

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

AUDIT REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2017 – DECEMBER 31, 2017

**Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
1100 Brandywine Blvd. Building G
Zanesville, Ohio 43701**

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



88 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
IPAReport@ohioauditor.gov
(800) 282-0370

Township Trustees
Hopewell Township
9427 Poplar Fork Road
Newark, Ohio 43056

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Hopewell Township, Licking County, prepared by Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. 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. Hopewell Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

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

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

September 27, 2019

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**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Hopewell Township
Licking County
9427 Poplar Forks Road
Newark, Ohio 43056

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, major funds and aggregate remaining fund information of Hopewell Township, Licking County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprised the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the cash accounting basis Note 2 describes. This responsibility includes determining that the cash accounting basis is acceptable for the circumstances. Management is also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about the financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hopewell Township, Licking County, as of December 31, 2017, and the respective changes in cash financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund, Gasoline Tax Fund, Road & Bridge Fund, and Fire Special Levy Fund, thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting basis described in Note 2.

Accounting Basis

We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the accounting basis. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which differs from generally accepted accounting principles. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Other Matters

Supplemental and Other Information

We applied no procedures to the Management's Discussion and Analysis as listed in the table of contents. Accordingly, we express no opinion or any other assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated May 31, 2019, on our consideration of Hopewell Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine 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 the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
May 31, 2019

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017
UNAUDITED**

This discussion and analysis of the Hopewell Township's financial performance provides an overall review of the Township's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2017, within the limitations of the Township's cash basis accounting. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Township's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Township's financial performance.

Highlights

Key highlights for 2017 are as follows:

Net position of governmental activities increased by \$47,013 or 12 percent in 2017, an insignificant change from the prior year. The fund most affected by the increase in cash and cash equivalents were the Gasoline Tax Fund and Road & Bridge Fund, which was due to the expenditures being under budget.

The Township's general receipts are primarily Real Estate/Property Taxes and Gasoline Tax for governmental activities for the year. These receipts represent 42 and 21 percent, respectively, of the total cash received for governmental activities. Property tax and gasoline tax receipts for 2017 had insignificant change from prior years as development within the Township has slowed.

The Township sold bonds in the amount of \$55,000 to acquire a F550 Truck to be used in Road & Bridge maintenance.

Using the Basic Financial Statements

This annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, as applicable to the Township's cash basis of accounting.

Report Components

The statement of net position and statement of activities provide information about the cash activities of the Township as a whole. The statement of cash basis assets and fund balances, and the statement of cash receipts, disbursements and changes in fund cash balances, present financial information by fund, presenting funds with the largest balances or most activity in separate columns.

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of the government-wide and fund financial statements and provide expanded explanation and detail regarding the information reported in the statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017
UNAUDITED**

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting is a set of guidelines that determine when financial events are recorded. The Township has elected to present on a cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. Under the Township's cash basis of accounting, receipts and disbursements are recorded when cash is received or paid.

As a result of using the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable) and certain liabilities and their expenses (such as accounts payable) are not recorded in the financial statements. Therefore, when reviewing the financial information and discussion within this report, the reader must keep in mind the limitations resulting from the use of the cash basis of accounting.

Reporting the Government as a Whole

The statements of net position and statements of activity for 2017 reflect how the Township did financially within the limitations of the cash basis of accounting. The statement of net position presents the cash balances of the governmental activities of the Township at year end. The statement of activities compares cash disbursements with program receipts for each governmental program. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the programs services and grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. General cash receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts. The comparison of cash disbursements with program receipts identifies how each governmental function draws from the Township's general receipts.

These statements report the Township's cash position and the changes in cash position. Keeping in mind the limitations of the cash basis of accounting, you can think of these changes as one way to measure the Township's financial health. Over time, increases or decreases in the Township's cash position is one indicator of whether the Township's financial health is improving or deteriorating. When evaluating the Township's financial condition, you should also consider other nonfinancial factors as well such as the Township's tax base, the extent of the Township's debt obligations, the reliance on non-local financial resources for operations and the need for continued growth in the major local revenue sources such as property and real estate taxes.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, we divide the government into governmental activities. All of the Township's basic services are reported here, including road maintenance. Real estate and property taxes finance most of these activities. Benefits provided through governmental activities are not necessarily paid for by the people receiving them.

