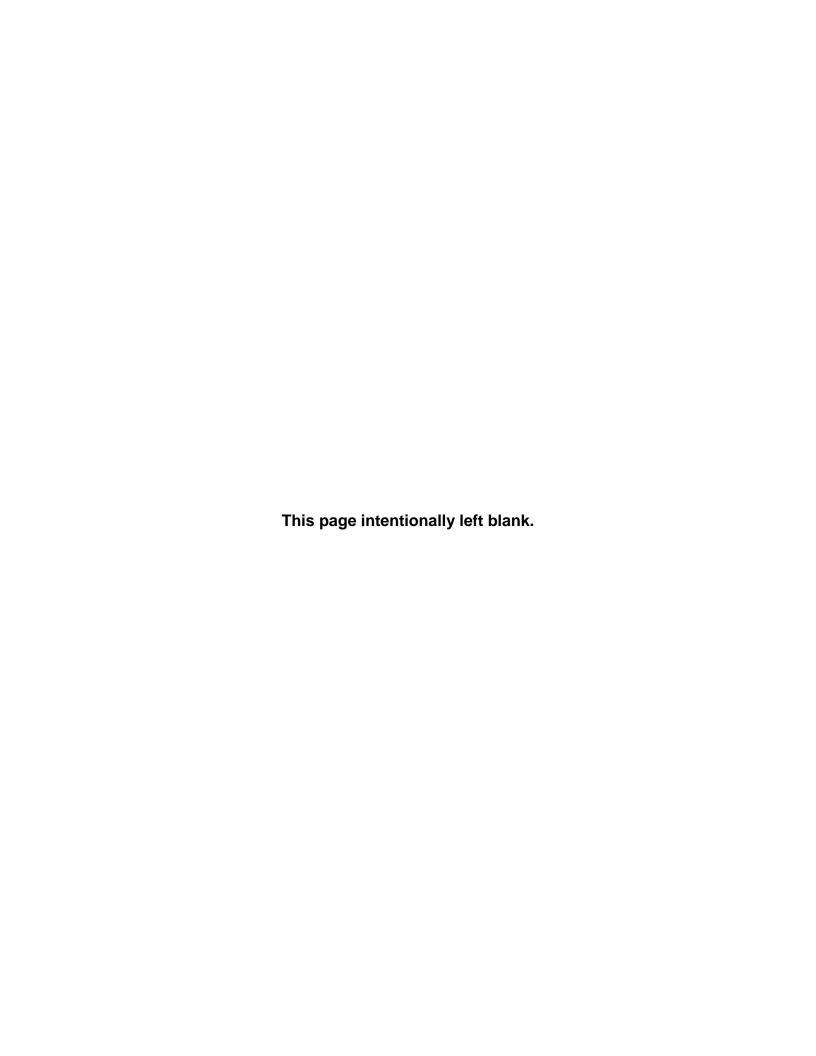




HAMILTON TOWNSHIP JACKSON COUNTY DECEMBER 21, 2020 AND 2019

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Hamilton Township Jackson County 2909 State Route 279 Oak Hill, Ohio 45656

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020 and for each governmental fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and related notes of Hamilton Township, Jackson County, Ohio (the Township).

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit; 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

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

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

Hamilton Township Jackson County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Township does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

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* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township, as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020 and for each governmental fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and related notes of the Township, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 12 to the 2020 financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Hamilton Township Jackson County Independent Auditor's Report Page 3

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 13, 2021, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

May 13, 2021

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Jackson County, Ohio Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$21,966	\$35,477	\$0	\$0	\$57,443
Intergovernmental	19,386	199,659	65,781	0	284,826
Miscellaneous	4,525	0	0	0	4,525
Total Cash Receipts	45,877	235,136	65,781	0	346,794
Cash Disbursements					
Current:					
General Government	93,880	2,321	0	0	96,201
Public Safety	0	88,837	0	0	88,837
Public Works	0	98,192	46,433	0	144,625
Health	4,050	0	0	0	4,050
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	0	0	11,124	0	11,124
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	0	1,381	0	1,381
Total Cash Disbursements	97,930	189,350	58,938	0	346,218
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(52,053)	45,786	6,843	0	576
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)					
Transfers In	60,802	0	0	0	60,802
Transfers Out	0	(60,802)	0	0	(60,802)
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)	60,802	(60,802)	0	0	0
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	8,749	(15,016)	6,843	0	576
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	48,432	203,500	29,054	100	281,086
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$57,181	\$188,484	\$35,897	\$100	\$281,662

