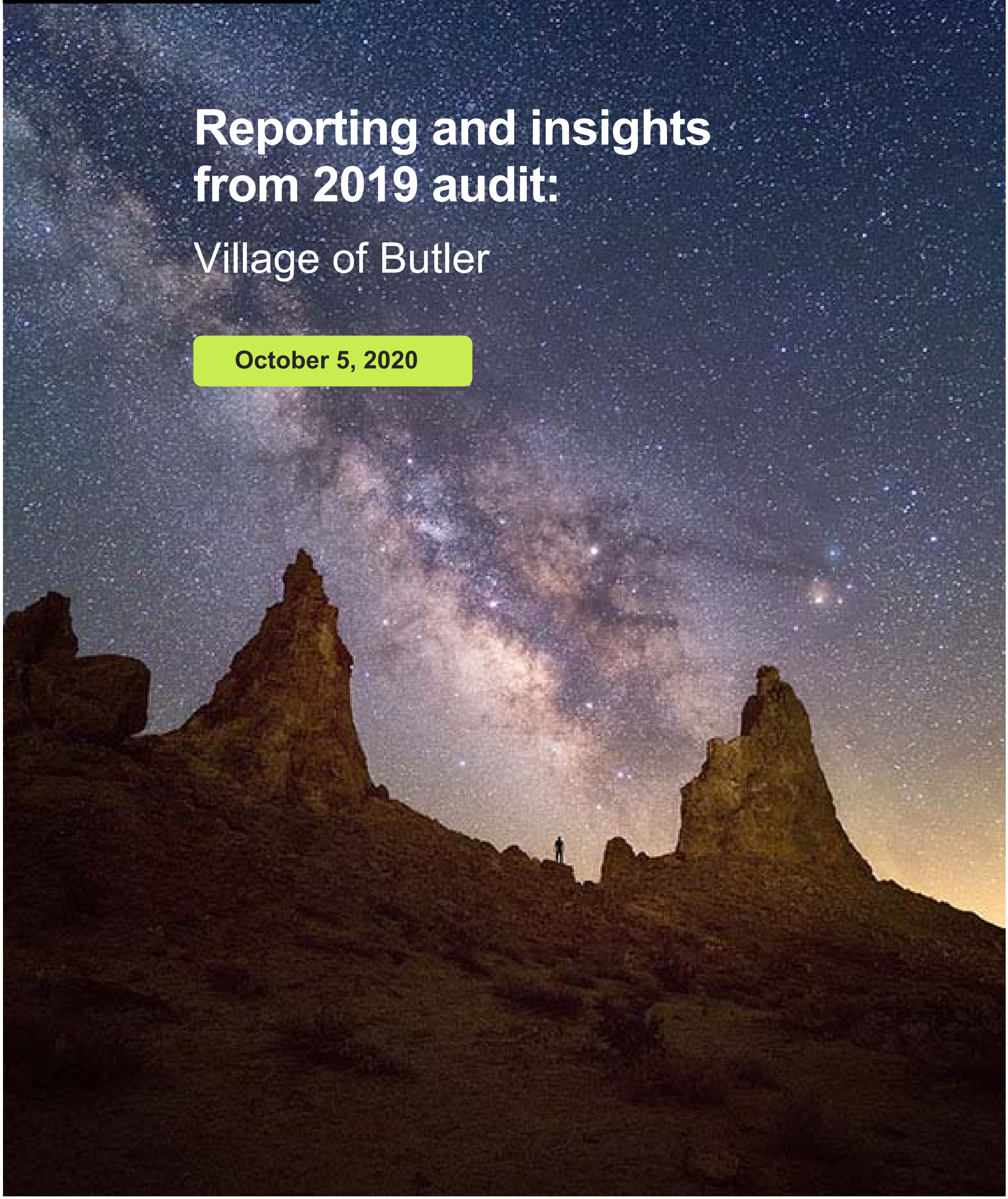
Reporting and insights from 2019 audit:

Village of Butler

October 5, 2020



Executive summary

To the Village Board:

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of the Village of Butler for the year ended December 31, 2019, and have issued our report thereon October 5, 2020. This letter presents communications required by our professional standards.

Your audit should provide you with confidence in your financial statements. The audit was performed based on information obtained from meetings with management, data from your systems, knowledge of your Village's operating environment and our risk assessment procedures. We strive to provide you clear, concise communication throughout the audit process and of the final results of our audit.

