



bhm cpa group, inc.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023



bhm cpa group, inc.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Plain Township
Franklin County
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For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Plain Township
Franklin County
45 Second Street
New Albany, Ohio 43054

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Township, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for 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 misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual financial report. The other information comprises the management's discussion & analysis and the budgetary comparison schedules but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 22, 2025, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "BHM CPA Group". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
August 22, 2025

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

The management's discussion and analysis of Plain Township's (the "Township") financial performance provides an overall review of the Township's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2024 within the limitations of the Township's cash basis of accounting. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Township's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the cash-basis basic financial statements and the notes to the financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Township's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2024 are as follows:

- For 2024, the total net position of the Township decreased 5.16%.
- For 2024, general cash receipts accounted for \$10,867,172 or 88.51% of total governmental activities cash receipts, program specific cash receipts accounted for \$1,410,388 or 11.49% of total governmental activities.
- For 2024, the Township had \$12,749,983 in cash disbursements related to governmental activities; \$1,410,388 of these cash disbursements were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General cash receipts (primarily taxes) of \$10,867,172 were not adequate to provide for these programs.
- The Township's major funds are the general fund, the fire district fund and the gasoline tax fund. The general fund, one of the Township's major funds, had cash receipts and other financing sources of \$1,992,145 in 2024. The cash disbursements and other financing disbursements of the general fund totaled \$1,410,420 in 2024. The general fund's fund balance increased \$581,725 from 2023 to 2024.
- The fire district fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$8,584,943 in 2024. The fire district fund had cash disbursements of \$8,799,358 in 2024. The fire district fund balance decreased \$214,415 from 2023 to 2024.
- The gasoline tax fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$190,314 in 2024. The gasoline tax fund had cash disbursements of \$396,741 in 2024. The gasoline tax fund balance decreased \$206,427 from \$1,366,233 to \$1,159,806.

Using this Cash Basis Basic Financial Statements (BFS)

This cash basis annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, as applicable to the Township's cash basis of accounting. The statement of net position - cash basis and statement of activities - cash basis provide information about the activities of the whole Township, presenting an aggregate view of the Township's cash basis finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the Township's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. In the case of the Township, there are three major governmental funds. The general fund, fire district fund and gasoline tax fund are the Township's major funds.

Reporting the Township as a Whole

Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis and the Statement of Activities - Cash Basis

The statement of net position - cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis answer the question, "How did we do financially during 2024?" These statements include only net position using the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This basis of accounting takes into account only the current year's receipts and disbursements if the cash is actually received or paid.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

These two statements report the Township's net position and changes in that position on a cash basis. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Township as a whole, the cash basis financial position of the Township has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the Township's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio, availability of Federal and State funding, facility conditions, mandated Federal and State programs and other factors.

As a result of the use of the cash basis of accounting, certain assets, deferred outflows and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not collected) and liabilities, deferred inflows and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements. Therefore, when reviewing the financial information and discussion within this annual report, the reader should keep in mind the limitations resulting from the use of the cash basis of accounting.

In the statement of net position- cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis, the governmental activities include the Township's programs and services, including fire protection, road and bridge maintenance and repair, and ambulance services.

Reporting the Township's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Township, like other State and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Township are classified as governmental or fiduciary funds.

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the Township's major funds. The Township uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the Township's most significant funds. The Township's major governmental funds are the general fund, fire district fund and gasoline tax fund.

Governmental Funds

All of the Township's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed view of the Township's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer cash basis financial resources that can be readily spent to finance various Township programs. Since the Township is reporting on the cash basis of accounting, there are no differences in the net position and fund cash balances or changes in net position and changes in fund balances. Therefore, no reconciliation is necessary between such financial statements. However, differences will be apparent when comparing gross receipts and disbursements on the fund financial statements to the statement of activities - cash basis due to transfers between governmental funds being eliminated for reporting in the statement of activities - cash basis.

The Township's budgetary process accounts for transactions on the budgetary basis of accounting. The difference between the budgetary basis of accounting and the cash basis of accounting is that encumbrances at year-end are recorded as a disbursement on the budgetary basis of accounting whereas on the cash basis, the disbursement is only recorded when cash is paid. The budgetary statements for the general fund, the fire district fund and the gasoline tax fund are presented to demonstrate the Township's compliance with annually adopted budgets.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to gain a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Supplementary Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain supplementary information concerning the Township's budgetary schedules.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Recall that the statement of net position - cash basis provides the perspective of the Township as a whole. The table below provides a summary of the Township's net position at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 8,690,271	\$ 9,162,694
Total assets	<u>8,690,271</u>	<u>9,162,694</u>
<u>Net cash position</u>		
Restricted	4,767,413	5,584,381
Unrestricted	<u>3,922,858</u>	<u>3,578,313</u>
Total net cash position	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>

For 2024, net position of the Township decreased \$472,423 or 5.16%. The balance of government-wide unrestricted net cash position of \$3,922,858 at December 31, 2024 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

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**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

The table below shows the changes in net position for years 2024 and 2023.

	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
Cash Receipts:		
Program cash receipts:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 1,190,609	\$ 1,041,694
Operating grants and contributions	<u>219,779</u>	<u>213,732</u>
Total program cash receipts	<u>1,410,388</u>	<u>1,255,426</u>
General cash receipts:		
Property and other taxes	9,583,472	8,785,922
Unrestricted grants	635,935	743,786
Investment receipts	285,392	220,671
Miscellaneous	<u>362,373</u>	<u>267,372</u>
Total general cash receipts	<u>10,867,172</u>	<u>10,017,751</u>
Total cash receipts	<u>12,277,560</u>	<u>11,273,177</u>
Cash Disbursements:		
Current:		
General government	1,173,149	915,463
Public safety	9,526,392	9,471,642
Public works	721,919	388,971
Health	205,123	171,728
Conservation and recreation	520,420	533,333
Capital outlay	474,163	446,717
Debt service:		
Principal retirement	115,000	112,000
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>13,817</u>	<u>16,427</u>
Total cash disbursements	<u>12,749,983</u>	<u>12,056,281</u>
Change in net position	(472,423)	(783,104)
Net position at beginning of year	<u>9,162,694</u>	<u>9,945,798</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>

Governmental Activities

Governmental net position decreased by \$472,423 in 2024 from 2023.

