

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY  
Regular Audit  
December 31, 2005 and 2004**





**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

Board of Trustees  
Newport Township  
30875 State Route 7  
Marietta, Ohio 45750

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Newport Township, Washington County, prepared by Perry and Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2005. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State. Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Independent Accountant's Report* on your financial statements. While the Auditor of State does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Independent Accountant's Report* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the Auditor of State permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Newport Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Montgomery".

BETTY MONTGOMERY  
Auditor of State

June 7, 2006

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**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

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***Perry & Associates***  
**Certified Public Accountants, A.C.**

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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

May 19, 2006

Newport Township  
Washington County  
30875 State Route 7  
Marietta, OH 45750

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Newport Township, Washington County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Township to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2005 and 2004, the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately beginning in 2004. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to reformat its statements. Since the Township does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits.

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY  
Independent Accountants' Report  
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Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2005 and 2004 or their changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Newport Township, Washington County, as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Township to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004. The Government has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 19, 2006, 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. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Perry and Associates**  
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Local Taxes	\$ 37,552	\$ 96,946		\$ 134,498
Intergovernmental	185,175	119,851		305,026
Special Assessments		7,101		7,101
Earnings on Investments	181	191		372
Other Revenue	4,080	1,999		6,079
	<u>226,988</u>	<u>226,088</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>453,076</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	97,474	324		97,798
Public Safety		38,583		38,583
Public Works		174,467		174,467
Health	12,694	3,879		16,573
Debt Service:				
Principal and Interest Charges	10,651			10,651
	<u>120,819</u>	<u>217,253</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>338,072</u>
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	<u>106,169</u>	<u>8,835</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>115,004</u>
<b>Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):</b>				
Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt:				
Advances-In	1,425	2,625		4,050
Advances-Out	(2,625)	(1,425)		(4,050)
	<u>(1,200)</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	104,969	10,035	0	115,004
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>4,251</u>	<u>76,038</u>	<u>1,667</u>	<u>81,956</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<b><u>\$ 109,220</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 86,073</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,667</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 196,960</u></b>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement



**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Local Taxes	\$ 35,364	\$ 117,549		\$ 152,913
Intergovernmental	38,048	129,465		167,513
Special Assessments		7,042		7,042
Earnings on Investments	118	217		335
Other Revenue	3,332	4,515		7,847
	<u>76,862</u>	<u>258,788</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>335,650</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>				
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	74,923	261		75,184
Public Safety		47,096		47,096
Public Works		203,774		203,774
Health	12,428	2,655		15,083
Debt Service:				
Principal and Interest Charges	10,650			10,650
Capital Outlay		1,900		1,900
	<u>98,001</u>	<u>255,686</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>353,687</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>				
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(21,139)	3,102	0	(18,037)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	<u>25,390</u>	<u>72,936</u>	<u>1,667</u>	<u>99,993</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u><b>\$ 4,251</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 76,038</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 1,667</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 81,956</b></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Newport Township, Washington County, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees and a publicly elected Clerk. The Township provides general government services, including road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Newport Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire protection services.

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

**B. Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized 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 prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

**A. Cash and Investments**

The Township Clerk invests all available funds of the Township in an interest-bearing checking account.

**D. Fund Accounting**

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

**1. General Fund**

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**2. Special Revenue Funds**

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**D. Fund Accounting (Continued)**

**2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)**

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Permissive Sales Tax Fund – This fund receives funds from Washington County through the one-half percent sales tax for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Road and Bridge Fund – This fund receives property tax for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

Fire Levy Fund – This fund receives levy tax receipts to provide the Township fire protection.

**3. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Funds)**

These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreements require the Township to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as a Nonexpendable Trust Fund. The Township had the following significant Fiduciary Funds:

**Cemetery Bequest Funds** – This fund received the interest earned on the principal deposited in an interest bearing checking account. This fund is classified as a Nonexpendable Trust Fund.

