

# ***VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA***

**STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

**AUDIT REPORT**

**For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015**







# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Village Council  
Village of East Sparta  
9353 East Main St  
East Sparta, OH 44626

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Village of East Sparta, Stark County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016. 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.

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 Village of East Sparta is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost  
Auditor of State

July 10, 2017

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**VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA**  
**STARK COUNTY, OHIO**  
**Audit Report**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015**

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***Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.***  
*Certified Public Accountants*

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Village of East Sparta  
Stark County  
9353 East Main Street  
East Sparta, OH 44626

To the Village Council:

***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Village of East Sparta, Stark County, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

***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 of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 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 Village'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 Village's internal control. Accordingly, we express no 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.

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the Village prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 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 Village 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 Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 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***

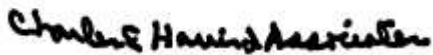
In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, or changes in financial position or its cash flows 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 combined cash balances of the Village of East Sparta, Stark County as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 18, 2017, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. 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 Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



***Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.***

May 18, 2017



**VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA  
STARK COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 119,225	\$ 63,414	\$ 182,639
Intergovernmental	32,178	54,615	86,793
Charges for Services	400	52,538	52,938
Fines, Licenses and Permits	14,840	-	14,840
Earnings on Investments	314	72	386
Miscellaneous	4,019	7,129	11,148
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>170,976</u>	<u>177,768</u>	<u>348,744</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	54,451	28,314	82,765
Public Health Services	4,025	-	4,025
Leisure Time Activities	-	59,643	59,643
Transportation	4,099	67,133	71,232
General Government	95,531	-	95,531
Capital Outlay	1,500	5,253	6,753
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	-	8,623	8,623
Interest & Fiscal Charges	-	1,247	1,247
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>159,606</u>	<u>170,213</u>	<u>329,819</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	11,370	7,555	18,925
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>97,115</u>	<u>169,235</u>	<u>266,350</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>			
Restricted	-	159,890	159,890
Committed	-	16,900	16,900
Assigned	5,682	-	5,682
Unassigned	102,803	-	102,803
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 108,485</u>	<u>\$ 176,790</u>	<u>\$ 285,275</u>

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

**VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA  
STARK COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	<b>Proprietary Fund Types Enterprise</b>
<b>Operating Cash Receipts</b>	
Charges for Services	\$ 259,564
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	259,564
<b>Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	
Personal Services	63,744
Fringe Benefits	9,160
Contractual Services	43,477
Supplies and Materials	41,895
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	158,276
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	101,288
<b>Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	
Miscellaneous	21,057
Principal Retirement	(66,561)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(29,580)
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	(75,084)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	26,204
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	59,723
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 85,927</u>

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

**VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA  
STARK COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 91,295	\$ 49,549	\$ 140,844
Intergovernmental	29,320	145,412	174,732
Charges for Services	2,294	33,547	35,841
Fines, Licenses and Permits	8,545	-	8,545
Earnings on Investments	295	57	352
Miscellaneous	65,903	24,849	90,752
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>197,652</u>	<u>253,414</u>	<u>451,066</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	26,662	28,767	55,429
Public Health Services	2,668	-	2,668
Leisure Time Activities	-	33,223	33,223
Transportation	485	103,680	104,165
General Government	88,890	-	88,890
Capital Outlay	602	78,755	79,357
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	-	8,289	8,289
Interest & Fiscal Charges	-	1,581	1,581
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>119,307</u>	<u>254,295</u>	<u>373,602</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	78,345	(881)	77,464
<b>Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>			
Sale of Capital Assets	1,500	-	1,500
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	79,845	(881)	78,964
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>17,270</u>	<u>170,116</u>	<u>187,386</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>			
Restricted	-	147,106	147,106
Committed	-	22,129	22,129
Assigned	76	-	76
Unassigned	97,039	-	97,039
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$ 97,115</u>	<u>\$ 169,235</u>	<u>\$ 266,350</u>

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

**VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA  
STARK COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<b>Proprietary Fund Types</b>
	<b>Enterprise</b>
<b>Operating Cash Receipts</b>	
Charges for Services	\$ 180,149
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	180,149
<b>Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	
Personal Services	62,126
Fringe Benefits	9,903
Contractual Services	67,201
Supplies and Materials	60,970
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	200,200
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	(20,051)
<b>Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	
Other Debt Proceeds	1,342,116
Miscellaneous	9,996
Capital Outlay	(1,499,058)
Principal Retirement	(36,853)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges	(15,905)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</i>	(219,755)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	279,478
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	\$ 59,723

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

**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

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**Note 1 - Reporting Entity**

The Village of East Sparta, Stark County, (the Village), is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides general governmental services such as water and sewer utilities, road and bridge maintenance, and park operations. The Village contracts with the Village of Magnolia for police protection services and with the East Sparta Volunteer Fire Department to receive fire protection services.