Additionally, we have included information on key risk areas Village of Butler should be aware of in your strategic planning. We are available to discuss these risks as they relate to your organization's financial stability and future planning.

If you have questions at any point, please connect with us:

- Wendi M. Unger, Partner: wendi.unger@bakertilly.com or +1 (414) 777 5423
- Michelle Walter, Senior Manager: michelle.walter@bakertilly.com or +1 (414) 777 5576

Sincerely,

Baker Tilly US, LLP (formerly known as Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP)

Baker Tilly US, LLP

Wendi M. Unger, CPA, Partner

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THIS COMMUNICATION IS INTENDED SOLELY FOR THE INFORMATION AND USE OF THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, AND, IF APPROPRIATE, MANAGEMENT, AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE AND SHOULD NOT BE USED BY ANYONE OTHER THAN THESE SPECIFIED PARTIES.

Audit objectives

Audit objectives

Our responsibilities

As your independent auditor, our responsibilities include:

- Planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance.
- Assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. Included in that assessment is a consideration of the Village’s internal control over financial reporting.
- Performing appropriate procedures based upon our risk assessment.
- Evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management.
- Forming and expressing an opinion based on our audit about whether the financial statements prepared by management, with the oversight of those charged with governance:
  - Are free from material misstatement
  - Present fairly, in all material respects, and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America

We are also required to communicate significant matters related to our audit that are relevant to the responsibilities of those charged with governance, including:

- Qualitative aspects of Village’s accounting practice including policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures
- Significant difficulties encountered
- Disagreements with management
- Corrected and uncorrected misstatements
- Internal control matters
- Significant estimates
- Other findings or issues arising from the audit

Management's responsibilities

Management	Auditor
Prepare and fairly present the financial statements	Our audit does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities
Establish and maintain effective internal control over financial reporting	An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting, but not an expression of an opinion on those controls
Provide us with written representations at the conclusion of the audit	See Appendix B for a copy of management's representations

Audit status

Audit status

Significant changes to the audit plan

There were no significant changes made to either our planned audit strategy or to the significant risks and other areas of emphasis identified during the performance of our risk assessment procedures.

Audit approach and results

Audit approach and results

Planned scope and timing

Audit focus

Based on our understanding of the Village and environment in which you operate, we focused our audit on the following key areas:

- Key transaction cycles
- Areas with significant estimates
- Implementation of new accounting standards

Our areas of audit focus were informed by, among other things, our assessment of materiality. Materiality in the context of our audit was determined based on specific qualitative and quantitative factors combined with our expectations about the Village's current year results.

Implementation of GASB No. 84 reporting fiduciary activities

During the current year, your government implemented GASB Statement No. 84 – *Fiduciary Activities*. This standard was issued to provide a clear foundation and reduce inconsistencies in reporting of fiduciary activities. Implementation of this standard required the evaluation of various activities and application of specific criteria to determine the fiduciary activities that required reporting. As a result of this standard you will note the following changes in your financial statements from prior years:

- Change in the activity that is reported through the tax collection custodial fund
- Presentation of additions and deductions on the statement of changes in fiduciary net position for all fiduciary funds, including custodial funds
- Reclassification of tax collection activities as custodial funds

Implementation of GASB No. 88 financial reporting for debt disclosures

During the current year, your government implemented GASB Statement No. 88 – *Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements*. Implementation of this standard required the evaluation of the Village's outstanding debt issues and application of specific criteria to identify direct borrowings and direct placements. This standard requires additional note disclosures related to the debt obligations of your government.

Key areas of focus and significant findings

Significant risks of material misstatement

A significant risk is an identified and assessed risk of material misstatement that, in the auditor's professional judgment, requires special audit consideration. Within our audit, we focused on the following areas below.

Significant risk areas	Testing approach	Conclusion
Management override of controls	Incorporate unpredictability into audit procedures, emphasize professional skepticism and utilize audit team with industry expertise	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion

Other key areas of emphasis

We also focused on other areas that did not meet the definition of a significant risk, but were determined to require specific awareness and a unique audit response.

Other key areas of emphasis		
Cash and investments	Revenues and receivables	General disbursements
Payroll	Pension and OPEB liabilities	Long-term debt
Capital assets including infrastructure	Net position calculations	Financial reporting and required disclosures
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	Deferred outflows/inflows of resources	

Internal control matters

We considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements. We are not expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis.