**E. Budgetary Process**

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

**1. 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. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end.

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**E. Budgetary Process (Continued)**

**2. Estimated Resources**

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

**3. 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.

A summary of 2005 and 2004 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Property, Plant and Equipment**

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

**A. Accumulated Leave**

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

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH**

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

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Demand deposits	<u>\$196,960</u>	<u>\$81,956</u>

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township, or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued).**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 follows:

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$90,173	\$228,413	\$138,240
Special Revenue	155,823	228,713	\$72,890
Total	<u>\$245,996</u>	<u>\$457,126</u>	<u>\$211,130</u>

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$21,034	\$123,444	(\$102,410)
Special Revenue	173,410	218,678	(45,268)
Total	<u>\$194,444</u>	<u>\$342,122</u>	<u>(\$147,678)</u>

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$437	\$76,862	\$76,425
Special Revenue	20,854	258,788	237,934
Total	<u>\$21,291</u>	<u>\$335,650</u>	<u>\$314,359</u>

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$115,797	\$98,001	\$17,796
Special Revenue	298,475	255,686	42,789
Total	<u>\$414,272</u>	<u>\$353,687</u>	<u>\$60,585</u>

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (continued)**

Contrary to Ohio law, appropriations plus encumbrances exceeded estimated resources in the General Fund and Road and Bridge Fund in 2005 and in the Road and Bridge Fund in 2004.

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

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

**5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS is a cost-sharing, multi-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including post retirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2005 and 2004, members of OPERS contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2005.

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Risk Pool Membership**

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000 from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP covers OTARMA losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

OTARMA retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500,000,000 per occurrence. APEEP's Guarantee Fund pays losses and loss adjustment expenses exceeding operating contributions.

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

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

**Risk Pool Membership (Continued)**

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2004 and 2003 (the latest information available):

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$30,687,203	\$27,792,223
Liabilities	<u>(13,640,962)</u>	<u>(11,791,300)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$17,046,241</u>	<u>\$16,000,923</u>

<u>Property Coverage</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Assets	\$7,799,073	\$6,791,060
Liabilities	<u>(753,906)</u>	<u>(750,956)</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$7,045,167</u>	<u>\$6,040,104</u>

The Township also provides health, dental, and vision insurance coverage to full-time employees through a private carrier.



***Perry & Associates***  
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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER  
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS  
REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

May 19, 2006

Newport Township  
Washington County  
30875 State Route 7  
Marietta, OH 45750

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Newport Township, Washington County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, and have issued our report thereon dated May 19, 2006, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures in order to express our opinion on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. We noted matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Township's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. A reportable condition is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2005-005. In a separate letter to Township's management, dated May 19, 2006, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem reportable condition.

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we do not consider the reportable conditions above to be material weaknesses.

Newport Township  
Washington County  
Independent Accountants' 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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion 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 that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2005-001 thru 2005-004.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, Township Trustees, and other officials authorized to receive this report under section 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Perry and Associates**  
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2005-001**

**Noncompliance Citation**

**Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D)** prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer'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 Revised Code.

1. "Then and Now" certificate - If the fiscal officer (Clerk) can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the taxing authority (Board of Township Trustees) can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The taxing authority has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution. Amounts of less than \$1,000 (which was increased to \$3,000 on April 7, 2003) 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.
2. Blanket Certificate – Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates not exceeding \$5,000 against any specific line item account over a period not exceeding three months or running beyond the current 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. Effective September 26, 2003, certificates may not exceed an amount established by resolution or ordinance of the legislative authority, and cannot extend beyond the end of the fiscal year. Blanket certificates cannot be issued unless there has been an amount approved by the legislative authority for the blanket.
3. Super Blanket Certificate – The Township 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, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line-item appropriation.

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2005-001 (Continued)**

**Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) (Continued)**

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 54% of the expenditures tested during 2005 and 57% of the expenditures tested during 2004 and there was no evidence that the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Without these certifications, the management of the Township lost budgetary control over expenditures.