***Public Entity Risk Pool***

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool, (the "Pool"), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

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

***Basis of Presentation***

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

***Fund Accounting***

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

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

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

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

***Roads and Bridges Fund*** The road and bridges fund accounts for and reports the receipt of local tax monies to be used to pay for work performed on Village roads and bridges.

**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

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

***Park and Recreation Fund*** The park and recreation fund accounts for and reports leisure time activities and concession stand sales and is used to maintain the Village park.

***Enterprise Fund*** These funds account for operations that are similar to private business enterprises, where management intends to recover the significant costs of providing certain goods or services through user charges. The Village had the following significant Enterprise Fund:

***Water Fund*** The water fund accounts for and reports the receipt of user charges for the provision of water treatment and distribution to the residents and commercial users located within the Village.

***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 (D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary disbursements 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 (D) permit.

***Budgetary Process***

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

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

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

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

A summary of 2016 and 2015 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

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

**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

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

***Capital Assets***

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

***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***

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

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

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

***Committed*** Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (ordinance or resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends the ordinance or 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 Village Council or a Village official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute. The Council may also assign fund balances as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget in the General Fund.

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

The Village applies restricted resources first when disbursements 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 disbursements are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

**Note 3 - Budgetary Activity**

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2016 and 2015 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 151,350	\$ 170,976	\$ 19,626
Special Revenue	173,364	177,768	4,404
Enterprise	253,000	280,621	27,621

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 243,781	\$ 165,288	\$ 78,493
Special Revenue	331,618	170,225	161,393
Enterprise	312,568	256,324	56,244

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 146,601	\$ 199,152	\$ 52,551
Special Revenue	236,402	253,414	17,012
Enterprise	2,231,549	1,532,261	(699,288)

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Disbursements			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Disbursements	Variance
General	\$ 162,777	\$ 119,383	\$ 43,394
Special Revenue	358,105	254,307	103,798
Enterprise	2,466,612	1,752,084	714,528

**Note 4 – Deposits and Investments**

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

	2016	2015
Demand deposits	\$ 371,202	\$ 326,073



**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

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

***Deposits***

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**Note 5 – Taxes**

***Property Taxes***

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

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Village. The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Village.

**Note 6 - Risk Management**

***Risk Pool Membership***

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool, (the "Pool"), an unincorporated non-profit association available to municipal corporations and their instrumentalities. The Pool is a separate legal entity per Section 2744 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Pool provides property and casualty insurance for its members. The Pool pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting for covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

The Pool cedes portions of its gross contribution written to a reinsurer under excess reinsurance agreements in order to limit its losses. Treaty basis excess-of-loss contracts in force protect the Pool against losses over the retention level; at March 31, 2016, retention levels are \$50,000 and \$100,000 for property and casualty coverages, respectively.

The Pool remains liable to the extent the reinsuring companies are unable to meet their contractual obligations under reinsurance agreements.

The Pool's financial statements (audited by other auditors) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and accumulated surplus at March 31, 2016.

Assets	\$1,272,799
Liabilities	<u>(821,016)</u>
Accumulated Surplus	\$ <u>451,783</u>

**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

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**Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Ohio Public Employees Retirement System***

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

***Social Security***

Three of the Village's Council Members contribute to Social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2016.

**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. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

**Note 9 – Debt**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2016 was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
Bank of Magnolia-Truck Purchase-2012	\$ 26,399	4.00%
OPWC Loan #CS07P	500,000	0.00%
OPWC Loan #CS08B	24,008	0.00%
OPWC Loan #CS08P	450,400	0.00%
OWDA Loan #6724-WTP, Storage Tank & Well Field	1,424,316	2.00%
OWDA Loan #3172-Water System Improvements	9,778	5.66-4.00%
Total	<u>\$ 2,434,901</u>	

The prior year debt balance was understated by \$242,108 for the exclusion of OPWC loan #CS07P.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan #CS08B relates to water improvements. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$4,802 with no interest over 30 years. The loan is collateralized by the Village's water receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements.

**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
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*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

**Note 9 – Debt (continued)**

The OPWC Loan #CS08P relates to water improvements. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$7,766 with no interest over 30 years. The loan is collateralized by the Village’s water receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements.

The OPWC Loan #CS07P relates to water improvements. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments over 30 years. The loan is collateralized by the Village’s water receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements. No amortization schedule is available for this loan as of December 31, 2016.

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) Loan #3172 relates to a water plan expansion project that was mandated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments at 5.66% interest over 20 years. The loan is collateralized by the Village’s water receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements. An interest rate buy-down of 2.66% resulted in a saving of \$272 in 2016.