Reporting the Government's Most Significant Funds

Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the Township's major funds – not the Township as a whole. The Township establishes separate funds to better manage its many activities and to help demonstrate that money that is restricted as to how it may be used is being spent for the intended purpose.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017
UNAUDITED**

Governmental Funds - All of the Township's activities are reported in governmental funds. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed view of the Township's governmental operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or less financial resources that can be spent to finance the Township's programs. The Township's significant governmental funds are presented on the financial statements in separate columns. The information for nonmajor funds (funds whose activity or balances are not large enough to warrant separate reporting) is combined and presented in total in a single column. The Township's major governmental funds for 2017 are the General Fund, Gasoline Tax Fund, Road & Bridge Fund and the Fire Special Levy Fund. The programs reported in governmental funds are related to those reported in the governmental activities section of the entity-wide statements. There are no reconciliations between the two reports as the township reports on the cash basis.

The Government as a Whole

Table 1 provides a summary of the Township's net position for 2017 with comparison to 2016.

Table 1
NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities	
	2017	2016
Assets		
Cash	\$ 454,212	\$ 407,199
Total Assets	454,212	407,199
Net Position		
Restricted for:		
Cemetery Capital Projects	22,883	22,883
Other Purposes	389,859	327,595
Unrestricted	41,470	56,721
Total Net Position	\$ 454,212	\$ 407,199

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017
UNAUDITED**

Table 2 reflects the changes in net position in 2017 with comparison to 2016.

Table 2
CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities	
	2017	2016
Receipts:		
Program Receipts:		
Charges for Services	\$ 1,300	\$ 2,500
Operating Grants	98,820	99,737
Total Program Receipts	100,120	102,237
General Receipts:		
Property and Other Tax	185,618	179,870
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted	65,286	62,782
Sale of Bonds	55,000	-
Earnings on Investments	3,619	1,371
Miscellaneous	23,968	2,319
Total General Receipts	333,491	246,342
Total Receipts	433,611	348,579
Disbursements:		
General Government	79,617	58,912
Public Safety	51,058	49,857
Public Works	145,977	179,546
Health	6,289	6,284
Capital Outlay	68,527	6,750
Debt Service:		
Principal Retirement	32,478	18,196
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,652	2,155
Total Disbursements	386,598	321,700
Increase/(Decrease) In Net Position	47,013	26,879
Net Position, January 1	407,199	380,320
Net Position, December 31	\$ 454,212	\$ 407,199

Program receipts represent 23% and 29% of total receipts for 2017 and 2016, respectively. They are primarily comprised of restricted intergovernmental receipts such as motor vehicle license and gas tax money.

General receipts represent 77%, and 71% of the Township's total receipts for 2017 and 2016, respectively. Local taxes represent 56%, and 73% of the general receipts. Grants and entitlements make up the balance of general receipts. Other receipts are insignificant and somewhat unpredictable receipt sources.

Disbursements for general government represent the overhead costs of running the Township and the support services provided for the other Township activities.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017
UNAUDITED**

Township Activities

If you look at the Statement of Activities, you will see that the first column lists the major services provided by Hopewell Township. The next column identifies the costs of providing these services. The major program disbursements for governmental activities are Public Works, Public Safety, General Government, and Capital Outlay which account for 38%, 13%, 21% and 18% in 2017 and 56%, 15%, 18% and 2% in 2016 of all governmental disbursements. The next three columns of the Statement entitled Program Receipts identify amounts paid by people who are directly charged for the service and grants received by the Township that must be used to provide a specific service. This "net cost" amount represents the cost of the service, which ends up being paid from money provided by local taxpayers. These net costs are paid from general receipts, which are presented at the bottom of the Statement. A comparison between the total cost of service and the net cost for 2017 and 2016 is presented in Table 3.

TABLE 3

	Total Cost of Services 2017	Net Cost of Services 2017	Total Cost of Services 2016	Net Cost of Services 2016
General Government	\$ 79,617	\$ 79,617	\$ 58,912	\$ 58,912
Public Safety	51,058	51,058	49,857	49,857
Public Works	145,977	47,157	179,546	79,809
Health	6,289	4,989	6,284	3,784
Capital Outlay	68,527	68,527	6,750	6,750
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	32,478	32,478	18,196	18,196
Interest	2,652	2,652	2,155	2,155
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 386,598</u>	<u>\$ 286,478</u>	<u>\$ 321,700</u>	<u>\$ 219,463</u>

The dependence upon property and tax receipts is apparent as a majority of governmental activities are supported through these general receipts.