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 assure that 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, we recommend that the Clerk certify that the funds are or will be available prior to an obligation being incurred by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

**Management's Response – We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding**

**FINDING NUMBER 2005-002**

**Noncompliance Citation**

**Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41 (B)** states that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any expenditure of money unless the same has been properly appropriated.

Actual disbursements exceeded appropriations in 2005 in the General Fund and Road and Bridge Fund and in 2004 in the Road and Bridge Fund.

We recommend the Township Clerk modify appropriations with the Board of Township Trustees and County Budget Commission before incurring obligations that would cause expenditures to exceed appropriations. The Township Clerk should deny any payments until the legislative authority has passed the necessary changes to the appropriation measure.

**Management's Response – We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding**

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2005-003**

**Noncompliance Citation**

**Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.09** states that each subdivision is required to establish a special fund for each class of revenues derived from a source other than the general property tax, which the law requires to be used for a particular purpose.

Also, Auditor of State Management Advisory Services (MAS) Bulletin 98-013 requires all local governments participating in Federal Emergency Management Agency Funding, (FEMA) to establish a FEMA Fund to account for FEMA monies anticipated to be received

The Township received/expended FEMA monies in the amount of \$49,900 in 2005 and \$58,420 in 2004. The Township did not establish a FEMA Fund as required.

We recommend the Township establish funds by Board Resolution and record such activity within the minute record book.

**Management's Response – We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding**

**FINDING NUMBER 2005-004**

**Noncompliance Citation**

**Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.36** allows all subdivisions to request increased amended certificates of estimated resources and reduced amended certificates upon determination by the fiscal officer that revenue to be collected will be greater or less than the amount in the official certificate of estimated resources. An increased amended certificate must be obtained from the budget commission if the legislative authority intends to appropriate and expend the excess revenue. A reduced amended certificate must be obtained if the amount of the deficiency will reduce available resources below the current level of appropriation. The total appropriations made during a fiscal year from any fund must not exceed the amount contained in the certificate of estimated resources or the amended certificate of estimated resources, which was certified prior to making the appropriation or supplemental appropriation.

Current year appropriations exceed beginning fund balance plus actual receipts in 2005 in the General Fund, MVL Fund, Gas Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, Special Levy Fund and Special Revenue Fund. In addition, current year appropriations exceed beginning fund balance plus actual receipts in 2004 in the General Fund, MVL Fund, Gas Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, Special Levy Fund and Special Revenue Fund.-

**Management's Response – We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding**

**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004  
(Continued)**

<p><b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)</b></p>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2005-005**

**Reportable Condition**

**Cash Advance**

In order to advance cash from one fund to another; Auditor of State Bulletin 97-003 suggests there must be statutory authority to use the money in the fund advancing the cash (the “creditor” fund) for the same purpose for which the fund receiving the cash (the “debtor” fund) was established. In addition, advances must be approved by a formal resolution of the taxing authority of the subdivision which must include: (1) a specific statement that the transaction is an advance of cash, and, (2) an indication of the money (fund) from which it is expected that repayment will be made.

To alleviate short-term cash flow problems, the Township advanced cash between the General Fund and Lighting Assessment Fund. The Township made three advances that were not approved in Resolution form by the taxing authority. All of the advances were not paid back as of the end of the audit period.

We recommend that the Township follow the guidance outlined in Auditor of State Bulletin 97-003 to initiate an advance. The Board should approve all advances. In addition, if the Township’s intent is to not repay the advance, the taxing authority should by Resolution turn the unpaid advance into a transfer.

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2003-001	ORC § 5705.39 – Expenditures exceeding Appropriations	No	Not Corrected; Reissued as finding number 2005-004.
2003-002	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) states no orders or contracts are to be made unless there is attached a certificate of the fiscal officer that the amount required to meet the obligation has been appropriated.	No	Not Corrected; Reissued as Finding Number 2005-001.
2003-003	Ohio Rev. Code Section 505.24 requires Trustee’s salaries to be paid from the General Fund or from other Township funds in such proportions as the Board specifies by resolution	Yes	N/A







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**NEWPORT TOWNSHIP**

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
JUNE 20, 2006**