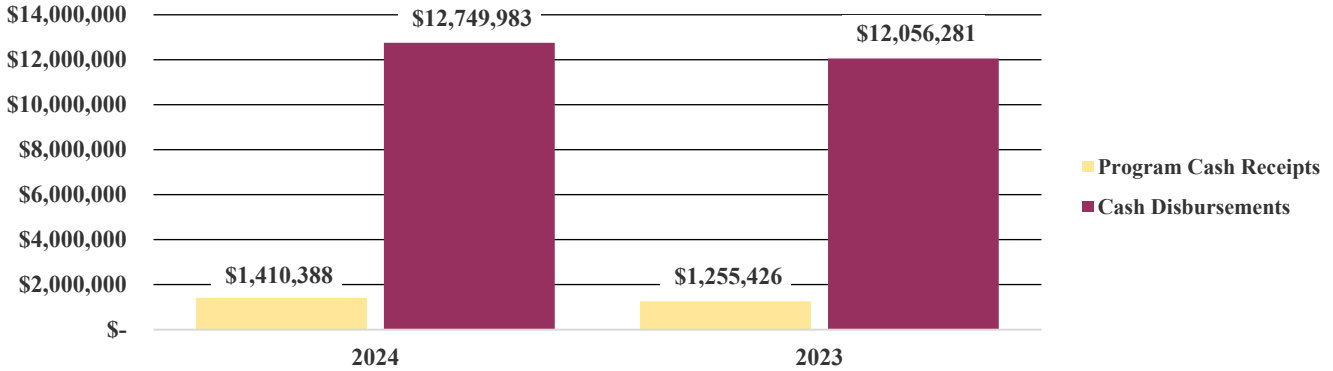
General government represents activities related to the governing body as well as activities that directly support Township programs. In 2024, general government cash disbursements totaled \$1,173,149 or 9.20% of total governmental cash disbursements. General government programs were supported by \$65,887 in direct charges to users for services. In 2024, the public safety programs accounted for \$9,526,392 or 74.72% of total governmental cash disbursements. These operations are primarily supported through taxes.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

The statement of activities - cash basis shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. The following graph shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the program cash receipts for 2024 and 2023. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax receipts and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

Governmental Activities - Program Cash Receipts vs. Total Cash Disbursements



The following table shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

	Governmental Activities			
	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
Cash disbursements:				
Current:				
General government	\$ 1,173,149	\$ 1,107,262	\$ 915,463	\$ 881,182
Public safety	9,526,392	8,988,751	9,471,642	8,986,968
Public works	721,919	502,140	388,971	175,239
Health	205,123	154,805	171,728	120,320
Conservation and recreation	520,420	(16,343)	533,333	62,002
Capital outlay	474,163	474,163	446,717	446,717
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	115,000	115,000	112,000	112,000
Interest and fiscal charges	13,817	13,817	16,427	16,427
Total	<u>\$ 12,749,983</u>	<u>\$ 11,339,595</u>	<u>\$ 12,056,281</u>	<u>\$ 10,800,855</u>

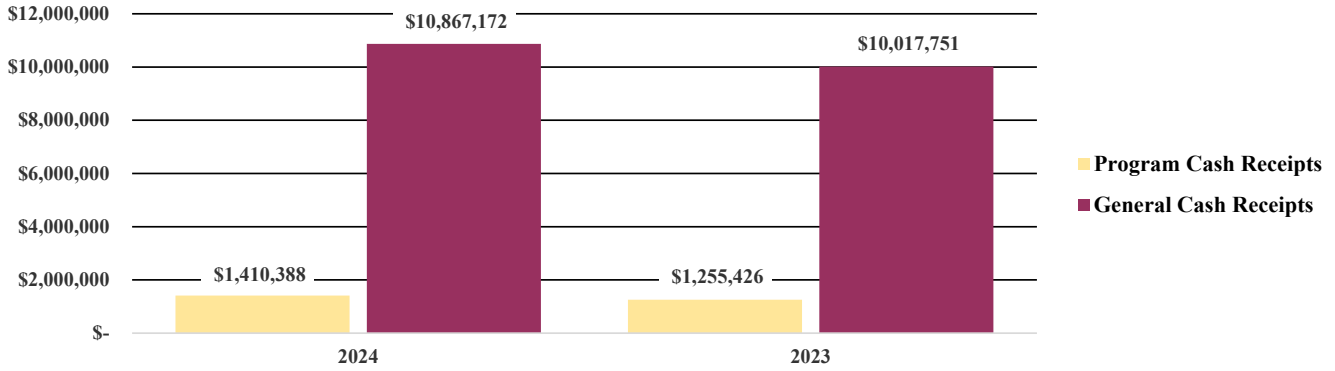
The dependence upon general cash receipts for governmental activities is apparent with 88.94% and 89.59% of cash disbursements supported through taxes and other general cash receipts during 2024 and 2023, respectively.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

The graph below presents the Township’s governmental receipts for 2024 and 2023.

Governmental Activities - General and Program Cash Receipts



Financial Analysis of the Government’s Funds

As noted earlier, the Township uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

The Township’s governmental funds are accounted for using the cash basis of accounting.

At December 31, 2024, the Township’s governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$8,690,271, which is \$472,423 less than the 2023 total of \$9,162,694. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of December 31, 2024 and 2023 for all major and nonmajor governmental funds.

	Fund Balance December 31, 2024	Fund Balance December 31, 2023	Change
Major Funds:			
General	\$ 2,976,002	\$ 2,394,277	\$ 581,725
Fire district	2,532,246	2,746,661	(214,415)
Gasoline tax	1,159,806	1,366,233	(206,427)
Nonmajor funds	<u>2,022,217</u>	<u>2,655,523</u>	<u>(633,306)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>	<u>\$ (472,423)</u>

General Fund

The general fund, one of the Township’s major funds, had cash receipts and other financing receipts of \$1,992,145 in 2024. The cash disbursements and other financing disbursements of the general fund totaled \$1,410,420 in 2024. The general fund’s fund balance increased \$581,725 from 2023 to 2024.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

The table that follows assists in illustrating the cash receipts of the general fund.

	<u>2024</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>Cash Receipts:</u>			
Taxes	\$ 1,221,037	\$ 946,060	\$ 274,977
Intergovernmental	201,119	165,550	35,569
License, permits and fees	38,773	34,281	4,492
Interest	285,391	220,671	64,720
Rental income	22,646	21,836	810
Miscellaneous	<u>20,728</u>	<u>16,961</u>	<u>3,767</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,789,694</u>	<u>\$ 1,405,359</u>	<u>\$ 384,335</u>

Taxes increased due to a re-evaluation of property taxes which began collections in 2024. Investment income cash receipts increased due to higher interest rates earned on investments.

The table that follows assists in illustrating the expenditures of the general fund.

	<u>2024</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>Cash Disbursements</u>			
General government	\$ 1,173,149	\$ 915,463	\$ 257,686
Public safety	22,610	21,805	805
Health	60,959	45,121	15,838
Conservation and recreation	<u>24,885</u>	<u>74,885</u>	<u>(50,000)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,281,603</u>	<u>\$ 1,057,274</u>	<u>\$ 224,329</u>

Fire District Fund

The fire district fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$8,584,943 in 2024. The fire district fund had cash disbursements of \$8,799,358 in 2023. The fire district fund balance decreased \$214,415 from 2023 to 2024.

Gasoline Tax Fund

The gasoline tax fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$190,314 in 2024. The gasoline tax fund had cash disbursements of \$396,741 in 2024. The gasoline tax fund balance decreased \$206,427 from 2023 to 2024.

Budgeting Highlights - General Fund

The Township's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

For 2024, the final budgetary basis receipts and other financing sources of \$1,899,170 were \$345,096 more than the original budget basis receipts and other financing sources of \$1,554,074. Actual cash receipts and other financing sources of \$1,992,145 were \$92,975 greater than final budget basis receipts and other financing sources. The final budgeted disbursements and other financing disbursements were \$2,540,095. Actual budgetary basis disbursements and other financing disbursements of \$1,674,646 were less than final budget estimates by \$865,449.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

The Township does not record capital assets in the accompanying cash basis basic financial statements, but records payments for capital assets as disbursements. The Township had capital outlay disbursements of \$474,163 and \$446,717 during 2024 and 2023, respectively.