A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We identified the following deficiencies as material weaknesses:

- **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Properly designed systems of internal control provide your organization with the ability to process and record accurate monthly and year-end transactions and annual financial reports.

Our audit includes a review and evaluation of the internal controls relating to financial reporting. Common attributes of a properly designed system of internal control for financial reporting are as follows:

1. There is adequate staffing to prepare financial reports throughout and at the end of the year.
2. Staff is properly trained and knowledgeable to perform all financial reporting functions.
3. Material misstatements are identified and corrected during the normal course of duties.
4. Complete and accurate financial statements including footnotes are prepared.

Our evaluation of the internal controls over financial reporting has identified control deficiencies that are considered material weakness surrounding the preparation of financial statements and footnotes, adjusting journal entries identified by the auditors, and an independent review of financial reports.

Management has not prepared financial statements that are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, material misstatements in the general ledger were identified during the financial audit.

This level of internal control over financial reporting can be a difficult task for governments that operate with only enough staff to process monthly transactions and reports, and often rely on their auditors to prepare certain year-end audit entries and financial statements

A properly designed system of internal control includes adequate staffing as well as policies and procedures to properly segregate duties. This includes systems that are designed to limit the access or control of any one individual to your government's assets or accounting records, and to achieve a higher likelihood that errors or irregularities in your accounting processes would be discovered by your staff in a timely manner.

At this time, due to staffing and financial limitations, the proper internal controls are not in place to achieve adequate segregation of duties. As a result, errors, irregularities or fraud could occur as part of the financial reporting process that may not be discovered by someone in your organization. Therefore, we are reporting a material weakness related to the internal control environment.

- **Missing Key Controls**

There are certain controls that are not currently in place related to significant transaction cycles. As a result, there is a risk that erroneous or unauthorized transactions or misstatements could occur without the knowledge of management or the governing body. Our recommendations for strengthening controls are listed below.

Controls Over Accounts Payable/Disbursements

- There should be an appropriate system for review and approval of vendors.
- There is a process to review, record and approve retainages at year end.

Controls Over Payroll

- Persons preparing the payroll should be independent of other personnel duties or restricted from access to the payroll account.

Controls Over Property Taxes

- There should be a formal process to prepare and approve journal entries to record taxes receivable and the tax settlements.
- Bank reconciliations for the tax account should be performed by someone independent of the tax collection process.
- Each property tax settlement cycle includes a reconciliation of the general ledger to the tax collection system total collections.

Controls Over Utility Billing

- The entry of new customers and changes in billing rates should be reviewed by someone other than the person who enters the information into the billing system.
- An independent review and approval of adjustments to accounts receivable and account write-offs.
- Persons involved in the cash receipting process should be independent of other billing duties.

Controls Over Monthly and Year-end Accounting

- Adjusting journal entries and supporting documentation should be reviewed and approved by an appropriate person who is not the original preparer.
- Account reconciliations prepared throughout the year should be performed by someone independent of processing transactions in the account.
- Year-end reconciliations (retainages, payroll accruals) should be reviewed and approved by someone other than the preparer.

- **Bank Account Reconciliations**

Each bank account for the Village should be reconciled to the general ledger on a monthly basis to verify that all transactions are properly recorded. During 2019, the general checking account was not reconciled to the general ledger. In order to perform the audit and obtain an accurate cash balance, we assisted the Village in completing the 2019 cash reconciliations. There were several other cash accounts that required adjustments as they were not reconciled until after year end. We recommend that the Village reconcile every bank account monthly and resolve any variances promptly.

The Village also had a bank account with Hometown Bank in the past that was used for LifeQuest. This account has not been reconciled through the end of the year despite the account being closed at the bank. We recommend that the Village perform an evaluation on this account and adjust balance accordingly.

- **Utility Billing**

During our testing of the Village's utility billing during 2019, we were unable to reconcile amounts being charged to customers for sewer fees to supporting documentation. There are components of the sewer rates that the Village was unable to provide support as to where the amounts originated or that they were reasonable to be charged. We recommend that the Village evaluate sewer fees charged and make sure that the rates being charged are accurate and approved.

Since the controls listed above or other compensating controls are not currently in place, errors or irregularities could occur as part of the accounting processes that might not be discovered by management or the governing body. Therefore, the absence of these controls is considered to be a material weakness.