The Government's Funds

Total governmental funds had receipts of \$433,611 and \$348,579 for 2017 and 2016 and disbursements of \$386,598 and \$321,700 for 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Fund Budgeting Highlights

The Township's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts and disbursements. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

During 2017, the Township made amendments to its appropriation budget and receipts budget to reflect changing circumstances. For 2017 actual receipts were less than budgeted receipts.

Final budgeted disbursements for 2017 were \$96,618. Actual disbursements for 2017 were \$89,164. The Township kept spending close to budgeted amounts.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017
UNAUDITED**

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

The Township does not currently keep track of its capital assets and infrastructure in the accompanying financial statements, but records payments for capital assets as disbursements.

Debt

As of December 31, 2017, the Township had debt outstanding in the amount of \$60,721, with \$32,755 due within one year.

Current Issues

The challenge for all Governments is to provide quality services to the public while staying within the restrictions imposed by limited, and in some cases, shrinking funding. We rely heavily on local taxes and have very little industry to support the tax base.

Contacting the Government's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the Township's finances and to reflect the Township's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Jennifer Crothers, Fiscal Officer, 9427 Poplar Forks Road, Newark, Ohio 43056.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION-CASH BASIS
December 31, 2017**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 454,212</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 454,212</u>
NET POSITION:	
Restricted for:	
Cemetery Capital Projects	\$ 22,883
Other Purposes	389,859
Unrestricted	<u>41,470</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 454,212</u></u>

See notes to basic financial statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES-CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Assets
Governmental Activities:					
General Government	\$ 79,617	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (79,617)
Public Safety	51,058	-	-	-	(51,058)
Public Works	145,977	-	98,820	-	(47,157)
Health	6,289	1,300	-	-	(4,989)
Capital Outlay	68,527	-	-	-	(68,527)
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	32,478	-	-	-	(32,478)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,652	-	-	-	(2,652)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 386,598	\$ 1,300	\$ 98,820	\$ -	\$ (286,478)

General Receipts:

Property Taxes Levied for:	
General Purposes	185,618
Grants and Entitlements not	
Restricted to Specific Programs	65,286
Sale of Bonds	55,000
Interest	3,619
Miscellaneous	23,968
	333,491
Total General Receipts	333,491
Change in Net Position	47,013
Net Position Beginning of Year	407,199
Net Position End of Year	\$ 454,212

See notes to the basic financial statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2017**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Gasoline Tax</u>	<u>Road & Bridge</u>	<u>Special Levy</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS:						
Equity in Pooled Cash and cash Equivalents	\$ 41,470	\$ 72,082	\$ 85,149	\$ 165,666	\$ 89,845	\$ 454,212
Total Assets	<u>\$ 41,470</u>	<u>\$ 72,082</u>	<u>\$ 85,149</u>	<u>\$ 165,666</u>	<u>\$ 89,845</u>	<u>\$ 454,212</u>
Fund Balances:						
Restricted	-	72,082	85,149	165,666	89,845	412,742
Unassigned	41,470	-	-	-	-	41,470
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 41,470</u>	<u>\$ 72,082</u>	<u>\$ 85,149</u>	<u>\$ 165,666</u>	<u>\$ 89,845</u>	<u>\$ 454,212</u>