Debt Administration

The Township had the following debt outstanding at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
Refunding Bonds - Pool - direct borrowing	<u>\$ 478,000</u>	<u>\$ 593,000</u>

See Note 6 for more information on the Township's debt.

Current Financial Related Activities

The following economic factors were taken into consideration in preparing the budget for 2025:

Plain Township is located in Franklin County in central Ohio. Unemployment in Franklin County typically is slightly below the State and national levels.

State funding is uncertain due to projected budget cuts at the State level. For Plain Township the Local government revenue funds were decreased by 0.47% in 2024. Sales and property tax revenues are expected to remain consistent as well as expenditures for 2025. We monitor the real estate tax delinquency information provided by Franklin County for potential revenue shortfall. The voters approved a 2.9 mil fire levy replacement and reduction (from the 1990 3.0 mil fire levy) for collection in 2015 and payment in 2016 collections. On November 5, 2024, Township voters approved an additional 3.0 mil fire levy.

These economic factors were considered in preparing the Township's budget for 2025. The Township has continued to practice conservative budgetary practices in order to preserve a positive financial position in future years.

Contacting the Township's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Township's finances and to show the Township's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer, Plain Township, 45 Second Street, P.O. Box 273, New Albany, Ohio, 43054.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 8,690,271
Total assets	8,690,271
Net cash position:	
Restricted for:	
Public works	1,662,601
OneOpioid	39,904
Public safety	2,865,322
Health and human services	194,389
Ulry cemetery	3,164
Nonexpendable	2,033
Unrestricted	3,922,858
Total net cash position	\$ 8,690,271

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

		Program Cash Receipts		Net (Cash Disbursements) Cash Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 1,173,149	\$ 65,887	\$ -	\$ (1,107,262)
Public safety	9,526,392	537,641	-	(8,988,751)
Health	205,123	50,318	-	(154,805)
Public works	721,919	-	219,779	(502,140)
Conservation and recreation	520,420	536,763	-	16,343
Capital outlay	474,163	-	-	(474,163)
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	115,000	-	-	(115,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	13,817	-	-	(13,817)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 12,749,983</u>	<u>\$ 1,190,609</u>	<u>\$ 219,779</u>	<u>(11,339,595)</u>
 General receipts:				
Property and other taxes levied for:				
				1,221,037
General purposes				8,023,320
Public safety - Fire district				339,115
Road and bridge improvements				13,300
Permissive taxes				635,935
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs				285,392
Investment receipts				349,073
Miscellaneous				<u>10,867,172</u>
Total general receipts				10,867,172
Change in net position				(472,423)
Net cash position at beginning of year				<u>9,162,694</u>
Net cash position at end of year				<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire District</u>	<u>Gasoline Tax</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Assets:					
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 2,976,002	\$ 2,532,246	\$ 1,159,806	\$ 2,022,217	\$ 8,690,271
Fund balances:					
Nonspendable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,033	\$ 2,033
Restricted	-	2,532,246	1,159,806	1,073,328	4,765,380
Committed	-	-	-	946,856	946,856
Assigned	515,097	-	-	-	515,097
Unassigned	2,460,905	-	-	-	2,460,905
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 2,976,002</u>	<u>\$ 2,532,246</u>	<u>\$ 1,159,806</u>	<u>\$ 2,022,217</u>	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND
CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	General	Fire District	Gasoline Tax	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash receipts:					
Taxes	\$ 1,221,037	\$ 8,023,320	\$ -	\$ 339,115	\$ 9,583,472
Permissive taxes	-	-	-	13,300	13,300
Charges for services	-	-	-	1,074,404	1,074,404
Licenses, permits and fees	38,773	-	-	52,732	91,505
Fines, forfeitures and settlements	-	-	-	27,114	27,114
Intergovernmental	201,119	401,968	143,776	40,826	787,689
Interest	285,391	-	46,538	19,074	351,003
Rental income	22,646	-	-	-	22,646
Miscellaneous	20,728	159,655	-	146,044	326,427
Total cash receipts	<u>1,789,694</u>	<u>8,584,943</u>	<u>190,314</u>	<u>1,712,609</u>	<u>12,277,560</u>
Cash disbursements:					
Current:					
General government	1,173,149	-	-	-	1,173,149
Public safety	22,610	8,799,358	-	704,424	9,526,392
Health	60,959	-	-	144,164	205,123
Public works	-	-	396,741	325,178	721,919
Conservation and recreation	24,885	-	-	495,535	520,420
Capital outlay	-	-	-	474,163	474,163
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	-	-	-	115,000	115,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	-	13,817	13,817
Total cash disbursements	<u>1,281,603</u>	<u>8,799,358</u>	<u>396,741</u>	<u>2,272,281</u>	<u>12,749,983</u>
Excess (deficiency) of cash receipts over (under) cash disbursements	<u>508,091</u>	<u>(214,415)</u>	<u>(206,427)</u>	<u>(559,672)</u>	<u>(472,423)</u>
Other financing receipts (disbursements):					
Transfers in	202,451	-	-	128,817	331,268
Transfers out	(128,817)	-	-	(202,451)	(331,268)
Total other financing receipts (disbursements)	<u>73,634</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(73,634)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	581,725	(214,415)	(206,427)	(633,306)	(472,423)
Fund balances at beginning of year	<u>2,394,277</u>	<u>2,746,661</u>	<u>1,366,233</u>	<u>2,655,523</u>	<u>9,162,694</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 2,976,002</u>	<u>\$ 2,532,246</u>	<u>\$ 1,159,806</u>	<u>\$ 2,022,217</u>	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWNSHIP

Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the “Township”) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees.

The Township provides the following services: fire protection, road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance and emergency medical services as well as general governmental services. The Township contracts with Mifflin Township through its Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium Regional Council of Governments (MECC RCOG) for emergency dispatching services. The Township’s management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.D., these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. In cases where these cash basis statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in the financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided. Following are the more significant of the Township’s accounting policies:

A. Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, the Township’s Basic Financial Statements (BFS) include all funds, agencies, boards, commissions, and departments for which the Township is financially accountable. Financial accountability, as defined by the GASB, exists if the Township appoints a voting majority of an organization’s Governing Board and is either able to impose its will on that organization or there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific burdens on, the Township. The Township may also be financially accountable for governmental organizations with a separately elected Governing Board, a Governing Board appointed by another government, or a jointly appointed Board that is fiscally dependent on the Township. The Township also took into consideration other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Township are such that exclusion would cause the Township’s basic financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Township has no component units.

The following organizations are described due to their significant relationship to the Township:

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

New Albany - Plain Local Joint Park District

The New Albany Plain-Local Joint Park District (the “Park District”) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating entities as follows: (1) The City of New Albany; (2) Plain Township; (3) The New Albany-Plain Local School District. The Park District possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority.

