

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REVIEW REPORT

OF

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS

MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2017



FILED
02/20/2019

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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Clerk-Treasurer	John Taylor James Rush	01-01-12 to 04-21-15 04-22-15 to 12-31-19
President of the Town Council	Walter Freihofer	01-01-12 to 12-31-18



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STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
ROOM E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

Telephone: (317) 232-2513
Fax: (317) 232-4711
Web Site: www.in.gov/sboa

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS, MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Meridian Hills (Town), for the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2017. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of the Town's management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the reporting requirements established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts as allowed by state statute (IC 5-11-1-6); which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This includes determining that the basis of accounting the Town uses is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. 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 misstatements whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with *Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services* promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with the prescribed basis of accounting described in Note 1. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.


INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT
(Continued)

Accountant's Conclusion

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the prescribed basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the reporting requirements established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts as allowed by state statute (IC 5-11-1-6), which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our conclusion is not modified with respect to this matter.


Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

December 19, 2018

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ACCOMPANYING NOTES

The financial statements and accompanying notes were approved by management of the Town. The financial statements and notes are presented as intended by the Town.

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2015

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-14	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-14	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-15
General Fund	\$ 149,626	\$ 253,726	\$ 244,061	\$ 159,291	\$ 272,390	\$ 257,359	\$ 174,322
Motor Vehicle Highway	29,930	76,624	87,743	18,811	111,495	110,436	19,870
Local Road And Street	4,630	44,975	46,906	2,699	29,436	17,625	14,510
Law Enforcement Continuing Ed	1,986	627	-	2,613	950	-	3,563
Rainy Day	58,000	30,000	30,000	58,000	-	36,000	22,000
Town Beautification Fund	9,421	-	-	9,421	18,879	20,800	7,500
Donations	33,283	5,000	-	38,283	197	-	38,480
Totals	<u>\$ 286,876</u>	<u>\$ 410,952</u>	<u>\$ 408,710</u>	<u>\$ 289,118</u>	<u>\$ 433,347</u>	<u>\$ 442,220</u>	<u>\$ 280,245</u>

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

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES - REGULATORY BASIS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2017

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-16	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-16	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-17
General Fund	\$ 174,322	\$ 234,617	\$ 222,434	\$ 186,505	\$ 251,767	\$ 294,763	\$ 143,509
Motor Vehicle Highway	19,870	95,580	68,263	47,187	64,415	46,067	65,535
Local Road And Street	14,510	29,568	25,000	19,078	38,259	30,000	27,337
Law Enforcement Continuing Ed	3,563	624	-	4,187	432	-	4,619
Rainy Day	22,000	25,000	30,371	16,629	81,488	58,169	39,948
Town Beautification Fund	7,500	-	-	7,500	-	-	7,500
Motor Vehicle Highway (Restricted)	-	-	-	-	22,543	-	22,543
Donations	38,480	209	-	38,689	353	-	39,042
Totals	<u>\$ 280,245</u>	<u>\$ 385,598</u>	<u>\$ 346,068</u>	<u>\$ 319,775</u>	<u>\$ 459,257</u>	<u>\$ 428,999</u>	<u>\$ 350,033</u>

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

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

The Town was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The Town operates under a Town Council form of government and provides some or all of the following services: public safety (police and fire), highways and streets, health and social services, culture and recreation, public improvements, planning and zoning, general administrative services, water, wastewater, electric, gas, storm water, trash, aviation, and urban redevelopment and housing.

The accompanying financial statements present the financial information for the Town.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are reported on a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Accounts in accordance with state statute (IC 5-11-1-6), which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The basis of accounting involves the reporting of only cash and investments and the changes therein resulting from cash inflows (receipts) and cash outflows (disbursements) reported in the period in which they occurred.

The regulatory basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, in that receipts are recognized when received in cash, rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid, rather than when a liability is incurred.

C. Cash and Investments

Investments are stated at cost. Any changes in fair value of the investments are reported as receipts in the year of the sale of the investment.

D. Receipts

Receipts are presented in the aggregate on the face of the financial statements. The aggregate receipts include the following sources:

Taxes. Amounts received from one or more of the following: property tax, certified shares (local option tax), property tax replacement credit (local option tax), county option income tax, wheel tax, innkeeper's tax, food and beverage tax, county economic development income tax, boat and trailer excise tax, county adjusted gross income tax, and other taxes that are set by the Town.

Licenses and permits. Amounts received from businesses, occupations, or nonbusinesses that must be licensed before doing business within the government's jurisdiction, or permits levied according to the benefits presumably conferred by the permit. Examples of licenses and permits include the following: peddler licenses, animal licenses, auctioneer licenses, building and planning permits, demolition permits, electrical permits, sign permits, and gun permits.

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Intergovernmental receipts. Amounts received from other governments in the form of operating grants, entitlements, or payments in lieu of taxes. Examples of intergovernmental receipts include, but are not limited to, the following: federal grants, state grants, cigarette tax distributions received from the state, motor vehicle highway distributions received from the state, local road and street distributions received from the state, financial institution tax received from the state, auto excise surtax received from the state, commercial vehicle excise tax received from the state, major moves distributions received from the state, and riverboat receipts received from the county.