See notes to basic financial statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2017**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Gasoline Tax</u>	<u>Road & Bridge</u>	<u>Special Levy</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
CASH RECEIPTS						
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 37,740	\$ -	\$ 102,108	\$ 44,937	\$ 833	\$ 185,618
Licenses, Permits and Fees	550	-	-	-	-	550
Intergovernmental	28,998	89,720	23,195	10,254	11,939	164,106
Earnings on Investments	1,213	1,451	-	-	955	3,619
Miscellaneous	1,412	-	22,006	-	1,300	24,718
Total Receipts	<u>69,913</u>	<u>91,171</u>	<u>147,309</u>	<u>55,191</u>	<u>15,027</u>	<u>378,611</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:						
Current:						
General Government	76,348	-	2,475	794	-	79,617
Public Safety	-	-	-	51,058	-	51,058
Public Works	2,999	25,674	113,520	-	3,784	145,977
Health	6,289	-	-	-	-	6,289
Capital Outlay	3,528	34,000	-	-	30,999	68,527
Debt Service						
Principal Retirement	-	32,478	-	-	-	32,478
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	2,652	-	-	-	2,652
Total Disbursements	<u>89,164</u>	<u>94,804</u>	<u>115,995</u>	<u>51,852</u>	<u>34,783</u>	<u>386,598</u>
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(19,251)	(3,633)	31,314	3,339	(19,756)	(7,987)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Sale of Bonds	4,000	25,000	-	-	26,000	55,000
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>4,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>
Net Change in Fund cash Balance	(15,251)	21,367	31,314	3,339	6,244	47,013
Cash Fund Balances Beginning of Year	<u>56,721</u>	<u>50,715</u>	<u>53,835</u>	<u>162,327</u>	<u>83,601</u>	<u>407,199</u>
Cash Fund Balances End of Year	<u>\$ 41,470</u>	<u>\$ 72,082</u>	<u>\$ 85,149</u>	<u>\$ 165,666</u>	<u>\$ 89,845</u>	<u>\$ 454,212</u>

See notes to basic financial statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
CASH RECEIPTS				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 41,933	\$ 41,933	\$ 37,740	\$ (4,193)
Licenses, Permits and Fees	3,000	3,000	550	(2,450)
Intergovernmental	25,379	25,379	28,998	3,619
Earnings on Investments	500	500	1,213	713
Miscellaneous	1,000	5,000	1,412	(3,588)
Total Receipts	<u>71,812</u>	<u>75,812</u>	<u>69,913</u>	<u>(5,899)</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:				
Current:				
General Government	76,914	82,314	76,348	5,966
Public Works	1,501	3,008	2,999	9
Health	7,802	7,620	6,289	1,331
Capital Outlay	4,001	3,676	3,528	148
Total Disbursements	<u>90,218</u>	<u>96,618</u>	<u>89,164</u>	<u>7,454</u>
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(18,406)	(20,806)	(19,251)	1,555
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Sale of Bonds	-	-	4,000	4,000
Transfers Out	(1)	(1)	-	1
Other Financing Uses	(2)	(2)	-	2
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,003</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(18,409)	(20,809)	(15,251)	5,558
Cash Fund Balances Beginning of Year	<u>56,721</u>	<u>56,721</u>	<u>56,721</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash Fund Balances End of Year	<u>\$ 38,312</u>	<u>\$ 35,912</u>	<u>\$ 41,470</u>	<u>\$ 5,558</u>

See notes to basic financial statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS
GASOLINE TAX FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		<u>Actual</u>
CASH RECEIPTS				
Intergovernmental	85,000	85,000	89,720	4,720
Earnings on Investments	400	400	1,451	1,051
Miscellaneous	-	25,000	-	(25,000)
Total Receipts	<u>85,400</u>	<u>110,400</u>	<u>91,171</u>	<u>(19,229)</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:				
Current:				
Public Works	30,433	40,433	25,674	14,759
Capital Outlay	25,500	34,500	34,000	500
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	32,321	32,821	32,478	343
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,809	2,809	2,652	157
Total Disbursements	<u>91,063</u>	<u>110,563</u>	<u>94,804</u>	<u>15,759</u>
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(5,663)	(163)	(3,633)	(3,470)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Sale of Bonds	-	-	25,000	25,000
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(5,663)	(163)	21,367	21,530
Cash Fund Balances Beginning of Year	<u>50,715</u>	<u>50,715</u>	<u>50,715</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash Fund Balances End of Year	<u>\$ 45,052</u>	<u>\$ 50,552</u>	<u>\$ 72,082</u>	<u>\$ 21,530</u>

