferry, one member is appointed by the Belmont County Commissioners, one member is appointed by the judge of the probate court, and one member is appointed by the judge of the court of common pleas. The City did not contribute any amounts to the Authority during 2014. The continued existence of the Authority is not dependent on the City's continued participation and no equity interest exists. The Authority has no outstanding debt for which the City of Martins Ferry is responsible.

***B. Eastern Ohio Regional Transit Authority***

Eastern Ohio Regional Transit Authority was established to provide transportation to the residents of the Ohio Valley and is statutorily created as a separate and distinct political subdivision of the State. The Authority is operated by a board of directors that is appointed by the nine Mayors of the municipalities served by the Authority. The City did not contribute any amounts to the Authority during 2014. The continued existence of the Authority is not dependent on the City's continued participation and no equity interest exists. The Authority has no outstanding debt for which the City of Martins Ferry is responsible.

***C. Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA)***

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) is a ten-county regional council of governments comprised of Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Columbiana, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum, and Tuscarawas Counties. OMEGA was formed to aid and assist the participating counties and political subdivisions within the counties in the application for Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development grant monies. OMEGA is governed by a sixteen member executive board comprised of members appointed from each participating county and cities within each county. City membership is voluntary. The mayor of the City of Martins Ferry serves as the City's representative on the board. The board has total control over budgeting, personnel, and financial matters. Each member currently pays a per capita membership fee based upon the most recent United States census. During 2014, OMEGA received \$1,247 from the City of Martins Ferry. The continued existence of OMEGA is not dependent on the City's continued participation and no equity interest exists. OMEGA has no outstanding debt.

***D. Jefferson-Belmont Joint Solid Waste Authority***

Jefferson-Belmont Joint Solid Waste Authority is established by state statutes and is operated to provide solid waste services to Jefferson and Belmont counties. The Authority is governed by a fourteen member board of directors of which the Mayor of the City of Martins Ferry is a member. The Authority is not dependent on the City of Martins Ferry for its continued existence, no debt exists, and the City does not maintain an equity interest. The City does not make any monetary contributions to the Authority.

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***E. Belmont County Sewer Authority***

Belmont County Sewer Authority is established by Ohio Revised Code Section 6119, serving the municipalities of Bellaire, Brookside, and Martins Ferry. The Authority is operated by a four member Board of Trustees. One member of the Board is appointed by the Mayor of Martins Ferry. The Authority is not dependent on the City of Martins Ferry for its continued existence and the City does not maintain an equity interest. The City does not make any monetary contributions to the District.

***F. Bel-O-Mar Regional Council***

Bel-O-Mar Regional Council is operated as a non-profit organization formed to provide planning and administrative services to all local governments in a four county region comprised of Belmont County, Ohio and three counties in West Virginia. The governing board is comprised of 58 officials from the four county service area of which three members and one alternate member are appointed by Belmont County and one member is appointed by each local government within Belmont County. The Mayor of the City of Martins Ferry serves as the City's representative on the board. The Council is not dependent upon the City of Martins Ferry for its continued existence, no debt exists, and the City does not maintain an equity interest. During 2014, the City did not contribute any amounts to the Council.

**NOTE 18: SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS**

The City utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year end may be reported as part of restricted, committed or assigned classifications of fund balance. At year end, the City's commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General	\$ 2,176
Fire and Ambulance	15,780
Permanent Improvement	10,705
Other Governmental Funds	<u>5,603</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 34,264</u>

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**NOTE 19: FUND BALANCE**

Fund balance can be classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the City is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in governmental funds.

The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other funds are presented as follows:

	General	Fire and Ambulance	Permanent Improvement	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Nonspendable for:					
Long Term Receivable	\$ 15,380	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 15,380
Inventory	1,048	0	0	7,275	8,323
Endowment	0	0	0	180,543	180,543
Total Nonspendable	<u>16,428</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>187,818</u>	<u>204,246</u>
Restricted for:					
Street, Highway, City Improvement	0	0	0	100,037	100,037
Public Safety/Law Enforcement	0	0	0	125,126	125,126
Community Development	0	0	0	53,652	53,652
Permanent Improvement	0	0	1,036,540	0	1,036,540
Recreation	0	0	0	5,559	5,559
Other Purposes	0	0	0	9,476	9,476
Total Restricted	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,036,540</u>	<u>293,850</u>	<u>1,330,390</u>
Committed for:					
Public Safety/Law Enforcement	<u>0</u>	<u>144,768</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>144,768</u>
Assigned for:					
Encumbrances:					
Security of Persons and Property	2,176	0	0	0	2,176
Subsequent Year Appropriations	<u>5,155</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,155</u>
Total Assigned	<u>7,331</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,331</u>
Unassigned	<u>221,387</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(11,343)</u>	<u>210,044</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>\$ 245,146</u>	<u>\$ 144,768</u>	<u>\$ 1,036,540</u>	<u>\$ 470,325</u>	<u>\$ 1,896,779</u>

**City of Martins Ferry**  
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**NOTE 20: ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

***A. Deficit Fund Balance***

Fund balances at December 31, 2014 included the following individual fund deficits, net of a nonspendable balance of \$714 for materials and supplies inventory:

	<u>Deficit Fund Balance</u>
Non-Major Funds:	
Safety Service	\$ 1,814
Division of Development	8,815

The deficits in the non-major funds resulted from adjustments for accrued liabilities. The general fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and will provide operating transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur.

***B. Compliance***

Section 933.03 of the City's codified ordinances specifically addresses the City's policy for discontinuance of water and/or sanitation services. In 2014, the City did not have the required policy in place and therefore was not complying with section 933.03 of the City's codified ordinances.

