



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE  
MEDINA COUNTY**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Village of Chippewa Lake  
Medina County  
24 Circle Crest  
PO Box 25  
Chippewa Lake, Ohio 44215

To the Village Council:

### ***Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements***

#### ***Unmodified and Adverse Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Chippewa Lake, Medina County, Ohio (the Village), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, 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, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

#### ***Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles***

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, 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 Village, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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Efficient • Effective • Transparent

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

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

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

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

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

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

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

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

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

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Village's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 12, 2025, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State



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

June 12, 2025

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

|   | General                 | Special<br>Revenue      | Combined<br>Total       |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Cash Receipts</b>                                  |                         |                         |                         |
| Property and Other Local Taxes                        | \$148,651               | \$49,384                | \$198,035               |
| Intergovernmental                                     | 61,384                  | 67,651                  | 129,035                 |
| Charges for Services                                  | 6,734                   |                         | 6,734                   |
| Fines, Licenses and Permits                           | 3,932                   |                         | 3,932                   |
| Earnings on Investments                               | 8,695                   | 2,274                   | 10,969                  |
| Miscellaneous   | 7,331                   | 1,191                   | 8,522                   |
| <i>Total Cash Receipts</i>                            | <u>236,727</u>          | <u>120,500</u>          | <u>357,227</u>          |
| <b>Cash Disbursements</b>                             |                         |                         |                         |
| Current:  |                         |                         |                         |
| Security of Persons and Property                      | 39,786                  |                         | 39,786                  |
| Public Health Services                                | 991                     |                         | 991                     |
| Leisure Time Activities                               | 61,390                  | 3,077                   | 64,467                  |
| Community Environment                                 | 24,195                  |                         | 24,195                  |
| Basic Utility Services                                | 21,786                  | 4,527                   | 26,313                  |
| Transportation  | 20,427                  | 7,425                   | 27,852                  |
| General Government                                    | 87,276                  |                         | 87,276                  |
| Intergovernmental                                     |                         | 19,850                  | 19,850                  |
| <i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>                       | <u>255,851</u>          | <u>34,879</u>           | <u>290,730</u>          |
| <i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>  | <u>(19,124)</u>         | <u>85,621</u>           | <u>66,497</u>           |
| <b>Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>       |                         |                         |                         |
| Other Financing Sources                               | 18                      |                         | 18                      |
| <i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i> | <u>18</u>               | <u>0</u>                | <u>18</u>               |
| <i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>               | (19,106)                | 85,621                  | 66,515                  |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>                  | <u>271,396</u>          | <u>236,279</u>          | <u>507,675</u>          |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>                | <u><u>\$252,290</u></u> | <u><u>\$321,900</u></u> | <u><u>\$574,190</u></u> |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The Village of Chippewa Lake (the Village), Medina County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides park operations, leisure time activities, and road maintenance. The Village contracts with the Medina County Sheriff's department to provide security of persons and property.

***Public Entity Risk Pools***

The Village participates in public entity risk pools. Notes 6 and 9 to the financial statements provide additional information for these entities. The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Presentation***

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

***Fund Accounting***

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

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

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

***Road and Bridge Levy*** The road and bridge fund accounts for and reports property tax monies restricted for constructing, maintaining, and repairing roads and bridges within the Village.

***Coronavirus Relief Fund*** This fund received local government assistance provided by the American Rescue Plan Act.

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Accounting***

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

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

***Budgetary Process***

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

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

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

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

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

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

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

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Fund Balance***

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

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

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

***Committed*** Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council 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.