See notes to basic financial statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS
ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		<u>(Negative)</u>
CASH RECEIPTS				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 113,161	\$ 113,161	\$ 102,108	\$ (11,053)
Intergovernmental	8,000	8,000	23,195	15,195
Miscellaneous	-	21,317	22,006	689
Total Receipts	<u>121,161</u>	<u>142,478</u>	<u>147,309</u>	<u>4,831</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:				
Current:				
General Government	-	2,500	2,475	25
Public Works	120,800	131,800	113,520	18,280
Capital Outlay	500	500	-	500
Total Disbursements	<u>121,300</u>	<u>134,800</u>	<u>115,995</u>	<u>18,805</u>
Net Change in Cash Fund Balances	(139)	7,678	31,314	23,636
Cash Fund Balances Beginning of Year	<u>53,835</u>	<u>53,835</u>	<u>53,835</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash Fund Balances End of Year	<u>\$ 53,696</u>	<u>\$ 61,513</u>	<u>\$ 85,149</u>	<u>\$ 23,636</u>

See notes to basic financial statements.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS
SPECIAL LEVY FIRE FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		<u>Actual</u>
CASH RECEIPTS				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 49,759	\$ 49,759	\$ 44,937	\$ (4,822)
Intergovernmental	5,000	5,000	10,254	5,254
Total Receipts	<u>54,759</u>	<u>54,759</u>	<u>55,191</u>	<u>432</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:				
Current:				
General Government	800	800	794	6
Public Works	55,000	100,000	51,058	48,942
Total Disbursements	<u>55,800</u>	<u>100,800</u>	<u>51,852</u>	<u>48,948</u>
Net Change in Cash Fund Balances	(1,041)	(46,041)	3,339	49,380
Cash Fund Balances Beginning of Year	<u>162,327</u>	<u>162,327</u>	<u>162,327</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash Fund Balances End of Year	<u>\$ 161,286</u>	<u>\$ 116,286</u>	<u>\$ 165,666</u>	<u>\$ 49,380</u>

See notes to basic financial statements.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE REPORTING ENTITY

Reporting Entity

The Township of Hopewell, Licking County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees and a publicly elected Fiscal Officer.

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that were included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading.

Primary Government

The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Township. The Township provides general government services, maintenance of Township road and bridges, cemetery maintenance, and fire services. The Township contracts with the National Trails Fire Department for fire protection. Police protection is provided by the Licking County Sheriff's Department.

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

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this Note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. In the government-wide financial statements, Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, have been applied, to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. Following are the more significant of the Township's accounting policies.

Basis of Presentation

The Township's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial 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 Township 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 Township that are governmental and those that are considered business-type. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or service. The Township has no business-type activities.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the Township at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each of the Township's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the Township is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the programs goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the Township's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the Township segregates transactions related to certain Township functions or activities in separate funds to aid management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Township at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental 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.

Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting 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. Funds are used to segregate resources that are restricted as to use. The funds of the Township are divided into one category: governmental.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Township are financed. The following are the Township's major governmental funds:

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

Gasoline Tax Fund – The Gasoline Tax Fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Road & Bridge Fund – The Road & Bridge Fund accounts for and reports property tax restricted for the construction, reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of Township roads.

The Fire Special Levy Fund – The Fire Special Levy Fund accounts for and reports property tax restricted for payment of fire protection provided to the citizens of the Township.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Basis of Accounting

The Township's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the Township's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the Township are described in the appropriate section in this note. There were no modifications having substantial support.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

Budgetary Process

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 ordinance, 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 the township may appropriate.

The appropriations ordinance is the Township's authorization to spend resources and set limits on disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Township. The legal level of control has been established at the fund, department, and object level for all funds.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Township Fiscal Officer. 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 final appropriations were passed by the Township.

The appropriations ordinance 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 ordinance 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 the Township during the year.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Cash and Investments

Township records identify the purchase of specific investments by specific funds.

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled and invested. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Township records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts.

Interest earnings are allocated to Township funds according to State statutes, grant requirements, or debt related restrictions. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during 2017 was \$1,213.

Restricted Assets

Cash, cash equivalents and investments 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 imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Restricted assets represent monies restricted for use in regards to road maintenance, capital projects and debt service.

Inventory and Prepaid Items

The Township reports disbursements for inventories and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

Capital Assets

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

Interfund Receivables/Payables

The Township reports advances-in and advances-out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying financial statements.