We recommend that a designated employee review the segregation of duties, risks, and these potential controls and determine whether additional controls should be implemented. This determination should take into consideration a cost / benefit analysis.

Other comments and recommendations

Information Technology Controls

During our review of the Village's information technology systems we noted the following:

- Although user and system passwords are used, there is no policy or requirement to change these passwords and no requirement of the length of the passwords. Industry standards recommend user or system passwords be changed every 90 days, require a minimum of 6 characters, require strong passwords, and passwords should be remembered by the system so that user's cannot reuse recent passwords.
- A formal change management procedure should be in place for all program changes, system changes, and maintenance. Additionally a form should be used to authorize, facilitate and document all changes. These forms should remain on file throughout the systems life.
- Backup jobs should be proactively tested for restoration.

Payroll Liability Account Reconciliations

During our review of the payroll liability accounts it was noted that there was some unexpected activity noted in these accounts. The retirement, FICA/Medicare and Hospitalization accounts all have balances at year end that do not match what is actually owed. We recommend that this account be reviewed and proper balances determined and adjustments made as needed.

Investment Policy

The Village is not in compliance with their investment policy of only having $750,000 deposited at a single public depository. They currently hold more than the $750,000 at a single bank. We recommend that the Village evaluate their investment policy and make appropriate changes as necessary.

Departmental Controls

As part of our annual audit process, we focus our efforts on the primary accounting systems, internal controls, and procedures used by the Village. This is in keeping with our goal to provide an audit opinion which states that the financial statements of the Village are correct in all material respects.

In some cases, the primary system of accounting procedures and controls of the Village are supported by smaller systems which are decentralized, and reside within a department or location. In many cases, those systems are as simple as handling cash collections and remitting those collections to the Village treasurer. In other cases, the department may send invoices or statements of amounts due, and track collections of those amounts in a standalone accounts receivable system. For example, this would be the case in a typical municipal court.

Generally, the more centralized a function is, the easier it is to design and implement accounting controls that provide some level of checks and balances. That is because you are able to divide certain tasks over the people available to achieve some segregation of duties. For those tasks that are decentralized, it is usually very difficult to provide for proper segregation of duties. Therefore, with one person being involved in most or all aspects of a transaction, you lose the ability to rely on the controls to achieve the safeguarding of assets and reliability of financial records.

As auditors, we are required to communicate with you on a variety of topics. Since there is now more emphasis on internal controls and management’s responsibilities, we believe it is appropriate to make sure that you are informed about the lack of segregation of duties that may occur at departments or locations that handle cash or do miscellaneous billing. Examples in your village that fit this situation may include the following:

Municipal Court
Parking Meters
Recreation Department
Library

As you might expect, similar situations are common in most governments.

As auditors, we are required to focus on the financial statements at a highly summarized level and our audit procedures support our opinion on those financial statements. Departments or locations that handle relatively smaller amounts of money are not the primary focus of our audit. Yet, because of the lack of segregation of duties, the opportunity for loss is higher there than in centralized functions that have more controls.

Because management is responsible for designing and implementing controls and procedures to detect and prevent fraud, we believe that is important for us to communicate this information to you. We have no knowledge of any fraud that has occurred or is suspected to have occurred within the departments mentioned above. However, your role as the governing body is to assess your risk areas and determine that the appropriate level of controls and procedures are in place. As always, the costs of controls and staffing must be weighed against the perceived benefits of safeguarding your assets.

Without adding staff or splitting up the duties, your own day-to-day contact and knowledge of the operation are also important mitigating factors.

Required communications

Qualitative aspect of accounting practices

- Accounting policies: Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we have advised management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Village are described in Note I to the financial statements. As described in Note I, the Village changed accounting policies related to financial reporting for fiduciary activities by adopting Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 84 – *Fiduciary Activities* and financial reporting for debt disclosures by adopting Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 88 – *Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements*, both effective January 1, 2019. We noted no transactions entered into by the Village during the year for which accounting policies are controversial or for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus or diversity in practice.