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Hamilton Township, Jackson County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, fire protection services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in Ohio Township Association Risk Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. Note 7 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity. The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

The Township 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 Township 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 Township 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 Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

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

Coronavirus Relief Fund The coronavirus relief fund accounts for and reports COVID-19 monies passed through the County.

Miscellaneous Special Revenue Fund The miscellaneous special revenue fund accounts for and reports FEMA money received by the Township.

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Accounting (Continued)

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. The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Permanent Improvement Fund This fund receives sales tax money for permanent improvement projects within the Township.

Permanent Funds These funds account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

Cemetery Endowment Fund The cemetery endowment fund accounts for and reports interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement restricted for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03 (D) 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, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

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

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2020 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Deposits

The Township maintains its deposits in an interest-bearing checking account with a local commercial bank.

Capital Assets

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

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The Township 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 Township 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 Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend 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 Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 11.

Jackson County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020
(Continued)

Note 3 – Compliance

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the General Fund by \$53,519 for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Note 4 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2020 follows:

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$107,752	\$106,679	(\$1,073)
Special Revenue	252,367	235,136	(17,231)
Capital Projects	60,000	65,781	5,781
Total	\$420,119	\$407,596	(\$12,523)
			· ·

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$44,411	\$97,930	(\$53,519)
Special Revenue	279,215	250,152	29,063
Capital Projects	85,000	58,938	26,062
Total	\$408,626	\$407,020	\$1,606

Note 5 – Deposits

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

	2020
Cash Management Pool:	
Demand deposits	\$281,662
Total carrying amount of deposits held in the Pool (ties to FS)	\$281,662

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.

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Continued)

Note 6 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees 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.

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

Note 7 – Risk Management

The (local entity) is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the (local entity'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 (the latest information available):

2019

Cash and investments \$35,207,320

Actuarial liabilities \$ 10,519,942

Note 8 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Township employees and elected officials 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.

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Continued)

Note 8 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Continued)

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2020.

Note 9 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plan, 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 2020. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2020.

Note 10 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2020, was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Vinton County National Bank Note	\$34,649	3.15%

On April 3, 2017, the Township secured a Commercial Promissory Note with Vinton County National Bank, for the amount of \$67,406 at an interest rate of 3.15%. The first payment was due April 3, 2018. The loan was for the purchase of a tractor and mower.

Amortization

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	Vinton Co.
Year Ending	National Bank
December 31:	Note
2021	\$12,505
2022	12,505
2023	12,505
Total	\$37,515

Note 11 - Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township 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 facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (Continued)

Note 11 – Fund Balances (Continued)

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
Nonspendable:					
Unclaimed Monies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Corpus	0	0	0	100	100
Outstanding Encumbrances	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of debt service funds and capital projects funds are restricted, committed, or assigned. The fund balance of permanent funds that is not part of the nonspendable corpus is either restricted or committed. These restricted, committed, and assigned amounts in the special revenue, debt service, capital projects, and permanent funds would including the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Note 12 – 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. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township. In addition, the impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

During 2020, the Township received CARES Act funding. Of the amounts received, \$53,360 was spent on-behalf of other governments. These amounts are reflected as public safety expenditures in the Coronavirus Relief Special Revenue Fund on the accompanying financial statements.