Rocky Fork-Blacklick Accord

The Rocky Fork-Blacklick Accord is an initiative of the City of New Albany, the City of Columbus, and Plain Township to establish long-range planning guidelines to manage future growth and development in the planning area.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

The Township is a participant in the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), a jointly governed organization. MORPC is composed of 74 representatives appointed by member governments who make up the Commission, the policy-making body of MORPC, and the oversight board. MORPC is a voluntary association of local governments in central and south central Ohio and a regional planning agency whose membership includes 42 political subdivisions in and around Franklin, Ross, Fayette, Delaware, Pickaway, Madison, Licking and Fairfield Counties, Ohio. The purpose of the organization is to improve the quality of life for member communities by improving housing conditions, to promote and support livability/sustainability measures as a means of addressing regional growth challenges, and to administer and facilitate the availability of regional environment infrastructure program funding to the full advantage of MORPC's members.

Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium Regional Council of Governments

For the period January 1, 2024 through December 15, 2024, the Township was a participant in the Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium Regional Council of Governments (MECC RCOG), a jointly governed organization. MECC RCOG is composed of representatives from Mifflin, Truro, Violet, Jefferson and Plain Townships. The purpose of the organization is to enable its members to more effectively manage the provision of shared services and programs, including efficient methods of delivery of public safety dispatch operations, fire, law enforcement and emergency medical and related services, technology services and selected benefit services, and to promote cooperative agreements and contracts between its members or other governmental agencies. At December 15, 2025, the Township terminated their contract with the MECC RCOG.

JOINT VENTURE

New Albany Performing Arts Center

In 2004, the Township entered into a joint operating agreement with New Albany-Plain Local School District (the "District"), the City of New Albany (the "City") and the New Albany Community Foundation (the "Foundation") for the operations of the New Albany Performing Arts Center (the "Center"). The Center was constructed through a joint collaboration between the Township, District and City. Each of these entities owns a portion of the Center, as tenants in common, equal to their financial contribution of the construction. The Township, District and Township committed amounts not to exceed \$5 million, \$5 million and \$3 million, respectively, to supplement the construction of the Center. The Township made the \$3 million dollar contribution to the Center on behalf of the Township from an area tax increment financing agreement. The Foundation has committed to use its best efforts to raise approximately \$2.3 million to be applied to an endowment for the purpose of subsidizing the operation of the Center. The Center will serve both school and community needs, including music, theater, dance and ballet.

The Center is operated by a 15-member Board of Trustees (the "Board") consisting of 3 members appointed by the District, 3 members appointed by the Township, 3 members appointed by the City and 3 member appointed by the Foundation. Those appointed individuals may appoint up to 3 additional members, approved by the owners. The Township does not appoint a voting majority of the Board.

The Township has no ongoing financial interest or responsibility in the operation of the Center other than it is obligated to pay 3/13 of the capital expenses approved on an annual basis. The Board of Directors approves the operating budget of the Center. The operating budget is prepared by the Board of Education and delivered to the Board of Directors and Owners annually by May 31st of each year, including projected expenses, the budget year costs from the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, and the Board of Education Usage Charge. "Owners" means the Township, Township and the Township. Complete financial statements for the Center may be obtained from the Treasurer of the New Albany-Plain Local School District at 55 North High Street, New Albany, OH 43054.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements, and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductible. This organization is discussed in Note 9.

B. Basis of Presentation

The Township's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and a fund financial statement which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Township as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the Township at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each of the Township's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the Township is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and receipts of interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the Township's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements - During the year, the Township segregates transactions related to certain Township functions or activities in separate funds to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Township at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

C. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds are used to segregate resources that are restricted as to use. The funds of the Township are divided into three categories, governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. The Township has no proprietary or fiduciary funds.

Governmental Funds - The Township classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants) and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the Township's major governmental funds:

General fund - This fund is used to account for all financial activities of the Township except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Fire district fund - This fund is used to account for all financial activities of the fire operations.

Gasoline tax fund - This fund accounts for revenues derived from gasoline taxes. Expenditures are restricted for road improvements, repairs, street signs, equipment, etc.

Other governmental funds of the Township are used to account for:

Nonmajor special revenue funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

Nonmajor capital projects funds - Capital projects funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Nonmajor debt service funds - Debt service funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest.

Nonmajor permanent funds - Permanent funds are used to account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs – that is, for the benefit of the government or its citizenry.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraphs.

D. Basis of Accounting

The Township's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the Township's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received, but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

E. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled and invested. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Township records. Interest in the pool is presented as “equity in pooled cash and investments”.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments. Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra revenue), respectively.

Investments were limited to Commercial Paper, U.S. Treasury notes, Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) securities, Negotiable CDs, U.S Government money market mutual fund and the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio). STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer’s Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, “Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants.” The Township measures its investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit participant transactions to \$250 million per day. Transactions in all of a participant’s accounts will be combined for this purpose. Twenty-four hours advance notice to STAR Ohio is appreciated for purchases or redemptions of \$100 million or more. For 2024, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates.

Interest earnings are allocated to Township funds according to State statutes, grant requirements, or debt related restrictions. Interest receipts credited to the general fund during 2024 were \$285,391 which includes \$181,151 assigned from other Township funds.

F. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The Township reports disbursements for inventories and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

G. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

H. Accumulated Leave

For 2024, GASB Statement No. 101, "Compensated Absences", was effective. GASB 101 defines a compensated absence as leave for which employees may receive cash payments when the leave is used for time off or receive cash payments for unused leave upon termination of employment. These payments could occur during employment or upon termination of employment. Compensated absences generally do not have a set payment schedule. The Township does not offer noncash settlements.

Township employees earn sick and vacation time that can be used for time off. In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave.

This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance as unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's cash basis of accounting.

I. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The Township recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. In addition to these disbursements the Township also contributes the entire employee share. As described in Notes 7 and 8, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB); these amounts are the required amounts and are not necessarily the amounts that are paid.

J. Long-term Obligations

The Township's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds or other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when the cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use asset) when entering into a lease, SBITA or finance purchase transaction is not the result of a cash transaction, neither another financing source nor a capital outlay disbursement is reported at inception. Lease payments, SBITA payments and finance purchase payments are reported when paid.

K. Net Cash Position

Net cash position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

The Township first applies restricted resources when an obligation is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

L. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Nonspendable - The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

Committed - The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Township Board of Trustees (the highest level of decision making authority). Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Township Board of Trustees removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Township for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the Township Board of Trustees, which includes giving the Fiscal Officer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

Unassigned - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) fund balance is available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

M. Interfund Activity

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing receipt (disbursement) in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements. Interfund transfers between government funds are eliminated for reporting in the statement of activities.

N. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of management and are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during 2024.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

O. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

P. Leases

Accruals related to leases (as defined by GASB 87) are not reflected under the Township's cash basis of accounting. Lease receipts/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

Q. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements

Accruals related to Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITA) contracts (as defined by GASB 96) are not reflected under the Township's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

R. Settlement Monies

Ohio has reached settlement agreements with various distributors of opioids which are subject to the OneOhio memorandum of understanding. The original settlement was reached in 2021 with annual payments anticipated through 2038. For 2024, distributions of \$27,115 are reflected as fines and forfeitures revenue in the OneOhio Opioid Settlement Fund (a nonmajor governmental fund) in the accompanying financial statements.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Change in Accounting Principles

For 2024, the Township has implemented certain paragraphs from GASB Implementation Guide No. 2021-1, certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022", GASB Statement No. 100, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62", Implementation Guide No. 2023-1 and GASB Statement No. 101, "Compensated Absences".