- Accounting estimates: Accounting estimates, including fair value estimates, are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements, the degree of subjectivity involved in their development and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The following estimates are of most significance to the financial statements:

Estimate	Management's process to determine	Baker Tilly's conclusions regarding reasonableness
Accrued compensated absences	Evaluation of hours earned and accumulated in accordance with employment policies and average wage per hour rates	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
Net pension liability and related deferrals	Evaluation of information provided by the Wisconsin Retirement System	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
Net/Total OPEB liability and related deferrals	Key assumptions set by management with the assistance of a third party actuary	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
Depreciation	Evaluate estimated useful life of the asset and original acquisition value	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole

  There have been no significant changes made by management to either the processes used to develop the particularly sensitive accounting estimates, or to the significant assumptions used to develop the estimates, noted above.

- Financial statement disclosures: The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear.

Significant unusual transactions

There have been no significant transactions that are outside the normal course of business for the Village or that otherwise appear to be unusual due to their timing, size or nature.

Difficulties encountered during the audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management and completing our audit.

Disagreements with management

Professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management's consultations with other accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing or accounting matters.

Written communications between management and Baker Tilly

The Appendix includes copies of other material written communications, including a copy of the management representation letter.

Uncorrected misstatements and corrected misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial and to communicate accumulated misstatements to management. Management is in agreement with the misstatements we have identified, and they have been corrected in the Company's financial statements. The table below summarizes the material corrected misstatements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures.

Description	Amount
To correct beginning fund balance	$ 96,426
To record GASB 68 activity	125,220
To remove TIF amounts	1,551,621
To record utility capital asset activity	770,879
To record property tax equivalent	43,747
To correct debt amounts	753,928
To properly record taxes	4,971,306
To properly record accounts payable	453,444
To correct duplicate recording of expenditures	355,820
To record public fire charges	91,528
To properly record utility customer accounts receivable	82,973
To record transfer of Park and Recreation fund deficit	12,647

Compliance with laws and regulations

We did not identify any non-compliance with laws and regulations during our audit.

Fraud

We did not identify any known or suspected fraud during our audit.

Going concern

Pursuant to professional standards, we are required to communicate to you, when applicable, certain matters relating to our evaluation of the Village's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time but no less than 12 months from the date the financial statements are issued or available to be issued, including the effects on the financial statements and the adequacy of the related disclosures, and the effects on the auditor's report. No such matters or conditions have come to our attention during our engagement.

Independence

We are not aware of any relationships between Baker Tilly and the Village that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

Related parties

We did not have any significant findings or issues arise during the audit in connection with the Village's related parties.

Other audit findings or issues

We encountered no other audit findings or issues that require communication at this time.

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Village's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information which accompanies the financial statements but is not RSI. With respect to the supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on the other information, which accompanies the financial statements but are not RSI. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

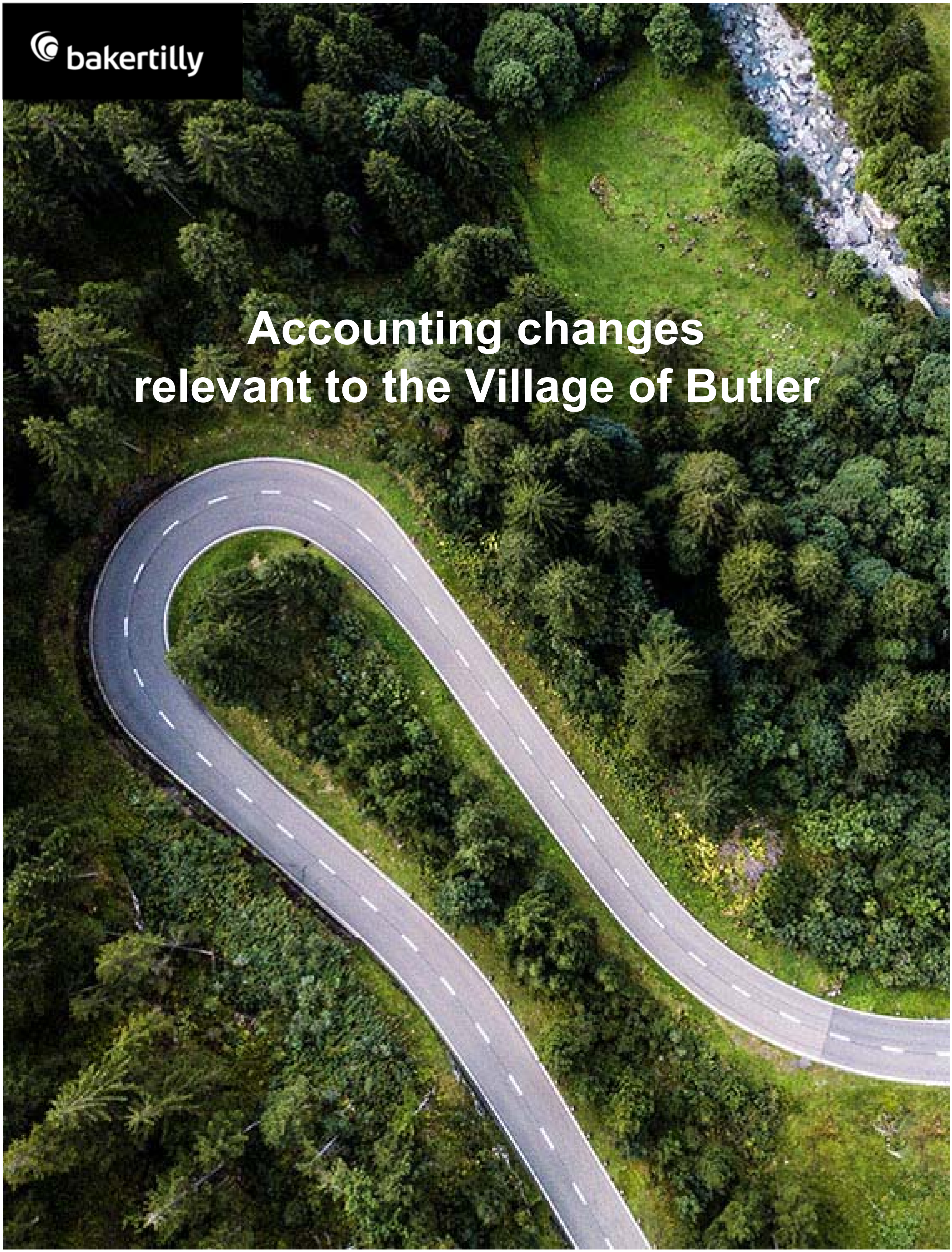
Nonattest services

The following nonattest services were provided by Baker Tilly:

- Financial statement preparation
- Adjusting journal entries
- Compiled regulatory reports
- Utility rate consulting
- Bank reconciliation assistance

In addition, we prepared GASB No. 34 conversion entries which are summarized in the “Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position” and the “Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities” in the financial statements.

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.



Accounting changes relevant to the Village of Butler

Accounting changes relevant to the Village of Butler

Future accounting standards updates

GASB Statement Number	Description	Potentially Impacts you	Effective Date
87	Leases	✓	12/31/20
89	Accounting for Interest Incurred before the End of a Construction Period	✓	12/31/20
90	Majority Equity Interests and amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 61	✓	12/31/20*
91	Conduit Debt	✓	12/31/21
92	Omnibus 2020	✓	12/31/22*
93	Replacement of Interfund Bank Offered Rates	✓	12/31/22*
94	Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements	✓	12/31/23

*The statements listed above through Statement No. 93 had their required effective dates postponed by one year with the issuance of Statement No. 95, *Postponement of Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Gui*dance, with the exception of Statement No. 87 which was postponed by one and a half years. The effective date reflected above is the required revised implementation date.

Further information on upcoming GASB pronouncements

Preparing for the new lease standard

GASB's new single model for lease accounting will be effective for the upcoming year. This standard will require governments to identify and evaluate contracts that convey control of the right to use another entity's nonfinancial asset as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Contracts meeting the criteria for control, term and other items within the standard will result in recognizing a right to use asset and lease liability or a receivable and deferred inflow of resources.

We recommend the Village review this standard and start planning now as to how this will affect your financial reporting. We recommend that you begin by completing an inventory of all contracts that might meet the definition of a lease. The contract listing should include key terms of the contracts such as:

- Description of contract
- Underlying asset
- Contract term
- Options for extensions and terminations
- Service components, if any
- Dollar amount of lease

In addition, the Village should begin to establish a lease policy to address the treatment of common lease types, including a dollar threshold for each lease. We are available to discuss this further and help you develop an action plan.

Learn more about GASB 87.

