



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



MASON PUBLIC LIBRARY
WARREN COUNTY

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mason Public Library
Warren County
200 Reading Road
Mason, Ohio 45040

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the Mason Public Library, Warren County, Ohio (the Library), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

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

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Library, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, or the changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Library, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2025, on our consideration of the Library's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Library's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



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

June 30, 2025

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Mason Public Library*Warren County*

*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements
and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

	General	Capital Projects	Combined Total
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$1,225,724	\$0	\$1,225,724
Public Library	1,414,865	0	1,414,865
Intergovernmental	120,162	0	120,162
Patron Fines and Fees	9,089	0	9,089
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	7,430	0	7,430
Earnings on Investments	497,636	0	497,636
Miscellaneous	6,418	0	6,418
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>3,281,324</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,281,324</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
Library Services:			
Public Services and Programs	526,435	0	526,435
Collection Development and Processing	647,470	0	647,470
Support Services:			
Facilities Operation and Maintenance	201,540	0	201,540
Information Services	282,283	0	282,283
Business Administration	892,583	0	892,583
Capital Outlay	<u>17,895</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17,895</u>
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>2,568,206</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,568,206</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>713,118</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>713,118</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>8,528,504</u>	<u>4,047,675</u>	<u>12,576,179</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$9,241,622</u></u>	<u><u>\$4,047,675</u></u>	<u><u>\$13,289,297</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

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Mason Public Library of
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Mason Public Library (the Library), Warren 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 City of Mason Ohio appoints a 7-member Board of Trustees to govern the Library. The Library provides the community with various educational and literary resources.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

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

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

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Library recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end. Budgetary expenditures that is, disbursements and encumbrances may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, and object level of control.

A summary of 2024 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Mason Public Library of
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Deposits and Investments

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

Money market mutual funds are recorded at share values the mutual funds report. Investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

Capital Assets

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

Accumulated Leave

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

Leases

The Library is the lessee in various leases (as defined by GASB 87) related to equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid. The Library leases a postage meter and a copier under noncancelable leases. The Library disbursed \$1,627.08 to pay lease costs for year ended December 31, 2024.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The Library classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Library and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

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

Mason Public Library of
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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

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

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 8.

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

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

2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$2,844,199	\$3,281,321	\$437,122
Capital Projects	500,000	0	(500,000)
Total	<u>\$3,344,199</u>	<u>\$3,281,321</u>	<u>(\$62,878)</u>

Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$4,207,281	\$2,638,138	\$1,569,143
Capital Projects	410,000	0	410,000
Total	<u>\$4,617,281</u>	<u>\$2,638,138</u>	<u>\$1,979,143</u>

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

Mason Public Library of
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>2024</u>
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$367,516
Certificates of deposit	500,000
Petty Cash	50
Total deposits	<u>867,566</u>
U.S. Government Notes	1,149,178
U.S. Treasury Notes	1,999,994
Certificates of deposit	4,059,545
Commercial Paper	1,401,367
U.S. Treasury Money Market Fund	553,174
STAR Ohio	3,258,473
Total investments	<u>12,421,731</u>
<i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool</i>	<u><u>\$13,289,297</u></u>

The Library does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2024, the Library is holding \$0.00 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; [or] collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Library; or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments

The Federal Reserve holds the Library's U.S. Treasury Notes in book-entry form, in the name of the Library's financial institution. The financial institution maintains records identifying the Library as owner of these securities.

A financial institution's trust department holds the Library's equity securities in book-entry form in the Library's name.

Investments in STAR Ohio and mutual funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

Note 5 – Grants in Aid and Taxes

Grants in Aid

The primary source of revenue for Ohio public libraries is the Public Library Fund (PLF). The State allocates PLF to each county based on the total tax revenue credited to the State's general revenue fund

Mason Public Library of
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

during the preceding month using the statutory allocation method. Estimated entitlement figures were issued to County Auditors. The actual current year entitlements were computed in December of the current year. The difference between the estimate and actual will be adjusted evenly in the PLF distributions made from January-June of the subsequent year.

Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the taxing authority of the subdivision to whose jurisdiction the Library is subject adopts rates. The State Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization, adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction amounts the State pays as Other Governments' Grants In Aid. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

Note 6 – Risk Management

The Library belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (the "Plan"), a unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management programs and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

Effective November 1, 2016, the OPRM elected to participate in a property loss corridor deductible. The property corridor includes losses paid between 70% and 75%. In 2018, the casualty loss corridor was eliminated and the property corridor was adjusted to losses paid between 65% and 70%. Effective November 1, 2019, the property loss corridor was adjusted to losses between 60% and 67.5% and has remain unchanged. OPRM had 801 members as of December 31, 2023.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, with the exception of a qualified opinion related to recording premiums and membership fees earned in full as of December 31, 2023. Those premiums and fees should be earned pro-rata over the individual coverage and membership periods of each policy. The financial statements reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2023.

Assets \$ 23,113,696

Liabilities (16,078,587)

Members' Equity \$ 7,035,109

Mason Public Library of
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Library 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.

Commercial Insurance

The Library has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

In general, all Library employees participate in OPERS. Employees exempt from OPERS in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 145.01(B) or Ohio Administriate Code Section 145-1-26 may be subject to Social Security Tax.