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Jackson County, Ohio Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$21,543	\$34,712	\$0	\$0	\$56,255
Intergovernmental	19,224	208,441	56,111	0	283,776
Earnings on Investments	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1,123	0	0	0	1,123
Total Cash Receipts	41,890	243,153	56,111	0	341,154
Cash Disbursements					
Current:					
General Government	39,426	2,396	0	0	41,822
Public Safety	0	34,712	0	0	34,712
Public Works	0	109,750	45,175	0	154,925
Health	4,000	0	0	0	4,000
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	0	0	10,730	0	10,730
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	0	1,775	0	1,775
Total Cash Disbursements	43,426	146,858	57,680	0	247,964
Excess of Receipts Over Disbursements	(1,536)	96,295	(1,569)	0	93,190
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)					
Transfers In	0	16,862	0	0	16,862
Transfers Out	0	(16,862)	0	0	(16,862)
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)	0	0	0	0	0
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(1,536)	96,295	(1,569)	0	93,190
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	49,968	107,205	30,623	100	187,896
Fund Cash Balances, December 31					
Nonspendable	0	0	0	100	100
Restricted	0	203,500	29,054	0	232,554
Unassigned (Deficit)	48,432	0	0	0	48,432
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$48,432	\$203,500	\$29,054	\$100	\$281,086

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Hamilton Township, Jackson County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection services.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Township participates in OTARMA, a public entity risk-sharing pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

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

Fund Accounting

The Township 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 Township 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 Township 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 Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

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

Fire Fund The Fire Fund accounts for and reports the portion of fire levy taxes restricted for Fire Department use only.

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. The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

Permissive Sales Tax Fund This fund receives sales tax proceeds which are used to pay for improvement projects, such as roads, culverts, stone, etc. within the Township.

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Permanent Funds These funds account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

Cemetery Endowment Fund The cemetery endowment fund accounts for and reports interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement restricted for the general maintenance and upkeep of the Township's cemetery.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board 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 § 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03 (D) 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, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

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

Encumbrances The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Township did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2019 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits

The Township maintains its deposits in an interest-bearing checking account with a local commercial bank.

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Capital Assets

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

Fund Balance

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

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

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 Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend 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*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

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

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019 (Continued)

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2019 follows:

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$46,950	\$41,890	(\$5,060)	
Special Revenue	229,814	260,015	30,201	
Capital Projects	70,000	56,111	(13,889)	
Total	\$346,764	\$358,016	\$11,252	

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$47,000	\$43,426	\$3,574
Special Revenue	194,870	163,720	31,150
Capital Projects	74,000	57,680	16,320
Total	\$315,870	\$264,826	\$51,044

Note 4 – Deposits

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

	2019
Demand deposits	\$281,086

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.

Note 5 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees 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.

Jackson County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019 (Continued)

Note 5 – Property Taxes (Continued)

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

Note 6 – Risk Management

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township'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>2019</u>

Cash and investments \$35,207,320

Actuarial liabilities \$ 10,519,942

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Township 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 Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2019.

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 2019.

Jackson County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019
(Continued)

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits (Continued)

The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2019.

Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2019 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Vinton County National Bank Note	\$45,772	3.15%

On April 3, 2017, the Township secured a Commercial Promissory Note with Vinton County National Bank, for the amount of \$67,406 at an interest rate of 3.15%. The first payment was due April 3, 2018. The loan was for the purchase of a tractor and mower.

Amortization

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	Vinton Co.
Year Ending	National Bank
December 31:	Note
2020	\$12,505
2021	12,505
2022	12,505
2023	12,505
Total	\$50,020



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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

Hamilton Township Jackson County 2909 State Route 279 Oak Hill, Ohio 45656

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and 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 as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020 and for each governmental fund type as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and related notes of Hamilton Township, Jackson County, Ohio (the Township), and have issued our report thereon dated May 13, 2021, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code §117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code §117-2-03(D) permit. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures which may impact subsequent periods of the Township.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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 internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings that we consider material weaknesses. We consider Findings 2020-004 and 2020-005 to be material weaknesses.

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

Hamilton Township
Jackson County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the financial statement. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2020-001 through 2020-003.

Township's Response to Findings

The Township's responses to the Findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. We did not subject the Township's responses to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Purpose of this Report

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

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

May 13, 2021

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019

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

FINDING NUMBER 2020-001

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 133 authorizes certain methods by which subdivisions may incur debt.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.22 provides a subdivision may issue anticipatory-securities if it meets the requirements outlined in the statute.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.10 permits a subdivision to issue anticipation securities in anticipation of current property tax revenues or in anticipation of current revenues in and for any fiscal year from any source or combination of sources, including distributions of any federal or state monies, other than the proceeds of property taxes levied by the subdivision.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.15 provides a subdivision is authorized to issue securities for the purpose of paying all or any portion of the costs of any permanent improvement that the subdivision is authorized, alone or in cooperation with other persons, to acquire, improve, or construct.