Fines and forfeits. Amounts received from fines and penalties imposed for the commission of statutory offenses, violation of lawful administrative rules and regulations (fines), and for the neglect of official duty and monies derived from confiscating deposits held as performance guarantees (forfeitures).

Other receipts. Amounts received from various sources, including, but not limited to, the following: net proceeds from borrowings; interfund loan activity; transfers authorized by statute, ordinance, resolution, or court order; internal service receipts; and fiduciary receipts.

E. Disbursements

Disbursements are presented in the aggregate on the face of the financial statements. The aggregate disbursements include the following uses:

Personal services. Amounts disbursed for salaries, wages, and related employee benefits provided for all persons employed. In those units where sick leave, vacation leave, overtime compensation, and other such benefits are appropriated separately, such payments would also be included.

Supplies. Amounts disbursed for articles and commodities that are entirely consumed and materially altered when used and/or show rapid depreciation after use for a short period of time. Examples of supplies include, but are not limited to, the following: office supplies, operating supplies, and repair and maintenance supplies.

Other services and charges. Amounts disbursed for services including, but not limited to, the following: professional services, communication and transportation, printing and advertising, insurance, utility services, repairs and maintenance, and rental charges.

Capital outlay. Amounts disbursed for land, infrastructure, buildings, improvements, and machinery and equipment having an appreciable and calculable period of usefulness.

Other disbursements. Amounts disbursed for various other purposes including, but not limited to, the following: interfund loan payments; loans made to other funds; internal service disbursements; and transfers out that are authorized by statute, ordinance, resolution, or court order.

F. Interfund Transfers

The Town may, from time to time, make transfers from one fund to another. These transfers, if any, are included as a part of the receipts and disbursements of the affected funds and as a part of total receipts and disbursements. The transfers are used for cash flow purposes as provided by various statutory provisions.

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

G. Fund Accounting

Separate funds are established, maintained, and reported by the Town. Each fund is used to account for amounts received from and used for specific sources and uses as determined by various regulations. Restrictions on some funds are set by statute while other funds are internally restricted by the Town. The amounts accounted for in a specific fund may only be available for use for certain, legally-restricted purposes. Additionally, some funds are used to account for assets held by the Town in a trustee capacity as an agent of individuals, private organizations, other funds, or other governmental units and, therefore, the funds cannot be used for any expenditures of the unit itself.

Note 2. Budgets

The operating budget is initially prepared and approved at the local level. The fiscal officer of the Town submits a proposed operating budget to the governing board for the following calendar year. The budget is advertised as required by law. Prior to adopting the budget, the governing board conducts public hearings and obtains taxpayer comments. Prior to November 1, the governing board approves the budget for the next year. The budget for funds for which property taxes are levied or highway use taxes are received is subject to final approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

Note 3. Property Taxes

Property taxes levied are collected by the County Treasurer and are scheduled to be distributed to the Town in June and December; however, situations can arise which would delay the distributions. State statute (IC 6-1.1-17-16) requires the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance to establish property tax rates and levies by February 15. These rates were based upon the preceding year's lien date (March 1 in a year ending before January 1, 2016 and January 1 in a year beginning after December 31, 2015) assessed valuations adjusted for various tax credits. Taxable property is assessed at 100 percent of the true tax value (determined in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance). Taxes may be paid in two equal installments which normally become delinquent if not paid by May 10 and November 10, respectively.

Note 4. Deposits and Investments

Deposits, made in accordance with state statute (IC 5-13), with financial institutions in the State of Indiana, at year end, should be entirely insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or by the Indiana Public Deposit Insurance Fund. This includes any deposit accounts issued or offered by a qualifying financial institution.

State statutes authorize the Town to invest in securities including, but not limited to, the following: federal government securities, repurchase agreements, and certain money market mutual funds. Certain other statutory restrictions apply to all investments made by local governmental units.

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Continued)

Note 5. Risk Management

The Town may be exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; job-related illnesses or injuries to employees; medical benefits to employees, retirees, and dependents; and natural disasters.

These risks can be mitigated through the purchase of insurance, establishment of a self-insurance fund, and/or participation in a risk pool. The purchase of insurance transfers the risk to an independent third-party. The establishment of a self-insurance fund allows the Town to set aside money for claim settlements. The self-insurance fund would be included in the financial statements. The purpose of participation in a risk pool is to provide a medium for the funding and administration of the risks.

Note 6. Subsequent Event

The Town received grants from the Indiana Department of Transportation's (INDOT) Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund Program in both 2017 and 2018 for eligible road enhancement projects.

In 2017, the Town was awarded a grant in the amount of \$179,539 as part of a 75 percent construction match for work that was performed in 2018. The Town's matching funds were provided from appropriations in the Local Road And Street and Rainy Day funds. The project was completed under budget and through the grant closeout process \$1,309 was returned to INDOT.

In 2018, the Town was awarded a grant in the amount of \$270,697 as part of a 75 percent construction match for work that will be performed in 2019. The Town is anticipating that the required matching funds will be provided through appropriations made as part of the Town's 2019 Budget, which is currently being reviewed by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). The Town is not aware of any circumstance that would cause the DLGF to not approve the Town's 2019 Budget as presented.

TOWN OF MERIDIAN HILLS
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on December 19, 2018, with James Rush, Clerk-Treasurer.