Trending challenges for organizations

Trending challenges for organizations

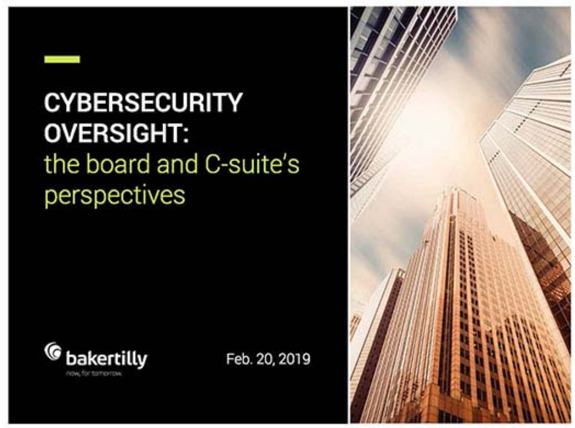
Management and the governing body of the Village must keep the future in mind as they evaluate strategies to achieve future growth. Keeping a balance between risk and sustainability is key, and organizations need to think beyond their immediate needs to their long term goals. Economic uncertainty, coupled with key risk areas and fast paced technology change, make strategic planning complex. Begin the discussion with your management team to find your path to your future.

Cybersecurity

Operational reporting on cybersecurity effectiveness

As boards engage management in cybersecurity risk discussions, directors should expect management to produce reports on the effectiveness of the organization's cybersecurity-risk management program. Management can (and should) collect and analyze relevant performance measures and metrics to determine if cybersecurity safeguards and controls are operating as intended, and whether any corrective action should be taken to strengthen management's risk-mitigation approaches. While not an exhaustive list, some key processes on which management should report include these:

- Incident management
- Risk management and governance
- Independent assurance on the cybersecurity program



WATCH: On demand webinar about board governance over cybersecurity.

Learn more about cybersecurity risk management.

COVID-19 Risks and ongoing response

Staying nimble and resilient during unprecedented disruption

COVID-19 has challenged all organizations and the effects continue to unfold. It is critical that management and governing bodies stay nimble to respond to direct and indirect effects of this disruption on operations, cash flow, and people. Some best practices to consider include:

- Establish mechanisms to track COVID-19 related expenses, lost revenues or delayed revenues
- Monitor cash flow projections and seek short term liquidity help
- Create a policy and forms for compliance with Family First Coronavirus Response Act
- Compare anticipated results to bond covenants and track any continuing disclosure items
- Re-evaluate TIF projections with revised development scenarios
- Develop a strategy for leading your community through the crisis

Learn about public sector Coronavirus resources, including the latest news on business continuity and cash flow management, Federal stimulus and tax developments, and more.

Appendix A: Client service team

Client service team

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Appendix B: Management representation letter

VILLAGE OF BUTLER EST 1913

October 5, 2020

Baker Tilly US, LLP (formerly known as Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP)
777 E Wisconsin Ave, 32nd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Baker Tilly US, LLP:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Village of Butler as of December 31, 2019 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Village of Butler and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the previously mentioned financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting, and preventing and detecting fraud.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter.

2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have engaged you to advise us in fulfilling that responsibility. The financial statements include all properly classified funds of the primary government and all component units required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to be included in the financial reporting entity.

3) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.

5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, if any, are reasonable.

6) All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. No other events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the financial statement date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.

7) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.

8) All known audit and bookkeeping adjustments have been included in our financial statements, and we are in agreement with those adjustments.

9) There are no known or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements. There are no unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

10) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Village is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

11) We have provided you with:

    a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, documentation, and other matters.

    b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.

    c) Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

    d) Minutes of the meetings of Village Board or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.

12) We have not completed an assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

13) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:

    a) Management,

    b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or

    c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

14) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others.

15) We have no knowledge of known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

16) There are no known related parties or related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Other

17) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.

18) We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.

19) We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.

20) The Village has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.

21) We are responsible for compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits, debt contracts, and IRS arbitrage regulations; and we have identified and disclosed to you all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.

22) There are no:

   a) Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, federal, state, and local laws or regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance, except those already disclosed in the financial statement, if any.

   b) Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

   c) Nonspendable, restricted, committed, or assigned fund balances that were not properly authorized and approved.

   d) Rates being charged to customers other than the rates as authorized by the applicable authoritative body.

23) In regards to the nonattest services performed by you listed below, we have 1) accepted all management responsibility; 2) designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services; 3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and 4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.

    a) Financial statement preparation

    b) Adjusting journal entries

    c) Compiled regulatory reports

    d) Utility rate consulting

    e) Bank reconciliation assistance

    None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

24) The Village of Butler has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.

25) The Village of Butler has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statement in the event of noncompliance.