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on balances previously report by the Township.

GASB Statement No. 99 is to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

GASB Statement No. 100 is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

GASB Statement No. 101 is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 101 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes classify monies held by the Township into three categories.

Active deposits are public deposits necessary to meet current demands on the treasury. Such monies must be maintained either as cash in the Township treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Township has identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use, but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions or the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings accounts including but not limited to, passbook accounts;

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items 1 and 2 above, and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio);
8. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days and two hundred seventy days, respectively, from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met; and,
9. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

Protection of the Township's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutes participating in the Ohio Pooled Collateral Systems (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited, except as noted above. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Township and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Fiscal Officer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At December 31, 2024, the carrying amount of all Township deposits was \$1,264,068 and the bank balance of all Township deposits was \$1,274,928. Of the bank balance, \$255,197 was covered by the FDIC and the remaining was potentially exposed to custodial credit risk discussed below because those deposits were uninsured and could be uncollateralized. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the Township to a successful claim by the FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Township will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Township has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the Township and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State. For 2024, the Township's financial institutions were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 50 percent through the OPCS. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the Township to a successful claim by the FDIC.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

B. Investments

As of December 31, 2024, the Township had the following investments and maturities:

Investment type	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Investment Maturities				
			6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
FHLB	\$ 281,250	\$ 270,342	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 270,342	\$ -	\$ -
Commercial Paper	514,983	515,907	146,819	369,088	-	-	-
Negotiable CDs	2,554,974	2,567,015	645,116	713,433	250,180	546,970	411,316
US Treasury Note	527,932	525,337	-	-	-	-	525,337
US Government money market	11,093	11,093	-	-	-	-	-
STAR Ohio	3,535,971	3,535,971	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 7,426,203	\$ 7,425,665	\$ 791,935	\$ 1,082,521	\$ 520,522	\$ 546,970	\$ 936,653

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.82 years.

Interest Rate Risk: As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the Township's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: STAR Ohio and the US Government money market fund carry a rating of AAAm by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard service rating. The Township's investments in federal agency securities (FHLB) and US Treasury Notes were rated AA+ and AAA by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Township will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the Township's name. The Township has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Fiscal Officer or qualified trustee.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk: The Township places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the Township at December 31, 2024:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
FHLB	\$ 281,250	3.79
Commercial Paper	514,983	6.93
Negotiable CDs	2,554,974	34.40
US Treasury Note	527,932	7.11
US Government money market	11,093	0.15
STAR Ohio	<u>3,535,971</u>	<u>47.62</u>
Total	<u>\$ 7,426,203</u>	<u>100.00</u>

C. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net position - cash basis as of December 31, 2024:

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 1,264,068
Carrying amount of investments	<u>7,426,203</u>
Total	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>
 <u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>
Total	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAX

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the Township. Taxes collected from real property taxes (other than public utility) in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on the assessed value as of January 1 of that preceding year, the lien date. Assessed values are established by the County Auditor at 35 percent of appraised market value. All property is required to be revaluated every six years. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes collected in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values determined as of December 31 of the second year preceding the tax collection year, the lien date. Public utility tangible personal property is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2024 public utility property taxes became a lien December 31, 2023, are levied after October 1, 2024, and are collected in 2025 with real property taxes. Public utility property taxes are payable on the same dates as real property taxes described previously.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAX - (Continued)

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the County, including the Township. The County Auditor periodically remits to the Township its portion of the taxes collected.

The full tax rate for all Township operations for the year ended December 31, 2024, was \$15.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real and tangible personal property upon which 2023 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

	<u>2024</u>
Real property tax	\$ 1,090,583,060
Public utility tangible personal property	<u>64,077,300</u>
Total assessed valuation	<u>\$ 1,154,660,360</u>

NOTE 6 - DEBT OBLIGATIONS

Transactions for the year ended December 31, 2024 are summarized as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance December 31, 2023</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Balance December 31, 2024</u>
Refunding Bonds - Pool - direct borrowing	\$ 593,000	\$ -	\$ (115,000)	<u>\$ 478,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 593,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (115,000)</u>	<u>\$ 478,000</u>

General obligation bonds and notes are direct obligations of the Township for which its full faith, credit and resources, are pledged and are payable from tax levies on all taxable property in the Township.

Series 2015 Capital Facilities Refunding Bonds: On March 30, 2015, the Township issued \$1,515,000 in pool refunding bonds to refund the Series 2004 capital facilities bonds that were for the construction of the township aquatic center. These bonds are considered a direct borrowing in that the terms have been negotiated directly between the Township and the lender and are not offered for public sale. The bonds were issued for a thirteen year period, with final maturity on December 1, 2028 at an interest rate of 2.33%. The bonds are being retired from the debt service fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

The principal and interest requirements to retire the debt obligations outstanding at December 31, 2024, are as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Current Interest Bonds - direct borrowing</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 112,000	\$ 11,137	\$ 123,137
2026	120,000	8,528	128,528
2027	122,000	5,732	127,732
2028	<u>124,000</u>	<u>2,889</u>	<u>126,889</u>
Total	<u>\$ 478,000</u>	<u>\$ 28,286</u>	<u>\$ 506,286</u>

Under the cash basis of accounting, debt obligations at year end are not reported on the financial statements.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period.

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represents the Township’s proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan’s collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension/OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the Township’s obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Township cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the Township does receive the benefit of employees’ services in exchange for compensation including pension and OPEB.

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years, each retirement system’s board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The net pension liability (asset) and net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the pension disclosures. See Note 8 for the OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

Plan Description - Township employees, other than full-time firefighters, participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple employer public employee retirement system which administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a combination cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit/defined contribution pension plan. Effective January 1, 2022, new members may no longer select the Combined Plan, and current members may no longer make a plan change to this plan. Participating employers are divided into state, local, law enforcement and public safety divisions. While members in the state and local divisions may participate in all three plans, law enforcement and public safety divisions exist only within the traditional plan.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members in the traditional and combined plans were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group.

The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional and combined plans as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

Group A Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013 or five years after January 7, 2013	Group B 20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013	Group C Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013
State and Local	State and Local	State and Local
Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit
Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35
Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 35

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**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Traditional plan state and local members who retire before meeting the age-and-years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount. The amount of a member's pension benefit vests at retirement.

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

When a traditional plan benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, the member is eligible for an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA). This COLA is calculated on the member's original base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. Members retiring under the combined plan receive a cost-of-living adjustment on the defined benefit portion of their pension benefit. For those who retired prior to January 7, 2013, the cost-of-living adjustment is 3.00%. For those retiring on or after January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the adjustment is based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3.00%.

