

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REVIEW REPORT

OF

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP

PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018



FILED
04/29/2020

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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Trustee	Jean Oehlman	01-01-17 to 08-06-18
	(Vacant)	08-07-18 to 08-15-18
	Karyl VanDyke	08-16-18 to 12-31-20
Chairman of the Township Board	Dave Overholt	01-01-17 to 12-31-18
	Joshua Birky	01-01-19 to 12-31-20



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statement of Pleasant Township (Township), for the period of January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of the Township'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 statement as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement 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 Township uses is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statement in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement that is 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 statement for it 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 statement in order for it 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 statement, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statement is 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

April 21, 2020

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING NOTES

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

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PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
 AND CASH AND INVESTMENT BALANCES -
 REGULATORY BASIS
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2017 and 2018

Fund	Cash and Investments 01-01-17	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-17	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments 12-31-18
Township General Fund	\$ 46,117	\$ 113,535	\$ 98,553	\$ 61,099	\$ 134,407	\$ 108,992	\$ 86,514
Park and Recreation Fund	93,710	96,820	104,043	86,487	105,442	103,673	88,256
Township Assistance Fund	38,137	17,815	15,491	40,461	2,194	14,784	27,871
Fire Fighting Fund	20,026	57,661	52,500	25,187	60,973	52,091	34,069
Levy Excess Fund	649	-	-	649	-	-	649
Cumulative Fire Fund	45,325	22,587	16,388	51,524	23,809	37,164	38,169
Fire Equipment Debt Fund	5,892	-	-	5,892	-	-	5,892
Cemetery Donation Fund	4,800	-	4,500	300	1,000	-	1,300
Payroll Withholdings Fund	9	18,662	18,733	(62)	18,753	18,434	257
Totals	<u>\$ 254,665</u>	<u>\$ 327,080</u>	<u>\$ 310,208</u>	<u>\$ 271,537</u>	<u>\$ 346,578</u>	<u>\$ 335,138</u>	<u>\$ 282,977</u>

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

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

The Township was established under the laws of the State of Indiana. The Township operates under a township trustee/township board form of government and provides some or all of the following services: public safety (fire), health and social services (township assistance), culture and recreation (parks and/or community centers), and general administrative services (weed and dog control).

The accompanying financial statement presents the financial information for the Township.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement is 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 statement. 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 Township.

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.

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(Continued)

Charges for services. Amounts received for services including, but not limited to, the following: planning commission charges, building department charges, copies of public records, copy machines charges, accident report copies, gun permit applications, 911 telephone services, recycling fees, dog pound fees, emergency medical service fees, park rental fees, swimming pool receipts, cable TV receipts, ordinance violations, fines and fees, bond forfeitures, court costs, and court receipts.

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 statement. 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.

Debt service - principal and interest. Amounts disbursed for fixed obligations resulting from financial transactions previously entered into by the Township. It includes all expenditures for the reduction of the principal and interest of the Township's general obligation indebtedness.

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 Township 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.

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(Continued)

G. Fund Accounting

Separate funds are established, maintained, and reported by the Township. 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 Township. 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 Township 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 Township 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 Township 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 December 31 of the year preceding the budget year or January 15 of the budget year if the Township is issuing debt after December 1 or intends on filing a shortfall appeal. These rates were based upon the assessed valuations adjusted for various tax credits from the preceding year's lien date of January 1. 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 Township 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.

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(Continued)

Note 5. Risk Management

The Township 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 Township to set aside money for claim settlements. The self-insurance fund would be included in the financial statement. The purpose of participation in a risk pool is to provide a medium for the funding and administration of the risks.

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
REVIEW RESULTS AND COMMENTS

ADOPTION OF AND TRAINING ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS

Condition and Context

The Township Board had not adopted the minimum internal control standards and procedures or ensured that personnel were properly trained as required under Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(g).

Criteria

Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(g) states:

"After June 30, 2016, the legislative body of a political subdivision shall ensure that:

- (1) the internal control standards and procedures developed under subsection (e) are adopted by the political subdivision; and
- (2) personnel receive training concerning the internal control standards and procedures adopted by the political subdivision."

CERTIFICATION ON INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS

Condition and Context

The Trustee certified on the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system that the Township Board had adopted internal control standards and that appropriate personnel were trained on the internal control standards for 2017 and 2018. However, the Township Board had not adopted internal control standards and personnel had not received the internal control training; therefore, the certifications were incorrect.

Context

Indiana Code 5-11-1-4(a) states:

"The state examiner shall require from every municipality and every state or local governmental unit, entity, or instrumentality financial reports covering the full period of each fiscal year. These reports shall be prepared, verified, and filed with the state examiner not later than sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year. The reports must be in the form and content prescribed by the state examiner and filed electronically in the manner prescribed under [IC 5-14-3.8-7](#)."

TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE STANDARDS

The same comment also appeared in prior Report B48444.

Condition and Context

Township Assistance Standards were not established in accordance with Indiana Code 12-20-5.5-1 for 2017 and 2018.

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
REVIEW RESULTS AND COMMENTS
(Continued)

Criteria

Indiana Code 12-20-5.5-1(b) states:

"The township's standards for the issuance of township assistance and the processing of applications must be:

- (1) governed by the requirements of this article;
- (2) proposed by the township trustee, adopted by the township board, and filed with the board of county commissioners;
- (3) reviewed and updated annually to reflect changes in the cost of basic necessities in the township and changes in the law;
- (4) published in a single written document, including addenda attached to the document; and
- (5) posted in a place prominently visible to the public in all offices of the township trustee where township assistance applications are taken or processed."

NEPOTISM CERTIFICATION

The same comment also appeared in prior Report B48444.

Condition and Context

Each elected officer did not certify in writing that the officer had not violated Indiana Code 36-1-20.2 (Nepotism) by December 31, 2017 or 2018.

Criteria

Indiana Code 36-1-20.2-16 states: "Each elected officer of the unit shall annually certify in writing, subject to the penalties for perjury, that the officer has not violated this chapter. An officer shall submit the certification to the executive of the unit not later than December 31 of each year."

CONTRACTING CERTIFICATION

The same comment also appeared in prior Report B48444.

Condition and Context

The Trustee had not certified in writing that the Trustee had not violated Indiana Code 36-1-21 (Contracting With a Unit) by December 31, 2017 or 2018.

Criteria

Indiana Code 36-1-21-6 states: "Each elected officer of the unit shall annually certify in writing, subject to the penalties for perjury, that the officer is in compliance with this chapter. An officer shall submit the certification to the executive of the unit not later than December 31 of each year."

Pleasant Township Trustee

Porter County, Indiana

Office Phone: 219 766-3216

Pleasanttrustee548@gmail.com

PO Box 548 Kouts, IN 46347

Trustee: Karyl VanDyke Clerk: Gretchen Evans

Township Board:

Melissa Birky, Joshua M. Birky, David Overholt

April 23, 2020

Mr. Paul Joyce
State Examiner

Dear Mr. Joyce:

This letter is an official response to the results and comments of our exit conference for Pleasant Township, Porter County, Indiana.

Due to the abrupt resignation of the Trustee in August 2018, the newly instated Trustee in August of 2018, was not able to locate the necessary documents as there was much disorder of the office and records. She was not accessible for any assistance.

Sincerely,

Karyl VanDyke

Karyl VanDyke
Pleasant Township Trustee
Porter County, Indiana

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, PORTER COUNTY
EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on April 21, 2020, with Karyl VanDyke, Trustee, and Joshua Birky, Chairman of the Township Board.