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

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

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

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

**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                           | \$198,870         | \$236,745        | \$37,875           |
| Special Revenue                   | 93,951            | 120,500          | 26,549             |
| Capital Projects                  | 436,545           |                  | (436,545)          |
| Total                             | <u>\$729,366</u>  | <u>\$357,245</u> | <u>(\$372,121)</u> |

| 2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures |                         |                        |                  |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Fund Type   | Appropriation Authority | Budgetary Expenditures | Variance         |
| General   | \$351,422               | \$261,223              | \$90,199         |
| Special Revenue                                       | 212,304                 | 78,359                 | 133,945          |
| Capital Projects                                      | 436,545                 |                        | 436,545          |
| Total   | <u>\$1,000,271</u>      | <u>\$339,582</u>       | <u>\$660,689</u> |

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

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

|  | 2023           |
|--|----------------|
| <b><i>Cash Management Pool:</i></b>                                |                |
| Demand deposits  | \$468,341      |
| STAR Ohio  | 105,849        |
| Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool | <u>574,190</u> |

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

***Deposits***

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

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments (continued)**

***Investments***

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

**Note 5 – Taxes**

***Property Taxes***

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

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Village.

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

**Note 6 – Risk Management**

The Village is a member of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Village of Chippewa Lake's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

|                       | <u>2023</u>   |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Cash and investments  | \$ 43,996,442 |
| Actuarial liabilities | \$ 19,743,401 |

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 6 – Risk Management (continued)**

***Workers' Compensation***

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal League Group Rating Plan (GRP) for worker's compensation. The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of reduced premiums for the participants, foster safer working conditions and foster cost-effective claims management skills by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating entities is calculated as one experience and a common premium is applied to all entities in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for all entities in the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated, and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Sedgwick provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

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

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

***Social Security***

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

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

**Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits**

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

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

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**Note 9 – Public Entity Risk Pool**

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal League Group Rating Plan (GRP) for worker's compensation. The pool's business and affairs are conducted by a twenty-six member Board of Trustees consisting of fifteen mayors, two council members, three administrators, three finance directors, and three law directors which are voted on by the members for staggered two-year terms. The Executive Director of the Ohio Municipal League serves as the coordinator of the Program. Each year the participants pay an enrollment fee to the program to cover the costs of administering the program.

**Note 10 – Fund Balances**

Included in fund balance are amounts the Village 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:

| <u>Fund Balances</u>     | <u>General</u> | <u>Special<br/>Revenue</u> | <u>Total</u>    |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Outstanding Encumbrances | \$5,372        | \$43,480                   | \$48,852        |
| <i>Total</i>             | <u>\$5,372</u> | <u>\$43,480</u>            | <u>\$48,852</u> |

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

**Note 11 – COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. The Village will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

**Note 12 – Subsequent Events**

The Village obtained a \$155,620 Ohio Public Works Commission loan for street improvements after December 31, 2023.



**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements*  
*and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis)*  
*All Governmental Fund Types*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

|   | General                 | Special<br>Revenue      | Combined<br>Total       |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Cash Receipts</b>                                  |                         |                         |                         |
| Property and Other Local Taxes                        | \$140,162               | \$49,860                | \$190,022               |
| Intergovernmental                                     | 63,126                  | 105,561                 | 168,687                 |
| Charges for Services                                  | 9,456                   |                         | 9,456                   |
| Fines, Licenses and Permits                           | 1,568                   |                         | 1,568                   |
| Earnings on Investments                               | 2,624                   | 371                     | 2,995                   |
| Miscellaneous   | 9                       | 2,026                   | 2,035                   |
| <i>Total Cash Receipts</i>                            | <u>216,945</u>          | <u>157,818</u>          | <u>374,763</u>          |
| <b>Cash Disbursements</b>                             |                         |                         |                         |
| Current:  |                         |                         |                         |
| Security of Persons and Property                      | 43,653                  | 1,000                   | 44,653                  |
| Public Health Services                                | 1,031                   |                         | 1,031                   |
| Leisure Time Activities                               | 121,438                 | 1,130                   | 122,568                 |
| Community Environment                                 | 13,797                  |                         | 13,797                  |
| Basic Utility Services                                | 18,804                  | 2,250                   | 21,054                  |
| Transportation  | 18,467                  | 145,849                 | 164,316                 |
| General Government                                    | 75,258                  |                         | 75,258                  |
| Intergovernmental                                     |                         | 14,708                  | 14,708                  |
| <i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>                       | <u>292,448</u>          | <u>164,937</u>          | <u>457,385</u>          |
| <i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>  | <u>(75,503)</u>         | <u>(7,119)</u>          | <u>(82,622)</u>         |
| <b>Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>       |                         |                         |                         |
| Other Financing Sources                               | 1,115                   |                         | 1,115                   |
| <i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i> | <u>1,115</u>            | <u>0</u>                | <u>1,115</u>            |
| <i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>               | (74,388)                | (7,119)                 | (81,507)                |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>                  | <u>345,784</u>          | <u>243,398</u>          | <u>589,182</u>          |
| <i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>                | <u><u>\$271,396</u></u> | <u><u>\$236,279</u></u> | <u><u>\$507,675</u></u> |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The Village of Chippewa Lake (the Village), Medina County, is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides park operations, leisure time activities, and road maintenance. The Village contracts with the Medina County Sheriff's department to provide security of persons and property.