Defined contribution plan benefits are established in the plan documents, which may be amended by the Board. Member-directed plan and combined plan members who have met the retirement eligibility requirements may apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the combined plan consists of the member's contributions plus or minus the investment gains or losses resulting from the member's investment selections. Combined plan members wishing to receive benefits must meet the requirements for both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Member-directed participants must have attained the age of 55, have money on deposit in the defined contribution plan and have terminated public service to apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the member-directed plan consists of the members' contributions, vested employer contributions and investment gains or losses resulting from the members' investment selections. Employer contributions and associated investment earnings vest over a five-year period, at a rate of 20.00% each year. At retirement, members may select one of several distribution options for payment of the vested balance in their individual OPERS accounts. Options include the annuitization of the benefit (which includes joint and survivor options and will continue to be administered by OPERS), partial lump-sum payments (subject to limitations), a rollover of the vested account balance to another financial institution, receipt of entire account balance, net of taxes withheld, or a combination of these options. When members choose to annuitize their defined contribution benefit, the annuitized portion of the benefit is reclassified to a defined benefit.

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**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

	State and Local	
	Traditional	Combined
2024 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates		
Employer	14.0 %	14.0 %
Employee *	10.0 %	10.0 %
 2024 Actual Contribution Rates		
Employer:		
Pension **	14.0 %	12.0 %
Post-employment Health Care Benefits **	0.0	2.0
Total Employer	14.0 %	14.0 %
Employee	10.0 %	10.0 %

* Member contributions within the combined plan are not used to fund the defined benefit retirement allowance.

** These pension and employer health care rates are for the traditional and combined plans. The employer contributions rate for the member-directed plan is allocated 4 percent for health care with the remainder going to pension; however, effective July 1, 2022, a portion of the health care rate is funded with reserves.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined within the constraints of statutory limits for each division and expressed as a percentage of covered payroll.

The Township's contractually required contribution for the Traditional Pension Plan, the Combined Plan and Member-Directed Plan was \$110,458 for 2024.

Plan Description - Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund (OP&F)

Plan Description - Township full-time firefighters participate in Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by OP&F. OP&F provides retirement and disability pension benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by the Ohio State Legislature and are codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code. OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information and detailed information about OP&F fiduciary net position. The report that may be obtained by visiting the OP&F website at www.op-f.org or by writing to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Upon attaining a qualifying age with sufficient years of service, a member of OP&F may retire and receive a lifetime monthly pension. OP&F offers four types of service retirement: normal, service commuted, age/service commuted and actuarially reduced. Each type has different eligibility guidelines and is calculated using the member's average annual salary. The following discussion of the pension formula relates to normal service retirement.

For members hired after July 1, 2013, the minimum retirement age is 52 for normal service retirement with at least 25 years of service credit. For members hired on or before after July 1, 2013, the minimum retirement age is 48 for normal service retirement with at least 25 years of service credit.

The annual pension benefit for normal service retirement is equal to a percentage of the allowable average annual salary. The percentage equals 2.50% for each of the first 20 years of service credit, 2.00% for each of the next five years of service credit and 1.50% for each year of service credit in excess of 25 years. The maximum pension of 72.00% of the allowable average annual salary is paid after 33 years of service credit (see OP&F Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced above for additional information, including requirements for Deferred Retirement Option Plan provisions and reduced and unreduced benefits).

Under normal service retirement, retired members who are at least 55 years old and have been receiving OP&F benefits for at least one year may be eligible for a cost-of-living allowance adjustment. The age 55 provision for receiving a COLA does not apply to those who are receiving a permanent and total disability benefit, surviving beneficiaries under optional plans, and statutory survivors. Members participating in the DROP program have separate eligibility requirements related to COLA.

The COLA amount for members who have 15 or more years of service credit as of July 1, 2013, and members who are receiving a pension benefit that became effective before July 1, 2013, will be equal to 3.00% of the member's base pension benefit.

The COLA amount for members who have less than 15 years of service credit as of July 1, 2013, and members whose pension benefit became effective on or after July 1, 2013, will be equal to a percentage of the member's base pension benefit where the percentage is the lesser of 3.00% or the percentage increase in the consumer price index, if any, over the twelve-month period that ends on the thirtieth day of September of the immediately preceding year, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of one percent.

Members who retired prior to July 24, 1986, or their surviving beneficiaries under optional plans are entitled to cost-of-living allowance increases. The annual increase is paid on July 1st of each year. The annual COLA increase is \$360 under a Single Life Annuity Plan with proportional reductions for optional payment plans.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

	Firefighters
2024 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates	
Employer	24.00 %
Employee	12.25 %
2024 Actual Contribution Rates	
Employer:	
Pension	23.50 %
Post-employment Health Care Benefits	0.50 %
Total Employer	24.00 %
Employee	12.25 %

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution to OP&F was \$1,043,475 for 2024.

NOTE 8 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

See Note 7 for a description of the net OPEB liability.

Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

Plan Description - The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care trust. The 115 Health Care Trust (115 Trust or Health Care Trust) was established in 2014, under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The purpose of the 115 Trust is to fund health care for the Traditional Pension, Combined and Member-Directed plans. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. Retirees in the Traditional Pension and Combined plans may have an allowance deposited into a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) account to be used toward the health care program of their choice and other eligible expenses. An OPERS vendor is available to assist with the selection of a health care program.

With one exception, OPERS-provided health care coverage is neither guaranteed nor statutorily required. Ohio law currently requires Medicare Part A equivalent coverage or Medicare Part A premium reimbursement for eligible retirees and their eligible dependents.

OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents.

OPERS members enrolled in the Traditional Pension Plan or Combined Plan retiring with an effective date of January 1, 2022, or after must meet the following health care eligibility requirements to receive an HRA allowance:

Age 65 or older Retirees Minimum of 20 years of qualifying service credit

Age 60 to 64 Retirees Based on the following age-and-service criteria:

Group A 30 years of total service with at least 20 years of qualified health care service credit;

Group B 31 years of total service credit with at least 20 years of qualified health care service credit;

Group C 32 years of total service credit with at least 20 years of qualified health care service credit.

Age 59 or younger Based on the following age-and-service criteria:

Group A 30 years of qualified health care service credit;

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 8 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS - (Continued)

Group B 32 years of qualified health care service credit at any age or 31 years of qualified health care service credit and at least age 52;

Group C 32 years of qualified health care service credit and at least age 55.

Retirees who do not meet the requirement for coverage as a non-Medicare participant can become eligible for coverage at age 65 if they have at least 20 years of qualifying service.

Members with a retirement date prior to January 1, 2022, who were eligible to participate in the OPERS health care program will continue to be eligible after January 1, 2022, as summarized in the following table:

Group A	Group B	Group C
Age and Service Requirements December 1, 2014 or Prior	Age and Service Requirements December 1, 2014 or Prior	Age and Service Requirements December 1, 2014 or Prior
Any Age with 10 years of service credit	Any Age with 10 years of service credit	Any Age with 10 years of service credit
January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2021	January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2021	January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2021
Age 60 with 20 years of service credit or Any Age with 30 years of service credit	Age 52 with 31 years of service credit or Age 60 with 20 years of service credit or Any Age with 32 years of service credit	Age 55 with 32 years of service credit or Age 60 with 20 years of service credit

See the Age and Service Retirement section of the OPERS ACFR for a description of Groups A, B and C.

Eligible retirees may receive a monthly HRA allowance for reimbursement of health care coverage premiums and other qualified medical expenses. Monthly allowances, based on years of service and the age at which the retiree first enrolled in OPERS coverage, are provided to eligible retirees, and are deposited into their HRA account.

