



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP
TRUMBULL COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
1451 Prospect Street
Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the Weathersfield Township, Trumbull County, Ohio (the Township), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type 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 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 Township, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year 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 Township, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by the Township 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 Township'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 Township'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 Township'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 November 6, 2024, 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. 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 Township'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 Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

November 6, 2024

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

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>(Memorandum)</u>
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$357,163	\$1,395,571	\$0	\$1,752,734
Charges for Services		3,004		3,004
Licenses, Permits and Fees	85,316	89,251		174,567
Fines and Forfeitures	56,679	178,679		235,358
Intergovernmental	38,498	459,180		497,678
Special Assessments		48,281		48,281
Earnings on Investments	79,933	20,303		100,236
Miscellaneous	56,415	94,589		151,004
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>674,004</u>	<u>2,288,858</u>		<u>2,962,862</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	467,130	125,593		592,723
Public Safety		2,266,889		2,266,889
Public Works	5,240	414,880	3,049	423,169
Health	34,143	85,865		120,008
Conservation-Recreation	11,700			11,700
Capital Outlay	7,900	99,625		107,525
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>526,113</u>	<u>2,992,852</u>	<u>3,049</u>	<u>3,522,014</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>147,891</u>	<u>(703,994)</u>	<u>(3,049)</u>	<u>(559,152)</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Transfers In		100,568	3,049	103,617
Transfers Out	(103,617)			(103,617)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(103,617)</u>	<u>100,568</u>	<u>3,049</u>	
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>44,274</u>	<u>(603,426)</u>		<u>(559,152)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>\$323,773</u>	<u>\$1,844,975</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$2,168,748</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$368,047</u>	<u>\$1,241,549</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,609,596</u>

see the accompanying notes to the financial statements

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Weathersfield Township, Trumbull 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, police protection, fire protection, and emergency medical services.

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.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

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 funds:

Issue II Fund The township received a grant from the state for capital improvements. The proceeds are restricted for capital improvement.

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 Board recognizes receipts

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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, function, and object level of control. and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees 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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

Deposits and Investments

The Township'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 a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

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.

Accumulated Leave

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

Fund Balance

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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: A 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 13.

Note 3 – Compliance

The Township is unaware of material budgetary violations for the fiscal year 2023.

Note 4 – Budgetary Activity

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

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$674,002	\$674,002	\$0
Special Revenue	2,389,424	2,389,424	0
Debt Service	0	0	0
Capital Projects	3,049	3,049	0
Internal Service			0
Permanent			0
Fiduciary			0
Total	\$3,066,475	\$3,066,475	\$0

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$991,536	\$636,454	\$352,082
Special Revenue	3,687,691	3,254,787	432,904
Debt Service	0	0	0
Capital Projects	503,049	3,049	500,000
Internal Service			0
Permanent			0
Fiduciary			0
Total	\$5,182,277	\$3,897,291	\$1,284,986

Note 5 – Deposits and Investments

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

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	2023
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Farmers National Bank - Demand deposits	\$163,843
Certificates of deposit	0
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	0
Total deposits	163,843
U.S. Treasury Notes	0
STAR Ohio	1,445,752
Repurchase agreement	0
Common stock (at cost, fair value was \$X,XXX at December 31, 20XCXY)	0
Total investments	1,445,752
<i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool</i>	\$1,609,595
 <i>Segregated Accounts - Not held in the Pool:</i>	
Payroll Clearing Account (Not held in the Pool) **	
Retainage Accounts (Not held in the Pool) **	
Debt Accounts (Related to Bond Indenture and Note held in the Pool) **	
Other Paying Agent Outside Account (Not held in the Pool) **	
<i>Total Outside Accounts **</i>	\$0

Deposits

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

Investments

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

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 occupan23, 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.

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 7 – Interfund Balances

Outstanding advances at December 31, 2023, consisted of \$0.00 advanced to funds to provide working capital for operations or projects.

Note 8 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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

Risk Pool Membership

The Township is a member of the OTARMA. The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool may make supplemental assessments if the experience of the overall pool is unfavorable. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty;
- Public official's liability; and
- Vehicle.