Ohio Rev. Code § 133.18 provides the taxing authority of a subdivision, may by legislation submit to the electors of the subdivision the question of issuing any general obligation bonds, for one purpose, that the subdivision has power or authority to issue.

During 2020 and 2019, the Township made principal payments on outstanding promissory notes in the amount of \$11,124 and \$10,730, respectively. The promissory note was used by the Township to purchase a truck, mower, and a tractor.

This type of debt is not authorized in Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 133. The Township had no statutory authority to incur debt through either installment loans or promissory notes with any banking institutions. Inadequate policies and procedures related to debt issuance can result in illegal expenditures by the Township.

The Township should consult with legal counsel before incurring debt to determine if the debt is authorized by statute.

Officials' Response: This is a loan done years ago, cannot make a change.

FINDING NUMBER 2020-002

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority unit from making any expenditure of money unless it has been appropriated in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code.

Due to inadequate policies and procedures in approving and reviewing budget versus actual information, the Township's General Fund had expenditures in excess of appropriations of \$53,519 as of December 31, 2020.

Failure to have adequate appropriations in place at the time expenditures are made could cause expenditures to exceed available resources, further resulting in deficit spending practices.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2020-002 (Continued)

Noncompliance - Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) (Continued)

The Board of Trustees should closely monitor expenditures and appropriations and make the necessary appropriation amendments, if possible, to reduce the likelihood of expenditures exceeding appropriations. Additionally, the Fiscal Officer should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations when appropriations are inadequate to cover the expenditures.

Officials' Response: Township requested a few amendments. Will continue to watch closer going forward.

FINDING NUMBER 2020-003

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D)(1) provides that no orders or contracts involving the expenditure of money are to be made unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer certifying that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be void and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that treasurer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Rev. Code.

"Then and Now" certificate – If the chief fiscal officer can certify both at the time the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collections, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Board of Trustees can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Board of Trustees has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.

Amounts less than \$100 in counties and less than \$3,000 in all other subdivisions may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.

• Blanket Certificate – The auditor or fiscal officer may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money, not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority, against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2020-003 (Continued)

Noncompliance - Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D)(1) (Continued)

3. Super Blanket Certificate – The Board of Trustees may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel oil, gasoline, food items, roadway materials, utilities, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. This certification is not to extend beyond the current fiscal year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

Due to deficiencies in internal controls, 83% of the transactions tested at year-end were not certified by the Fiscal Officer at the time the commitment was incurred, and there was no evidence the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to help ensure purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, the Fiscal Officer should certify the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

Officials' Response: Starting in 2021, Township started using several super blanket certificates.

FINDING NUMBER 2020-004

Material Weakness

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.

Sound accounting practices require accurately posting estimated receipts and appropriations to the ledgers to provide information for budget versus actual comparison and to allow the Board to make informed decisions regarding budgetary matters.

The Appropriation resolution and subsequent amendments establish the legal spending authority of the Township and the appropriation ledger provides the process by which the Township controls spending, it is therefore necessary the amounts appropriated by the Board are precisely stated and accurately posted to the appropriation ledger.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2020-004 (Continued)

Material Weakness (Continued)

The original certificate and amendments establish the amounts available for expenditures for the Township and the receipts ledger provides the process by which the Township controls what is available, it is therefore necessary the amounts estimated by the County Budget Commission are posted accurately to the receipts ledger.