**NOTE 21: CONTINGENCIES**

***A. Grants***

The City received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the overall financial position of the City at December 31, 2014.

***B. Litigation***

The City of Martins Ferry is not party to any claims and lawsuits.

**NOTE 22: SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

On June 25, 2015, the City entered into a debt financing agreement with the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) for the County Road 4 waterline replacement project in the amount of \$3,238,250 with an interest rate of 1.57 percent. \$516,409 of the financing agreement will be reduced by principal forgiveness through OWDA. The debt will be repaid with water fund charges for services.

June 29, 2015

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council  
City of Martins Ferry  
Belmont County, Ohio  
Fifth & Walnut Streets  
Martins Ferry, Ohio 43935

**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Martins Ferry, Belmont County, Ohio (the City) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 29, 2015.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of City's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness.

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 entity'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. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2014-001 to be a material weakness.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City'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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2014-001.

### **The City's Response to Finding**

The City's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The City's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

### **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 result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Hea & Associates, Inc.*

New Philadelphia, Ohio

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Schedule of Findings and Responses*  
*For The Year Ended December 31, 2014*

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>2014-001</b>
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**Material Weakness – Utility Customer Billings/Material Noncompliance with City Charter**

**Criteria:** The City’s management has a responsibility to design and maintain internal control over financial reporting. Internal controls must exist over the City’s utility billing and collection system. Knowledge of the operating system as well as the daily operating requirements should be understood by the appropriate personnel.

In addition Section 933.03 of the City’s codified ordinances specifically addresses the treatment of delinquent utility charges. The codified ordinance reads as follows:

**933.03 Discontinuance of Utility Service**

(a) The policy for the City concerning the discontinuance of water and/or sanitation utility service for all applicable customers of such services, as recently developed and promulgated by the Director of Public Service, is hereby formally adopted by Council and made applicable thereby to all customers of the City water and/or sanitation services.

(b) A copy of such policy and any properly adopted amendments thereto shall be kept by the Council Clerk in a file bearing the same number as Ordinance 86-18, and shall be open for public inspection, on request, at all reasonable times.

**Condition:** During testing of the City utility billing and collection function, we noted the following issues:

- City Council does not approve utility rates.
- The City’s rate schedules for water, sewer and sanitation are overly complex making bill processing cumbersome and increasing the risk for errors in billing.
- There is no formal review and approval of nonstandard customer account postings.
- There are inconsistencies in billing practices including, but not limited to, when penalties are assessed on customer balances, how the penalties are calculated, when services should be terminated for outstanding balances, confusion regarding what the appropriate rates for specific customers should be as well as confusion as to whether or not customers should be charged for particular services.
- The utility department had significant difficulties in reconciling daily cash deposits to system postings.
- General lack of knowledge regarding the City’s billing system and proper billing procedures.
- Anticipated conversion to new utility system prior to correcting aforementioned issues.

In addition, we noted the City is in violation of codified ordinance 933.03 due to not having a policy on file to address the discontinuance of service.

**Cause:** In recent years there has been significant turnover in the utility billing office. The City has never developed written policies and procedures for utility billings, and as a result of employee turnover, a great deal of knowledge regarding the billing system was lost. In addition, there has been a general lack of accountability over utility rates, billings and collections for several years.

**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Schedule of Findings and Responses*  
*For The Year Ended December 31, 2014*  
*(Continued)*

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED          TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)</b>
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<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>2014-001 (Continued)</b>
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**Material Weakness – Utility Customer Billings/Material Noncompliance with City Charter (Continued)**

**Effect:** There were a significant number of nonstandard adjustments required throughout the year to correct billing errors as well as to correct adjustments that were posted incorrectly. The lack of internal controls over the billing and posting process allows an opportunity for material misstatements to exist and remain undetected and uncorrected by management. There were significant difficulties in reconciling cash transactions between the utility department and the City Auditor’s office.

**Recommendations:** We recommend the City take the following steps:

- Establish a policy to address discontinuance of service pursuant to codified ordinance 933.03.
- Council should establish policies it expects management to adhere to in managing daily operations. The policies should address items such as the charging of penalties, customer financing agreements and expected billing practices.
- City Council should play an active role in the process of setting utility rates.
- The City should consider simplifying its rate schedule to decrease the number of errors in billings.
- Establish procedures to ensure all customers are billed properly.
- The City Service Director should review and approve all nonstandard postings made to customer accounts.
- City management should also consider reviewing the staffing in the utility department to determine if employees have the necessary skills and knowledge to perform duties properly.
- A conversion to a new system should only occur after management is comfortable with customer balances and that they will transfer properly to the new system.

**Management’s Response:**

As Mayor, I will take these eight recommendations and pass them along to council and administration so that we can do what we can to streamline the issues we are having in the utility office to make it better for our customers down the road. Since the current Service Director has been in his position, he has brought any changes in policy, rates, etc. to council for their approval, even though nothing was formally approved. We will begin to formally approve any changes that are recommended by the Service Director. In addition, as you are aware, we have had two very experienced people leave the utility office without leaving any of their knowledge behind. Therefore, we understand how important cross-training is. Finally, I will only be here for the next six months but fully intend to do what I can in these matters and be transparent and forward these findings on to the current councilmen and the upcoming administration so that they are aware of these findings.



**City of Martins Ferry**  
**Belmont County, Ohio**  
*Schedule of Prior Audit Findings*  
*For The Year Ended December 31, 2014*

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Partially Corrected, Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken or Finding No Longer Valid Explain
2013-001	Utility Office Collections	No	Repeated as part of Finding 2014-001
2013-002	Utility Office Operations	No	Repeated as part of Finding 2014-001

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**CITY OF MARTINS FERRY**

**BELMONT 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  
OCTOBER 13, 2015**