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

	<u>2023</u>
Cash and investments	\$36,348,066
Actuarial liabilities	\$10,894,146

Note 9 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Full-time and regular part-time 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.

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contribute 10 percent of their gross salaries for OPERS - Local and 13 percent of their gross salaries for OPERS - Law Enforcement, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries for OPERS - Local and 18.10 percent of their gross salaries for OPERS Law Enforcement. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Retirement Rates	Year	Member Rate	Employer Rate
OPERS – Local	2012-2023	10.00%	14.00%
OPERS – Law Enforcement	2014-2023	13.00%	18.10%

Social Security

Volunteer firefighters paid per call and zoning board members paid per meeting 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 Township contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Note 10 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offer 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 2023. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2023. OP&F contributes 0.5 percent to fund these benefits.

Note 11 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2023, was as follows:

Leases

The Township leases buildings, vehicles and other equipment under noncancelable leases. The Township disbursed \$18,530.46 to pay lease costs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

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. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June, 2021 while the national state of

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

emergency continues. During 2023, the Township received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township’s future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated

Note 13 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Total
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$9,726.39	\$261,935.93	\$0.00	\$271,628.18

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of capital projects funds are 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.

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WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP, TRUMBULL COUNTY
 Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (Cash Basis)
 All Governmental Fund Types
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>(Memorandum)</u>
Cash Receipts				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$366,637	\$1,429,207	\$0	\$1,795,844
Licenses, Permits and Fees	64,830	176,593		241,423
Fines and Forfeitures	112,689	339,364		452,053
Intergovernmental	14,977	1,273,315		1,288,292
Special Assessments		45,734		45,734
Earnings on Investments	30,545	12,193		42,738
Miscellaneous	52,675	58,774		111,449
Total Cash Receipts	<u>642,353</u>	<u>3,335,180</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,977,533</u>
Cash Disbursements				
Current:				
General Government	449,576	86,945		536,521
Public Safety		2,296,398		2,296,398
Public Works	8,785	445,053	211,031	664,869
Health	37,696	76,119		113,815
Conservation-Recreation	9,371			9,371
Capital Outlay	5,464	59,769		65,233
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>510,892</u>	<u>2,964,284</u>	<u>211,031</u>	<u>3,686,207</u>
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	<u>131,461</u>	<u>370,896</u>	<u>(211,031)</u>	<u>291,326</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)				
Transfers In		125,000	73,569	198,569
Transfers Out	(198,569)			(198,569)
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)	<u>(198,569)</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>73,569</u>	
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	<u>(67,108)</u>	<u>495,896</u>	<u>(137,462)</u>	<u>291,326</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>\$390,701</u>	<u>\$1,347,152</u>	<u>\$137,462</u>	<u>\$1,875,315</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$323,593</u>	<u>\$1,843,048</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$2,166,641</u>

see accompanying notes to the financial statements

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Weathersfield Township, Trumbull 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, police protection, fire protection, and emergency medical services.

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.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

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 funds:

Issue II Fund The township received a grant from the state for capital improvements. The proceeds are restricted for capital improvement.

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 Board recognizes receipts

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

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, function, and object level of control. and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees 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 Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2022 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

Deposits and Investments

The Township'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 a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

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.

Accumulated Leave

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

Fund Balance

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

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: A 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 13.

Note 3 – Compliance

The Township is unaware of material budgetary violations for the fiscal year 2022.

Note 4 – Budgetary Activity

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

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$847,032	\$636,292	(\$210,740)
Special Revenue	3,122,698	2,812,988	(309,710)
Debt Service	0	0	0
Capital Projects	831,096	718,643	(112,453)
Internal Service			0
Permanent			0
Fiduciary			0
Total	\$4,800,825	\$4,167,923	(\$632,902)

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,084,350	\$715,699	\$368,651
Special Revenue	4,331,769	3,010,989	1,320,780
Debt Service	0	0	0
Capital Projects	792,212	211,031	581,181
Internal Service			0
Permanent			0
Fiduciary			0
Total	\$6,208,331	\$3,937,718	\$2,270,613