The OWDA Loan #6724 was entered into to finance or reimburse costs associated with the design and construction of the wastewater collection and treatment system. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments at 2.00% interest over 30 years. The loan is collateralized by the Village’s water receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OWDA debt service requirements. No amortization schedule is available for this loan as of December 31, 2016.

The Bank of Magnolia loan was used for the purchase of a truck for the Street Department. The loan will be repaid from the Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair fund in monthly installments at an interest rate of 4.00%.

***Amortization***

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

Year ending December 31:	Bank of Magnolia	OPWC CS08B	OPWC CS08P	OWDA 3172
2017	\$ 9,871	\$ 9,603	\$ 15,531	\$ 5,146
2018	9,871	9,603	15,531	5,225
2019	8,225	4,802	15,531	-
2020	-	-	15,531	-
2021	-	-	15,531	-
2022-2026	-	-	77,655	-
2027-2031	-	-	77,655	-
2032-2036	-	-	77,655	-
2037-2041	-	-	77,655	-
2042-2046	-	-	62,125	-
Total	<u>\$ 27,967</u>	<u>\$ 24,008</u>	<u>\$ 450,400</u>	<u>\$ 10,371</u>

**Village of East Sparta**  
*Stark County*  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015*

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**Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities**

The Village may be a defendant in lawsuits. Although management cannot presently determine the outcome of any suit, management believes that the resolution of any matter will not materially adversely affect the Village's financial condition.

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***Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.***  
*Certified Public Accountants*

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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**

Village of East Sparta  
Stark County  
9353 Main Street  
East Sparta, OH 44626

To the Village Council:

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 by fund type of the Village of East Sparta, Stark County (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 18, 2017 wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 Village'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 a 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 Village'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 a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2016-001 to be a material weakness.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Village'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, 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

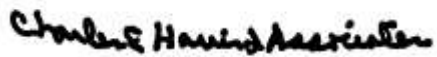
We noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Village's management in a separate letter dated May 18, 2017.

***Entity's Response to Finding***

The Village's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying corrective action plan. We did not audit the Village's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

***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 Village's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



***Charles E. Harris and Associates, Inc.***  
May 18, 2017

VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA  
STARK COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
December 31, 2016 and 2015

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

**Finding Number 2016-001 - Material Weakness**

During 2016 and 2015, the Village erroneously recorded several transactions. The more significant adjustments are as follows:

- Recorded rollbacks as property and other local taxes instead of intergovernmental receipts.
- Recorded property and other taxes at net instead of gross.
- Recorded pool fees as miscellaneous receipts instead of charges for services.
- Recorded various OPWC and OWDA payments to vendors as miscellaneous receipts instead of proceeds of loan.
- Did not record OPWC and OWDA direct payments to vendors thus understanding capital outlay and proceeds of loan.
- Recorded expenses related to the volunteer fire department as public health instead of security of person and property.
- Recorded purchase of liability insurance as capital outlay instead of general government.
- Recorded franchise fees as miscellaneous revenues instead of fines, licenses and permits.
- Recorded pool supplies as capital outlay instead of leisure time activities
- Recorded the sale of a building as miscellaneous revenue instead of sale of capital assets.
- Recorded proceeds of a grant as Special Assessment instead of intergovernmental receipts.
- Debt was understated for the exclusion of OPWC loan #CS07P.

Adjustments were made in the financial statements and Village records. Due to the above adjustments and incorrect information provided, additional changes were made to the footnotes.

The Village Officers' Handbook and the UAN manual provide suggested account classifications. These accounts classify receipts by fund and source (taxes or charges for services, for example). Using these classifications and the aforementioned accounting records will provide the Village with information required to monitor compliance and with the budget and prepare annual reports in the format required by the Auditor of State.

We recommend that the Village refer to the Village Officer's Handbook and UAN manual to properly classify its transactions. We also recommend the Fiscal Officer review all reports compiled by UAN to ensure their accuracy. Further, management should review all debt activity for the year and post to a spreadsheet to accurately track outstanding balances and payments that are due.

**Management Response:**

See Corrective Action Plan

**VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA  
STARK COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015**

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Finding Summary</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
2014-001	Adjustments to financial statements	Not corrected	Due to oversight, it is repeated as Finding 2016-001
2014-002	Ohio Rev. Code 5705.41(D) noncompliance	Fully corrected	Finding no longer valid



VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA  
STARK COUNTY

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Planned Corrective Action</b>	<b>Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Responsible Contact Person</b>
2016-001	I have reviewed the findings and have taken immediate action to correct items in 2017. I have attended the annual local government conference and sought out additional training through the auditor's of state website and will continue to do so. Several items were past practice from prior years and corrections will be made	Immediately	Doug Neading, Clerk/Treasurer

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA

STARK 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  
JULY 25, 2017