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's cash basis of accounting.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The Township recognizes the disbursement for their employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 7 and 8, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

Long-Term Obligations

The Township's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds or other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when the cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when paid.

Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for debt payments, capital expenditures such as land and land improvements and road maintenance.

The Township's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable – The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are 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 interfund loans.

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

Committed – The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of Township Trustees. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Township Trustees removes or change the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit the 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.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Assigned – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Township for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than 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 Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by ordinance, or by State Statute.

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

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

Internal Activity

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

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the Statement of Activities. Payments for interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies 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. Repayments from funds responsible for particular cash disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

3. BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance-Budget and Actual-Budgetary Basis presented for the General Fund and any major special revenue fund are prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparisons of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis is outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance. There were no outstanding encumbrances at year-end for 2017.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Monies held by the Township are classified by State into three categories.

Active monies are public monies determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the Township treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the Township 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 Trustees have identified as not required for use within the current five-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 deposits are deposits of interim monies. 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.

Interim monies held by the Township can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security 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 issuance of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligation described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
4. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
5. Bonds and other obligation of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).
7. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirement have been met; and

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

8. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least 2 percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;

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 Township, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

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

The Township did not have any undeposited cash on hand for 2017.

Deposits:

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Township will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At year-end, \$32,285 of the Township's bank balance of \$484,347 was exposed to custodial credit risk because those deposits were uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent, but not in the Township's name.

The Township has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the Township or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured.

Investments:

As of December 31, 2017, the Township had no investments.

5. PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the Township. Property tax revenue received during 2017 for real and public utility property taxes represent collections of 2016 taxes.

2017 real property taxes are levied after October 1, 2017, on assessed value at January 1, 2017, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. 2017 real property taxes are collected in and intended to finance 2018.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

5. PROPERTY TAXES (Continued)

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 personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2017 public utility property taxes which became a lien December 31, 2016, are levied after October 1, 2017, and are collected in 2018 with real property taxes.

The full tax rate for all Township operations for the year ended December 31, 2017, was 7.80 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real property and public utility tangible property upon which 2017 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

Real Property	\$ 28,127,347
Public Utility Personal Property	2,122,440
Total Assessed Value	\$ 30,249,787

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the county, including the Township. The County Auditor periodically remits to the Township its portion of the taxes collected.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker’s Compensation.

The Township does not procure an insurance policy or group health care services as provide in section 505.60 of the Revised Code. The Township authorized to reimburse any Township officer or full-time employee for each out-of-pocket premium that the officer or full-time employee incurs for insurance policies described in division (A) of section 505.60 of the Revised Code that the officer or full-time employee otherwise obtains, so long as the reimbursement plan also complies with the Federal H.R. 34 – 21st Century Cures Act.

As of June 30, 2017, the Township officers and full-time employee were reimbursed up to \$4,950 for an individual, and \$10,000 for a family per year for the personal out-of-pocket expenses (premiums) for health insurance covering each and their immediate dependents in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 505.601.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. York Risk Pooling Services, Inc. (formally known as American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc.) functions as the administrator of the Pool and provides underwriting claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for the Pool. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members’ deductibles.

Casualty and Property Coverage

The Pool is a member of American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by York. APEEP provides the Pool with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2017, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$250,000 for property claims.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

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

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2017.

	2017
Assets	\$40,010,732
Liabilities	(8,675,465)
Retained Earnings	\$31,335,267

At December 31, 2017 the liabilities above include approximately \$8.0 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets above also include approximately \$6.9 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 1,016 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2017. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. As of December 31, 2017, the Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$3,441.

Based on discussion with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA 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 OTARMA for each year of membership.

Contributions to OTARMA

2017	\$7,820
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After completing one year of membership, a member may withdraw on the anniversary of the date of joining OTARMA if the member notifies OTARMA in writing 60 days prior to 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 the pool. 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.

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Plan Description - The Township, 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 and the combined plan is a combination cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit/defined contribution pension plan. Participating employers are divided into state, local, law enforcement and public safety divisions. 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 plan.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (Continued)

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional plan 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 that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, OH 43215-4642 or by calling (800) 222-7377.