At December 31, 2019 estimated receipts as approved by the Budget Commission did not agree to UAN for the following funds:

	Approved	UAN System	Variance
General Fund	\$46,950	\$47,535	\$ 585
Gasoline Fund	100,000	136,862	36,862
Misc. Special Revenue Fund	84,884	82,422	(2,462)

At December 31, 2019, approved appropriations did not agree to UAN as follows:

	Approved	UAN System	variance
Gasoline Tax Fund	\$124,440	\$123,250	\$1,190
Misc. Special Revenue Fund	25,500	82,422	(56,922)

At December 31, 2020 estimated receipts as approved by the Budget Commission did not agree to UAN for the following fund:

	Approved	UAN System	Variance
Misc. Special Revenue Fund	500	25,500	25,000

At December 31, 2020, approved appropriations did not agree to UAN as follows:

	Approved	UAI	N System	Variance
General Fund	\$ 44,411	\$	105,213	\$ (60,802)
Gasoline Tax Fund	\$ 120,547	\$	150,547	\$ (30,000)

In addition, Special Revenue estimated receipts were overstated \$25,000 in the notes to the financial statements at December 31, 2019. Also, General and Special Revenue Fund appropriations were overstated \$60,802 and \$30,500, respectively, in the notes to the financial statements at December 31, 2020. Further, Special Revenue estimated receipts were understated \$59,384 in the notes to the financial statements at December 31, 2019. Lastly, Special Revenue appropriations were overstated \$55,732 in the notes to the financial statements at December 31, 2019.

The Township did not have procedures in place to accurately post authorized budgetary measures to the accounting system. The appropriation approved by Board were not properly posted to the accounting system. Additionally, the approved Certificate of Estimated Resources did not agree to what was posted to the accounting system.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2020-004 (Continued)

Material Weakness (Continued)

Failure to accurately post the appropriations and estimated resources to the ledgers could result in overspending and negative cash balances. In addition, this could lead to inaccurate reporting of the budgetary information in the financial statements.

To effectively control the budgetary cycle and to maintain accountability over receipts and expenditures, the Township should post to the ledgers, on a timely basis, estimated resources as certified by the budget commission and appropriations approved by the Board. The Township should then monitor budget versus actual reports to help ensure amended certificates of resources and appropriations have been properly posted to the ledgers.

Officials' Response: Township did a few amendments. Some of these were due to the moneys received for FEMA, out of the ordinary.

FINDING NUMBER 2020-005

Material Weakness

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.

The following errors were noted in the financial statements that required audit adjustment or reclassification:

In 2019:

- General Fund intergovernmental receipts of \$3,303 were incorrectly posted as taxes receipts and miscellaneous receipts in the amounts of \$2,129 and \$1,174, respectively;
- Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund intergovernmental receipts of \$380 were incorrectly posted in the General Fund as intergovernmental receipts;
- Permanent Improvement Capital Projects Fund intergovernmental receipts of \$56,111 were incorrectly posted as taxes receipts; and
- Permanent Fund nonspendable fund balance of \$100 was incorrectly reported as restricted.

In 2020:

- General Fund intergovernmental receipts of \$3,470 were incorrectly posted as taxes receipts;
- Permanent Improvement Capital Projects Fund intergovernmental receipts of \$65,781 were incorrectly posted as taxes receipts; and
- Permanent Improvement Capital Projects Fund debt service principal retirement disbursement of \$394 was incorrectly posted as interest and fiscal charges.

The Fiscal Officer made classification errors in posting of receipts, disbursements and fund balance. This caused the incorrect postings noted above.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019 (Continued)

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2020-005 (Continued)

Material Weakness (Continued)

The audited financial statements and the Township's UAN accounting system have been adjusted for the items noted above.

The Fiscal Officer should review the Township handbook for guidance to ensure the financial statements are complete and accurate.

Officials' Response: Township will look into receipt postings and try to correct in future.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2018-001	Ohio Rev. Code § 133 – Unallowable type of debt	Not Corrected.	Cannot be corrected until loan is paid off.
2018-002	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.39 – Appropriations exceeded estimated receipts.	Corrected.	
2018-003	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41B – Disbursements exceeded appropriations.	Not Corrected.	Doing better trying to correct this. Requested some amendments last year.
2018-004	Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41D – Not properly encumbering.	Not Corrected.	Correcting in 2021 while utilizing super blanket certificates.
2018-005	Material weakness for approved budgetary amounts not agreeing to amounts recorded in UAN system.	Not Corrected.	Requested amended certificates but will work on posting them in UAN when done.
2018-006	Material weakness for incorrectly posting receipts and disbursements.	Not Corrected.	Working on receipt classifications.



HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

JACKSON 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 5/25/2021

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