***Public Entity Risk Pools***

The Village participates in public entity risk pools. Notes 6 and 9 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity. The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Presentation***

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

***Fund Accounting***

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

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

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

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

***Road and Bridge Levy*** The road and bridge fund accounts for and reports property tax monies restricted for constructing, maintaining, and repairing roads and bridges within the Village.

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Basis of Accounting***

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

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

***Budgetary Process***

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain custodial funds) be budgeted annually.

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

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

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

A summary of 2022 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

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

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

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

***Fund Balance***

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

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

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

***Committed*** Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council 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.

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

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

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

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

**Note 3 – Budgetary Activity**

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2022 follows:

| 2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts |                   |                  |                    |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Fund Type                         | Budgeted Receipts | Actual Receipts  | Variance           |
| General                           | \$299,365         | \$218,060        | (\$81,305)         |
| Special Revenue                   | 133,305           | 157,818          | 24,513             |
| Capital Projects                  | 436,545           |                  | (436,545)          |
| Total                             | <u>\$869,215</u>  | <u>\$375,878</u> | <u>(\$493,337)</u> |

| 2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures |                         |                        |                  |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Fund Type   | Appropriation Authority | Budgetary Expenditures | Variance         |
| General   | \$284,196               | \$296,148              | (\$11,952)       |
| Special Revenue                                       | 188,248                 | 180,787                | 7,461            |
| Capital Projects                                      | 516,545                 |                        | 516,545          |
| Total   | <u>\$988,989</u>        | <u>\$476,935</u>       | <u>\$512,054</u> |

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

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

|  | 2022             |
|--|------------------|
| <b><i>Cash Management Pool:</i></b>                                |                  |
| Demand deposits  | \$407,206        |
| STAR Ohio  | <u>100,469</u>   |
| Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool | <u>\$507,675</u> |

The Village does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statement reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2022, the village is not holding 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 Village.

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments (continued)**

***Investments***

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

**Note 5 – Taxes**

***Property Taxes***

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

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Village.

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

**Note 6 – Risk Management**

The Village is a member of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Village of Chippewa's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

|                       | <u>2022</u>   |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Cash and investments  | \$ 42,310,794 |
| Actuarial liabilities | \$15,724,479  |

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 6 – Risk Management (continued)**

***Workers' Compensation***

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal League Group Rating Plan (GRP) for worker's compensation. The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of reduced premiums for the participants, foster safer working conditions and foster cost-effective claims management skills by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating entities is calculated as one experience and a common premium is applied to all entities in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for all entities in the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated, and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Sedgwick provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

**Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Village contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

***Social Security***

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

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

**Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits**

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement, and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2022. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2022.

**Village of Chippewa Lake, Ohio**  
*Medina County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2022*

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**Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits (continued)**

Effective January 1, 2022, OPERS discontinued the group plans currently offered to non-Medicare retirees and re-employed retirees. Instead, eligible non-Medicare retirees will select an individual medical plan. OPERS will provide a subsidy or allowance via a HRA allowance to those retirees who meet health care eligibility requirements. Retirees will be able to seek reimbursement for plan premiums and other qualified medical expenses.

**Note 9 – Public Entity Risk Pool**

The Village participates in the Ohio Municipal League Group Rating Plan (GRP) for worker's compensation. The pool's business and affairs are conducted by a twenty-six member Board of Trustees consisting of fifteen mayors, two council members, three administrators, three finance directors, and three law directors which are voted on by the members for staggered two-year terms. The Executive Director of the Ohio Municipal League serves as the coordinator of the Program. Each year the participants pay an enrollment fee to the program to cover the costs of administering the program.

**Note 10 – Fund Balances**

Included in fund balance are amounts the Village 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:

| <u>Fund Balances</u>     | <u>General</u> | <u>Special<br/>Revenue</u> | <u>Total</u>    |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Outstanding Encumbrances | \$3,700        | \$15,850                   | \$19,550        |
| <i>Total</i>             | <u>\$3,700</u> | <u>\$15,850</u>            | <u>\$19,550</u> |

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

**Note 11 – COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During 2022, the Village received COVID-19 funding. The Village will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

65 East State Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov  
800-282-0370

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

Village of Chippewa Lake  
Medina County  
24 Circle Crest  
PO Box 25  
Chippewa Lake, Ohio 44215

To the Village Council:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 and the related notes to the financial statements of the Village of Chippewa Lake, Medina County, Ohio (the Village) and have issued our report thereon dated June 12, 2025, wherein we noted the Village 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 Village's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2023-001 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

### ***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township'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*.

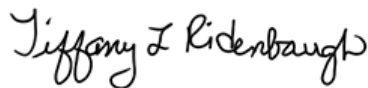
### ***Village's Response to the Finding***

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Village's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings. The Village's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

### ***Purpose of This Report***

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

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State



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

June 12, 2025

**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE  
MEDINA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

|   |
|---|
| <b>FINDING RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS<br/>REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b> |
|---|

**FINDING 2023-001**

**Material Weakness – Financial Reporting**

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, Terms of Engagement, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement (GASB) Cod. 1300 provides governmental fund-type definitions. GASB Cod. 1300.105 states, in part, special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The term *proceeds of specific revenue sources* establishes that one or more specific restricted or committed revenues should be the foundation for a special revenue fund. Governments should discontinue reporting a special revenue fund and instead report the fund's remaining resources in the general fund, if the government no longer expects that a substantial portion of the inflows will derive from restricted or committed revenue sources.

Due to insufficient internal controls, the following material financial statement errors were identified and adjusted to the financial statements as approved by management:

- In 2023 and 2022, property and other local taxes in the General Fund were overstated by \$22,458 and \$21,039, respectively, and intergovernmental revenue understated by the same amount due to an error posting homestead and rollback revenue.
- In 2023 and 2022, property and other local taxes in the Special Revenue Funds were overstated by \$3,851 and \$4,083, respectively, and intergovernmental revenue understated by the same amount due to an error posting homestead and rollback revenue.
- The Other Special Revenue Endowment Fund was reported as a special revenue fund on the year-end financial statements for both 2023 and 2022. However, there are no external restrictions or formal commitments from Council regarding the use of the resources in this fund. Therefore, the Other Special Revenue Endowment Fund activity should have been classified into the General Fund for year-end financial reporting purposes. The financial statements were adjusted by management to remove the Other Special Revenue Endowment Fund activity from the special revenue funds opinion unit and report the activity in the General Fund.

In addition to the adjustments listed above, we also identified additional immaterial misstatements of \$685 that we have brought to the Village's attention.

The Village should exercise due care when posting transactions to help ensure receipts are posted to proper accounts and funds. Additionally, Council should review monthly receipt activity reports to help ensure transactions are properly classified and consistent with management's expectations. This will help more accurately reflect the Village's financial activity and will aid in more accurate financial reporting.

**Officials' Response:** The Village acknowledges the finding and is working to resolve the issue.

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**VILLAGE OF CHIPPEWA LAKE**

**MEDINA 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 7/1/2025**

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](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)