26) The financial statements include all component units as well as joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations, if any.

27) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.

28) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Statement No. 34 and No. 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.

29) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and components of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.

30) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.

31) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues and general revenues.

32) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.

33) Deposits and investments are properly classified, valued, and disclosed (including risk disclosures, collateralization agreements, valuation methods, and key inputs, as applicable).

34) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated/amortized. Any known impairments have been recorded and disclosed.

35) We have appropriately disclosed the Village of Butler's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available and have determined that net position were properly recognized under the policy. We have also disclosed our policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available.

36) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.

37) With respect to the supplementary information, (SI):

a) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the SI in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the SI, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SI have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.

b) If the SI is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.

38) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the findings of specialists in evaluating the total and net OPEB liabilities and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

39) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the information provided by the Wisconsin Retirement System as audited by the Legislative Audit Bureau relating to the net pension asset/liability and related deferred outflows and deferred inflows and have adequately considered the reasonableness of the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We also assume responsibility for the census data that has been reported to the plan.

40) We have implemented GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, and believe that all fiduciary funds have been identified and properly classified in the financial statements in compliance with the Standard.

41) We have implemented GASB Statement No. 88, *Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements*, and believe that all required disclosures and accounting considerations have been identified and properly classified in the financial statements in compliance with the Standard.

Sincerely,

Village of Butler

Signed: Kayla Thorpe
Ms. Kayla Thorpe, Administrator/Clerk

Signed: Patricia Tiarks
Ms. Patricia Tiarks, Village President

Appendix C: Two way communication regarding your audit

As part of our audit of your financial statements, we are providing communications to you throughout the audit process. Auditing requirements provide for two-way communication and are important in assisting the auditor and you with more information relevant to the audit.

As this past audit is concluded, we use what we have learned to begin the planning process for next year's audit. It is important that you understand the following points about the scope and timing of our next audit:

a. We address the significant risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, through our detailed audit procedures.

b. We will obtain an understanding of the five components of internal control sufficient to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to error or fraud, and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. We will obtain a sufficient understanding by performing risk assessment procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of financial statements and to determine whether they have been implemented. We will use such knowledge to:

   - Identify types of potential misstatements.
   - Consider factors that affect the risks of material misstatement.
   - Design tests of controls, when applicable, and substantive procedures.

c. We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts or grant programs.

d. The concept of materiality recognizes that some matters, either individually or in the aggregate, are important for fair presentation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles while other matters are not important. In performing the audit, we are concerned with matters that, either individually or in the aggregate, could be material to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that material misstatements, whether caused by errors or fraud, are detected.

We are very interested in your views regarding certain matters. Those matters are listed here:

a. We typically will communicate with your top level of management unless you tell us otherwise.

b. We understand that the governing board has the responsibility to oversee the strategic direction of your organization, as well as the overall accountability of the entity. Management has the responsibility for achieving the objectives of the entity.

c. We need to know your views about your organization's objectives and strategies, and the related business risks that may result in material misstatements.

d. Which matters do you consider warrant particular attention during the audit, and are there any areas where you request additional procedures to be undertaken?

e. Have you had any significant communications with regulators or grantor agencies?

f. Are there other matters that you believe are relevant to the audit of the financial statements?

Also, is there anything that we need to know about the attitudes, awareness, and actions of the governing body concerning:

a. The entity's internal control and its importance in the entity, including how those charged with governance oversee the effectiveness of internal control?

b. The detection or the possibility of fraud?

We also need to know if you have taken actions in response to developments in financial reporting, laws, accounting standards, governance practices, or other related matters, or in response to previous communications with us.

With regard to the timing of our audit, here is some general information. If necessary, we may do preliminary financial audit work during the months of October-December, and sometimes early January. Our final financial fieldwork is scheduled during the spring to best coincide with your readiness and report deadlines. After fieldwork, we wrap up our financial audit procedures at our office and may issue drafts of our report for your review. Final copies of our report and other communications are issued after approval by your staff. This is typically 6-12 weeks after final fieldwork, but may vary depending on a number of factors.

Keep in mind that while this communication may assist us with planning the scope and timing of the audit, it does not change the auditor's sole responsibility to determine the overall audit strategy and the audit plan, including the nature, timing, and extent of procedures necessary to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

We realize that you may have questions on what this all means, or wish to provide other feedback. We welcome the opportunity to hear from you.