The base allowance is determined by OPERS and is currently \$1,200 per month for non-Medicare retirees and \$350 per month for Medicare retirees. The retiree receives a percentage of the base allowance, calculated based on years of qualifying service credit and age when the retiree first enrolled in OPERS health care. Monthly allowances range between 51.00% and 90.00% of the base allowance for both non-Medicare and Medicare retirees.

Retirees will have access to the OPERS Connector, which is a relationship with a vendor selected by OPERS to assist retirees participating in the health care program. The OPERS Connector may assist retirees in selecting and enrolling in the appropriate health care plan.

When members become Medicare-eligible, recipients enrolled in OPERS health care programs must enroll in Medicare Part A (hospitalization) and Medicare Part B (medical).

OPERS reimburses retirees who are not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A (hospitalization) for their Part A premiums as well as any applicable surcharges (late-enrollment fees). Retirees within this group must enroll in Medicare Part A and select medical coverage, and may select prescription coverage, through the OPERS Connector. OPERS also will reimburse 50.00% of the Medicare Part A premium and any applicable surcharges for eligible spouses. Proof of enrollment in Medicare Part A and confirmation that the retiree is not receiving reimbursement or payment from another source must be submitted. The premium reimbursement is added to the monthly pension benefit.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 8 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS - (Continued)

Participants in the Member-Directed Plan have access to the Connector and have a separate health care funding mechanism. A portion of employer contributions for these participants is allocated to a retiree medical account (RMA). Members who elect the Member-Directed Plan after July 1, 2015, will vest in the RMA over 15 years at a rate of 10.00% each year starting with the sixth year of participation. Members who elected the Member-Directed Plan prior to July 1, 2015, vest in the RMA over a five-year period at a rate of 20.00% per year. Upon separation or retirement, participants may use vested RMA funds for reimbursement of qualified medical expenses.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority allowing public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. When funding is approved by OPERS Board of Trustees, a portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans. Beginning in 2018, OPERS no longer allocated a portion of its employer contributions to health care for the traditional plan.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2024, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.00% of earnable salary. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. For 2024, OPERS did not allocate any employer contribution to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan. Beginning July 1, 2022, there was a 2.00% allocation to health care for the Combined Plan which has continued through 2024. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the member-directed plan for 2024 was 4.00%. Effective July 1, 2022, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves which has continued through 2024.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution was \$4,486 for 2024.

Plan Description - Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund (OP&F)

Plan Description - The Township contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) sponsored healthcare program, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined post-employment health care plan administered by a third-party provider. This program is not guaranteed and is subject to change at any time upon action of the Board of Trustees. On January 1, 2019, OP&F implemented a new model for health care. Under this new model, OP&F provides eligible retirees with a fixed stipend earmarked to pay for health care and Medicare Part B reimbursements.

OP&F contracted with a vendor who assists eligible retirees in choosing health care plans that are available where they live (both Medicare-eligible and pre-65 populations). A stipend funded by OP&F is available to these members through a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and can be used to reimburse retirees for qualified health care expenses.

Regardless of a benefit recipient's participation in the health care program, OP&F is required by law to pay eligible recipients of a service pension, disability benefit and spousal survivor benefit for their Medicare Part B insurance premium, up to the statutory maximum provided the benefit recipient is not eligible to receive reimbursement from any other source. Once OP&F receives the necessary documentation, a monthly reimbursement is included as part of the recipient's next benefit payment. The stipend provided by OP&F meets the definition of an Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 8 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS - (Continued)

OP&F maintains funds for health care in two separate accounts: one account for health care benefits and one account for Medicare Part B reimbursements. A separate health care trust accrual account is maintained for health care benefits under IRS Code Section 115 trust. IRS Code Section 401(h) account is maintained for Medicare Part B reimbursements.

The Ohio Revised Code allows, but does not mandate, OP&F to provide OPEB benefits. Authority for the OP&F Board of Trustees to provide health care coverage to eligible participants and to establish and amend benefits is codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code.

OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the plan. The report may be obtained by visiting the OP&F website at www.op-f.org or by writing to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code provides for contribution requirements of the participating employers and of plan members to the OP&F defined benefit pension plan. Participating employers are required to contribute to the pension plan at rates expressed as percentages of the payroll of active pension plan members, currently 19.50% and 24.00% of covered payroll for police and fire employer units, respectively. The Ohio Revised Code states that the employer contribution may not exceed 19.50% of covered payroll for police employer units and 24.00% of covered payroll for fire employer units. Active members do not make contributions to the OPEB Plan.

The Board of Trustees is authorized to allocate a portion of the total employer contributions for retiree health care benefits. For 2024, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was 0.50% of covered payroll. The amount of employer contributions allocated to the health care plan each year is subject to the Trustees' primary responsibility to ensure that pension benefits are adequately funded.

The Township's contractually required contribution to OP&F was \$22,202 for 2024.

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**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability
 - Automobile Liability
 - Automobile Physical Damage
 - Public Officials Liability
 - Property and Inland Marine
 - Law enforcement liability
 - Fidelity and Crime
 - Employment Practices Liability
 - Cyber Breach and Liability

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cash and investments	\$ 32,822,076
Actuarial liabilities	12,568,762

Insurance Benefits - Health Insurance

The Township provides health insurance to employees through United Health Care.

NOTE 10 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Litigation

The Township is currently not party to any pending litigation.

B. Grants

The Township receives significant financial assistance from numerous Federal, State and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on any of the financial statements of the individual funds included herein or on the overall financial position of the Township at December 31, 2024.

C. Jefferson Health Plan Claims

The Township was previously a member of the Jefferson Health Plan (the "Health Plan"), a claims servicing insurance pool organized under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 167, for the purpose of establishing and carrying out a cooperative program to administer medical, prescription, vision and dental benefits for employees of the participating entities and their eligible dependents. Upon leaving the Health Plan, the Township assumed responsibility for any incurred but not reported (IBNR) claims. At the date of the report, it was unclear the impact these claims would have on future cash disbursements of the Township.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 11 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2024, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund financial statements:

<u>Transfers to a nonmajor governmental fund from:</u>	
General fund	\$ 128,817
 <u>Transfers to general fund from:</u>	
Nonmajor governmental fund	<u>202,451</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 331,268</u></u>

Transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, (2) move receipts restricted to debt service from the funds collecting the receipts to the debt service fund as debt service payments become due, and (3) use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. All transfers were made in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated for reporting in the statement of activities.