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

The Library employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement health care and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Library contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Library has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. For calendar year 2024, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2024, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

Note 9 – Fund Balances

**Mason Public Library of
Warren County**
*Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024*

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

Fund Balances	General	Total
Outstanding Encumbrances	69,935	69,935
Total	\$69,935	\$69,935

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

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Mason Public Library*Warren County*

*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements
and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

	General	Capital Projects	Combined Total
Cash Receipts			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$1,197,169	\$0	\$1,197,169
Public Library	1,481,508	0	1,481,508
Intergovernmental	118,692	0	118,692
Patron Fines and Fees	8,348	0	8,348
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	4,200	4,000	8,200
Earnings on Investments	340,937	0	340,937
Miscellaneous	3,130	0	3,130
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>3,153,984</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>3,157,984</u>
Cash Disbursements			
Current:			
Library Services:	2,400,014	0	2,400,014
Capital Outlay	80,194	0	80,194
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>2,480,208</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,480,208</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>673,776</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>677,776</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)			
Transfers In	0	300,000	300,000
Transfers Out	(300,000)	0	(300,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(300,000)</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>373,776</u>	<u>304,000</u>	<u>677,776</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>8,154,728</u>	<u>3,743,675</u>	<u>11,898,403</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$8,528,504</u>	<u>\$4,047,675</u>	<u>\$12,576,179</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

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Mason Public Library
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The Mason Public Library (the Library), Warren 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 City of Mason Ohio appoints a 7-member Board of Trustees to govern the Library. The Library provides the community with various educational and literary resources.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

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

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

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Library recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process The Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered Appropriations lapse at year end. Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, and object level of control.

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Mason Public Library
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Deposits and Investments

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

Money market mutual funds are recorded at share values the mutual funds report. Investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value

Capital Assets

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

Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

Leases

The Library is the lessee in various leases (as defined by GASB 87) related to equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The Library classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes, nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Library and the nonspendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

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

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

Mason Public Library
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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

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

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

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

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

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	2,770,311	3,153,982	383,671
Capital Projects	4,000	304,000	300,000
Total	2,774,311	3,457,982	683,671

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation	Budgetary	Variance
	Authority	Expenditures	
General	\$4,072,890	\$2,780,208	\$1,292,682
Capital Projects	410,000	0	410,000
Total	\$4,482,890	\$2,780,208	\$1,702,682

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

	2023
Cash Management Pool:	
Demand deposits	263,066
Certificates of deposit	552,952
Petty Cash	50
Total Deposits	816,068

Mason Public Library
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

U.S. Treasury Notes	495,877
U.S. Government Notes	2,304,592
Municipal Bonds	100,000
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	4,639,202
Commercial Paper	1,399,593
U.S. Treasury Money Market Fund	25,158
Star Ohio	2,795,689
Total Investments	11,760,111
Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool	12,576,179

The Library does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments

The Federal Reserve holds the Library's U.S. Treasury Notes in book-entry form, in the name of the Library's financial institution. The financial institution maintains records identifying the Library as owner of these securities.

Investments in STAR Ohio and mutual funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

Note 5 – Grants in Aid and Taxes

Grants in Aid

The primary source of revenue for Ohio public libraries is the Public Library Fund (PLF). The State allocates PLF to each county based on the total tax revenue credited to the State's general revenue fund during the preceding month using the statutory allocation method. Estimated entitlement figures were issued to County Auditors. The actual current year entitlements were computed in December of the current year. The difference between the estimate and actual will be adjusted evenly in the PLF distributions made from January-June of the subsequent year.

Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the taxing authority of the subdivision to whose jurisdiction the Library is subject adopts rates. The State Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization, adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction amounts the State pays

Mason Public Library
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

as Other Governments' Grants In Aid. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

Note 6 – Risk Management

The Library belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

Effective November 1, 2016 the OPRM elected to participate in a property loss corridor deductible. The property corridor includes losses paid between 70% and 75%. In 2018, the casualty loss corridor was eliminated and the property corridor was adjusted to losses paid between 65% and 70%. Effective November 1, 2019, the property loss corridor was adjusted to losses between 60% and 67.5% and has remained unchanged. OPRM had 801 members as of December 31, 2023, (the latest information available).

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2023, (the latest information available).

Assets	\$21,662,291
Liabilities	<u>(18,158,351)</u>
Members' Equity	<u>\$ 3,503,940</u>

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Library 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.

Commercial Insurance

The Library has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.

Mason Public Library
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

All Library employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement health care and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Library contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Library has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

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

Note 9 – Debt

Leases

The Library leases a postage meter, and a copier under noncancelable leases. The Library disbursed \$1,754.88 to pay lease costs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Note 10 – Fund Balances

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

Fund Balances	General	Total										
Outstanding Encumbrances	0	0										
Total	\$0	\$0										

Mason Public Library
Warren County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

The fund balance of capital projects funds are restricted, committed, or assigned. These restricted, committed, and assigned amounts in capital project funds would including the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

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

Mason Public Library
Warren County
200 Reading Road
Mason, Ohio 45040

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements of the Mason Public Library, Warren County, Ohio (the Library), and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2025, wherein we noted the Library followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(C) permit.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Mason Public Library
Warren County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Library'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 Library's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



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

June 30, 2025

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



MASON PUBLIC LIBRARY

WARREN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 7/22/2025

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov