

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 West Washington Street
Room E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

SUPPLEMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

OF

TOWN OF DARLINGTON

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2017



FILED
07/20/2018

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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Clerk-Treasurer	Judy D. Anderson Michelle R. Cash	01-01-12 to 12-31-17 01-01-18 to 12-31-21
President of the Town Council	Justin Sparrow Eddie L. Ward Justin Sparrow Kim Carpenter	01-01-12 to 12-31-13 01-01-14 to 05-14-15 05-15-15 to 12-31-17 01-01-18 to 12-31-18
Superintendent of Electric Utility	Greg Gaylor	01-01-12 to 12-31-18



STATE OF INDIANA
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE TOWN OF DARLINGTON, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA

This report is supplemental to our audit report of the Town of Darlington (Town), for the period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2017. It has been provided as a separate report so that the reader may easily identify any Audit Results and Comments that pertain to the Town. It should be read in conjunction with our Financial Statements Audit Report of the Town, which provides our opinion on the Town's financial statements. This report may be found at www.in.gov/sboa/.

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed procedures to determine compliance with applicable Indiana laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts. The Audit Result and Comment contained herein describes the identified reportable instance of noncompliance found as a result of these procedures. Our tests were not designed to identify all instances of noncompliance; therefore, noncompliance may exist that is unidentified.

Any Official Response to the Audit Result and Comment, incorporated within this report, was not verified for accuracy.

Paul D. Joyce
Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

June 18, 2018

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CLERK-TREASURER
TOWN OF DARLINGTON

CLERK-TREASURER
TOWN OF DARLINGTON
AUDIT RESULT AND COMMENT

INTERNAL CONTROLS

A similar comment also appeared in prior Report B40561, entitled *INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND REPORTING*.

We noted several deficiencies in the internal control system of the Town related to financial transactions and reporting. We believe the following deficiencies constitute material weaknesses:

1. Lack of Segregation of Duties: Control activities should be selected and developed at various levels of the Town to reduce risks to the achievement of financial reporting objectives. The Town had not separated incompatible activities related to receipts, utility billings and collections, disbursements, payroll and related liabilities, and cash and investment balances. The failure to establish these controls could enable material misstatements or irregularities to remain undetected.
2. Preparing Financial Statements: Effective internal control over financial reporting involves the identification and analysis of the risks of material misstatement to the Town's audited financial statements and then determining how those identified risks should be managed. The Town had not identified risks to the preparation of reliable financial statements and, as a result, had failed to design effective controls over the preparation of the financial statements to prevent or detect material misstatements, including notes to the financial statements.
3. Monitoring of Controls: Effective internal control over financial reporting requires the Town Council to monitor and assess the quality of the Town's system of internal control. The Town Council had not performed either an ongoing or separate evaluation of its system of internal controls. The failure to exercise its oversight responsibility places the Town at risk that controls may not be designed or operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance that controls will prevent or detect material misstatements in a timely manner. Additionally, the Town had no process to identify or communicate corrective actions to improve controls.

The Indiana State Board of Accounts (SBOA) is required under Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e) to define the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards. To provide clarifying guidance, the State Examiner compiled the standards contained in the manual, *Uniform Internal Control Standards for Indiana Political Subdivisions*. All political subdivisions subject to audit by SBOA are expected to adhere to these standards. The standards include adequate control activities. According to this manual:

"Control activities are the actions and tools established through policies and procedures that help to detect, prevent, or reduce the identified risks that interfere with the achievement of objectives. Detection activities are designed to identify unfavorable events in a timely manner whereas prevention activities are designed to deter the occurrence of an unfavorable event. Examples of these activities include reconciliations, authorizations, approval processes, performance reviews, and verification processes.

An integral part of the control activity component is segregation of duties. . . .

There is an expectation of segregation of duties. If compensating controls are necessary, documentation should exist to identify both the areas where segregation of duties are not feasible or practical and the compensating controls implemented to mitigate the risk. . . ."

CLERK-TREASURER
TOWN OF DARLINGTON
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on June 18, 2018, with Kim Carpenter, President of the Town Council; Michelle R. Cash, Clerk-Treasurer; Marilyn Cohee, Town Council member; and Judy D. Anderson, former Clerk-Treasurer.