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group. The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional plan as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS CAFR referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

Group A	Group B	Group C
Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013 or five years after January 7, 2013	20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013	Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013
State and Local	State and Local	State and Local
Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit
Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35
Public Safety	Public Safety	Public Safety
Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 52 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit
Law Enforcement	Law Enforcement	Law Enforcement
Age and Service Requirements: Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 52 with 15 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 48 with 25 years of service credit or Age 56 with 15 years of service credit
Public Safety and Law Enforcement	Public Safety and Law Enforcement	Public Safety and Law Enforcement
Formula: 2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 25 years and 2.1% for service years in excess of 25	Formula: 2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 25 years and 2.1% for service years in excess of 25	Formula: 2.5% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 25 years and 2.1% for service years in excess of 25

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (Continued)

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount.

When a traditional plan benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. Members retiring under the combined plan receive a cost-of-living adjustment of the defined benefit portion of their pension benefit. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, the COLA will continue to be a 3 percent simple annual COLA. For those retiring subsequent to January 7, 2013, beginning in Calendar year 2019, the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3 percent.

Defined contribution plan benefits are established in the plan documents, which may be amended by the Board. Member-directed plan and combined plan members who have met the retirement eligibility requirements may apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the combined plan consists of the member's contribution plus or minus the investment gains or losses resulting from the member's investment selections. Combined plan members wishing to receive benefits must meet the requirements for both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Member-directed participants must have attained the age of 55, have money on deposit in the defined contribution plan and have terminated public service to apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the member-directed plan consists of the members' contributions, vested employer contributions and investment gains or losses resulting from the members' investment selections. Employer contributions and associated investment earnings vest over a five-year period, at a rate of 20 percent each year. At retirement, members may select one of several distribution options for payment of the vested balance in their individual OPERS accounts. Options include the purchase of a monthly defined annuity from OPERS (which includes joint and survivor options), partial lump-sum payments (subject to limitations), a rollover of the vested account balance to another financial institution, receipts of entire account balance, net of taxes withheld, or a combination of these options.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (Continued)

	<u>State and Local</u>	<u>Public Safety</u>	<u>Law Enforcement</u>
2017 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates			
Employer	14.0 %	18.1 %	18.1 %
Employee	10.0 %	*	**
2017 Actual Contribution Rates			
Employer:			
Pension	<u>14.0 %</u>	<u>18.1 %</u>	<u>18.1 %</u>
Total Employer	<u><u>14.0 %</u></u>	<u><u>18.1 %</u></u>	<u><u>18.1 %</u></u>
Employee	<u><u>10.0 %</u></u>	<u><u>12.0 %</u></u>	<u><u>13.0 %</u></u>

* This rate is determined by OPERS' Board and has no maximum rate established by ORC.

** This rate is also determined by OPERS' Board, but is limited by ORC to not more than 2 percent greater than the Public Safety rate.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution was \$14,347 for year 2017.

Social Security

The Township had one employee who contributed to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participant.

The employee contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2017.

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (Continued)

OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-e post-employment health care trust, which funds multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement to qualifying benefit recipients of both the Traditional pension and the Combined Plans. Members of the Member-Directed Plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits, including OPERS sponsored health care coverage. OPERS funds a Retiree Medical Account (RMA) for participants in the Member-Directed Plan. At retirement or refund, participants can be reimbursed for qualified medical expenses from their vested RMA balance.

In order to qualify for post-employment health care coverage, age-and-service retirees under the Traditional Pension and Combined plans must have 20 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 75. See OPERS' CAFR referenced below for additional information.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately on the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 614-222-5601 or 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 to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2017, State and Local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0% of earnable salary and Public Safety and Law Enforcement employers contributed at a rate at 18.1%. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board of Trustees determines the portion of the employer contributions rate will be set aside to fund health care plans. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 1.0 percent during calendar year 2017. The OPERS Board 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 employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the Member-Directed Plan for 2017 was 4.0 percent.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution was \$4,099.