Note 5 – Deposits and Investments

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

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	2022
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Farmers National Bank - Demand deposits	\$119,406
Certificates of deposit	0
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	0
Total deposits	119,406
U.S. Treasury Notes	0
STAR Ohio	2,047,236
Repurchase agreement	0
Common stock (at cost, fair value was \$X,XXX at December 31, 20XCXY)	0
Total investments	2,047,236
<i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool</i>	\$2,166,642
 <i>Segregated Accounts - Not held in the Pool:</i>	
Payroll Clearing Account (Not held in the Pool) **	
Retainage Accounts (Not held in the Pool) **	
Debt Accounts (Related to Bond Indenture and Note held in the Pool) **	
Other Paying Agent Outside Account (Not held in the Pool) **	
<i>Total Outside Accounts **</i>	\$0

Deposits

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

Investments

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

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 occupan23, 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.

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Note 7 – Interfund Balances

Outstanding advances at December 31, 2022, consisted of \$0.00 advanced to funds to provide working capital for operations or projects.

Note 8 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

Commercial Insurance

The Township has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

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

Risk Pool Membership

The Township is a member of the OTARMA. The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool may make supplemental assessments if the experience of the overall pool is unfavorable. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty;
- Public official's liability; and
- Vehicle.

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

	<u>2022</u>
Cash and investments	\$36,348,066
Actuarial liabilities	\$10,894,146

Note 9 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Full-time and regular part-time 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.

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contribute 10 percent of their gross salaries for OPERS - Local and 13 percent of their gross salaries for OPERS - Law Enforcement, and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries for OPERS - Local and 18.10 percent of their gross salaries for OPERS Law Enforcement. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

Retirement Rates	Year	Member Rate	Employer Rate
OPERS – Local	2012-2023	10.00%	14.00%
OPERS – Law Enforcement	2014-2023	13.00%	18.10%

Social Security

Volunteer firefighters paid per call and zoning board members paid per meeting 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 Township contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

Note 10 – Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offer 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. OP&F contributes 0.5 percent to fund these benefits.

Note 11 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2022, was as follows:

Leases

The Township leases buildings, vehicles and other equipment under noncancelable leases. The Township disbursed \$19,086.38 to pay lease costs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

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. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June, 2021 while the national state of

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

emergency continues. During 2022, the Township received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township’s future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated

Note 13 – Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including encumbrances and commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Total
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$6,238.75	\$46,708.11	\$0.00	\$52,946.66

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of capital projects funds are 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.

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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

Weathersfield Township
Trumbull County
1451 Prospect Street
Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the Weathersfield Township, Trumbull County, (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 6, 2024, wherein we noted the Township 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 Township'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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township'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 Township's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

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.

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 Township'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 Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

November 6, 2024

**WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP
TRUMBULL COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

OTHER – FINDINGS FOR RECOVERY

FINDING NUMBER 2023-001

MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Finding for Recovery – Payroll Overpayment – Repaid Under Audit

Sherry Craver worked as an administrator assistant during the 2022 and 2023 fiscal year. We noted Sherry received a non-retirement amount of one hour per pay period in both years, and the first pay in 2024. As a result, a total overpayment of \$1,099.04 occurred from 2022 to January 2024. See calculation below.

- 2022 in the amount of \$493.24
- 2023 in the amount of \$581.35
- 2024 in the amount of \$24.45
- Total Overpayment \$1,099.04

In accordance with the forgoing facts, and pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.24, a Finding for Recovery for public money illegally expended is hereby issued against Sherry Craver for \$1,099.04 and in favor of the Township's General Fund.

Official's Response: Sherry Craver reimbursed the Township in full on August 15, 2024.



WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

"Come Home to Weathersfield"

1451 Prospect Street

Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440

Phone: (330) 652-6326 Fax: (330) 544-7491

www.weathersfieldtwp.org

Steven J. Gerberry, Trustee
Richard T. Harkins, Trustee
Edward K. Whittaker, Trustee
Patrick J. Glunt, Fiscal Officer
David A. Rouan, Administrator

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2021-001	Financial Reporting Material Weakness	Partially Corrected	Comment made in the Management Ltter.

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



WEATHERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

TRUMBULL 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 12/24/2024

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