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

9. DEBT

The Township's debt activity for the year ended December 31, 2017, was as follows:

	Balance January 1 2017	Issued	Retired	Balance December 31 2017	Amount Due Within One Year
Note-Grader	\$ 38,200	\$ -	\$ 18,908	\$ 19,292	\$ 19,292
Bond-F550 Truck	-	55,000	13,571	41,429	13,463
Total	\$ 38,200	\$ 55,000	\$ 32,479	\$ 60,721	\$ 32,755

In 2008, the Township entered a lease-purchase agreement in the amount of \$125,000 with The Park National Bank to purchase a new road grader to be used for maintaining township roads and bridges. In November 2012, the Township re-financed this agreement for an additional \$25,000 to be used to purchase a backhoe to be used for maintaining township roads and bridges. This agreement is collateralized by the road grader and backhoe. Payments will be made annually in the amount of \$20,351.

In 2017, the Township entered into an equipment bond agreement in the amount of \$55,000 with the Park National Bank to purchase a 2017 F550 cab chassis and dump body and related equipment to be used for maintaining township roads and bridges. This agreement is collateralized by the F550 truck. Payments will be made annually in the amount of \$14,779.

Amortization of the above debt is as follows:

	Road Grader		F550 Bonds	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2018	\$ 19,292	\$ 1,059	\$ 13,463	\$ 1,316
2019	-	-	13,845	934
2020	-	-	14,121	658
Total	\$ 19,292	\$ 1,059	\$ 41,429	\$ 2,908

10. FUND BALANCES

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the Township is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for major governmental funds and all other governmental funds as of December 31, 2017 are presented below:

Fund Balances	General Fund	Gas Tax Fund	Road & Bridge	Fire Fund
Restricted for				
Road & Bridge	\$ -	\$ 72,082	\$ 85,149	\$ -
Fire Operations	-	-	-	165,666
Cemetery	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted	-	72,082	85,149	165,666
Unrestricted	41,470	-	-	-
Total	\$ 41,470	\$ 72,082	\$ 85,149	\$ 165,666

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

10. FUND BALANCES (Continued)

<u>Fund Balances</u>	Other Governmental Funds	<u>Total</u>
Restricted for		
Road & Bridge	\$ 40,047	\$ 197,278
Fire Operations	-	165,666
Cemetery	26,915	26,915
Cemetery Capital Projects	22,883	22,883
Total Restricted	<u>89,845</u>	<u>412,742</u>
Unrestricted	-	<u>41,470</u>
Total	<u>\$ 89,845</u>	<u>\$ 454,212</u>

11. COMPLIANCE

Contrary to Ohio Revised Code 5705.41(D), the Township had invoices dated prior to certification.

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

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

Hopewell Township
Licking County
9427 Poplar Forks Road
Newark, Ohio 43056

To the Township Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hopewell Township, Licking County as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 31, 2019, wherein we noted the Township uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered Hopewell Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. 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 Finding 2017-001 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Hopewell Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2017-001.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.
Zanesville, Ohio
May 31, 2019

**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2017-001

Material Weakness/ Noncompliance – Financial Reporting

All local public offices should maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for the related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

The Ohio Township Handbook (Revised March 2018) provides suggested account and fund balance classifications and clarifies the existing governmental fund type definitions. These accounts classify receipts by fund and source (taxes or charges for services, for example) and classify disbursements by fund, program (general government, for example) or object (personal services, for example). The fund balance classifications relate to constraints placed upon the use of resources reported in governmental funds. The five classifications are nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned. Using these classifications will provide the Township with information required to monitor compliance with the budget, and prepare annual reports in the format required by the Auditor of State.

Ohio Revised Code 5705.10(D) states, in part, that all revenues derived from a source other than the general property tax and which the law prescribes shall be used for a particular purpose, shall be paid into a special fund for such purpose.

The following adjustments and reclassifications were made to the December 31, 2017 financial statements and the Township's records where applicable:

- An adjustment was made from the General Fund to the Gasoline Tax Fund in the amount of \$2,839 to properly show gasoline tax monies that should have been posted to the Gasoline Tax Fund.
- A reclassification from Miscellaneous Receipts to Sale of Bonds for bond proceeds in the amounts of \$4,000, \$25,000, and \$26,000 for the General Fund, Gasoline Tax Fund, and the Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund, respectively.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Township and is essential to help ensure the information provided to the readers of financial statements is complete and accurate. To help ensure the Township's financial statements and notes to the financial statements are complete and accurate, the Township should adopt policies and procedures to identify and correct errors and omissions. In addition, the Township should review the financial statements and notes prior to submission for audit.

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

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP

LICKING 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 10, 2019**