NOTE 12 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

The Township utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year end may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund balance. At year end, the Township’s commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General fund	\$ 264,226
Fire district	241,637
Gasoline tax	91,215
Other governmental	<u>34,262</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 631,340</u></u>

NOTE 13 - TAX ABATEMENTS

The Township, along with the City of New Albany entered into property tax abatement agreements with property owners under The Ohio Community Reinvestment Area (“CRA”) program. The CRA program is a directive incentive tax exemption program benefiting property owners who renovate or construct new buildings. Under this program, the Township and/or Township designates areas to encourage revitalization of the existing housing stock and the development of new structures. The Township has 19 properties that are receiving tax abatements. The total value of taxes abated for 2024 was \$591,621.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 14 - FUND BALANCE

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the Township is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of resources in the governmental funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

Fund balance	General	Fire District Fund	Gasoline Tax Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Nonspendable:					
Permanent fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,033	\$ 2,033
Total Nonspendable	-	-	-	2,033	2,033
Restricted:					
OneOpioid programs	-	-	-	39,904	39,904
Public safety programs	-	2,532,246	-	333,076	2,865,322
Public works programs	-	-	1,159,806	502,795	1,662,601
Health programs	-	-	-	194,389	194,389
Ulry cemetery	-	-	-	3,164	3,164
Total Restricted	-	2,532,246	1,159,806	1,073,328	4,765,380
Committed:					
Conservation and recreation programs	-	-	-	339,317	339,317
Public works programs	-	-	-	152,753	152,753
Capital improvements - swimming pool	-	-	-	3,151	3,151
Capital improvements - fire	-	-	-	451,635	451,635
Total Committed	-	-	-	946,856	946,856
Assigned:					
General government	264,226	-	-	-	264,226
Subsequent year appropriation	250,871	-	-	-	250,871
Total Assigned	515,097	-	-	-	515,097
Unassigned	2,460,905	-	-	-	2,460,905
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 2,976,002</u>	<u>\$ 2,532,246</u>	<u>\$ 1,159,806</u>	<u>\$ 2,022,217</u>	<u>\$ 8,690,271</u>

NOTE 15 - COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. During 2024, the Township received COVID-19 funding. The Township will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary receipts:				
Taxes	\$ 1,351,659	\$ 1,311,658	\$ 1,221,037	\$ (90,621)
Intergovernmental	90,415	130,415	201,119	70,704
License, permits and fees	32,000	32,000	38,773	6,773
Interest	60,000	180,000	285,391	105,391
Rental income	20,000	22,646	22,646	-
Miscellaneous	-	20,000	20,728	728
Total budgetary receipts	1,554,074	1,696,719	1,789,694	92,975
Budgetary disbursements:				
Current:				
General government	1,927,418	2,101,807	1,437,375	664,432
Public safety	44,500	44,500	22,610	21,890
Health	184,000	184,971	60,959	124,012
Conservation - recreation	30,000	30,000	24,885	5,115
Total budgetary disbursements	2,185,918	2,361,278	1,545,829	815,449
Budgetary excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	(631,844)	(664,559)	243,865	908,424
Budgetary other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in	-	202,451	202,451	-
Transfers out	(178,817)	(178,817)	(128,817)	50,000
Total budgetary other financing sources (uses)	(178,817)	23,634	73,634	50,000
Net change in fund cash balance	(810,661)	(640,925)	317,499	958,424
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	2,050,504	2,050,504	2,050,504	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	343,773	343,773	343,773	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	\$ 1,583,616	\$ 1,753,352	\$ 2,711,776	\$ 958,424

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS
FIRE DISTRICT FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance with</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Budgetary</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>
			<u>Basis</u>	<u>Positive</u>
				<u>(Negative)</u>
Budgetary receipts:				
Taxes	\$ 7,441,709	\$ 7,441,709	\$ 8,023,320	\$ 581,611
Intergovernmental	500,000	500,000	401,968	(98,032)
Miscellaneous	191,400	100,278	159,655	59,377
Total budgetary receipts	<u>8,133,109</u>	<u>8,041,987</u>	<u>8,584,943</u>	<u>542,956</u>
Budgetary disbursements:				
Current:				
Public safety	10,659,001	9,627,280	9,040,995	586,285
Total budgetary disbursements	<u>10,659,001</u>	<u>9,627,280</u>	<u>9,040,995</u>	<u>586,285</u>
Net change in fund cash balance	(2,525,892)	(1,585,293)	(456,052)	1,129,241
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	2,322,820	2,322,820	2,322,820	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	423,840	423,840	423,840	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 220,768</u>	<u>\$ 1,161,367</u>	<u>\$ 2,290,608</u>	<u>\$ 1,129,241</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS
GASOLINE TAX FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance with</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Budgetary</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>
			<u>Basis</u>	<u>Positive</u>
				<u>(Negative)</u>
Budgetary receipts:				
Intergovernmental	\$ 103,500	\$ 100,000	\$ 143,776	\$ 43,776
Interest	-	33,500	46,538	13,038
Total budgetary receipts	<u>103,500</u>	<u>133,500</u>	<u>190,314</u>	<u>56,814</u>
Budgetary disbursements:				
Current:				
Public works	568,500	559,500	487,956	71,544
Total budgetary disbursements	<u>568,500</u>	<u>559,500</u>	<u>487,956</u>	<u>71,544</u>
Net change in fund cash balance	(465,000)	(426,000)	(297,642)	128,358
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	1,347,233	1,347,233	1,347,233	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	19,000	19,000	19,000	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 901,233</u>	<u>\$ 940,233</u>	<u>\$ 1,068,591</u>	<u>\$ 128,358</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budgetary Basis presented for the general fund and each major special revenue fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are as follows:

1. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as a cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis).
2. Some funds are included in the general fund (cash basis) but have separate legally adopted budgets (budgetary basis).

Adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations at the end of the year on the budgetary basis to the cash basis are as follows:

	General	Fire District Fund	Gasoline Tax Fund
Budgetary basis	\$ 317,499	\$ (456,052)	\$ (297,642)
Encumbrances	264,226	241,637	91,215
Cash basis	\$ 581,725	\$ (214,415)	\$ (206,427)



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Plain Township
Franklin County
45 Second Street
New Albany, Ohio 43054

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated August 22, 2025, wherein we noted the Township uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control.

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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
August 22, 2025



bhm cpa group, inc.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Plain Township
Franklin County
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For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Plain Township
Franklin County
45 Second Street
New Albany, Ohio 43054

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township, as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the General, Gasoline Tax Fund and Fire District Fund thereof for the years then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Township, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for 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 misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Township's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual financial report. The other information comprises the management's discussion & analysis but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 22, 2025, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
August 22, 2025

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

The management's discussion and analysis of Plain Township's (the "Township") financial performance provides an overall review of the Township's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2023 within the limitations of the Township's cash basis of accounting. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Township's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the cash-basis basic financial statements and the notes to the financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Township's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2023 are as follows:

- For 2023, the total net position of the Township decreased 7.87%.
- For 2023, general cash receipts accounted for \$10,017,751 or 88.86% of total governmental activities cash receipts, program specific cash receipts accounted for \$1,255,426 or 11.14% of total governmental activities.
- For 2023, the Township had \$12,056,281 in cash disbursements related to governmental activities; \$1,255,426 of these cash disbursements were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General cash receipts (primarily taxes) of \$10,017,751 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- The Township's major funds are the general fund, the fire district fund and the gasoline tax fund. The general fund, one of the Township's major funds, had cash receipts of \$1,405,359 in 2023. The cash disbursements and other financing disbursements of the general fund totaled \$1,205,701 in 2023. The general fund's fund balance increased \$199,658 from 2022 to 2023.
- The fire district fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$8,100,095 in 2023. The fire district fund had cash disbursements and other financing disbursements of \$9,476,739 in 2023. The fire district fund balance decreased \$1,376,644 from 2022 to 2023.
- The gasoline tax fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$176,518 in 2023. The gasoline tax fund had cash disbursements of \$137,390 in 2023. The gasoline tax fund balance increased \$39,128 from \$1,327,105 to \$1,366,233.

Using this Cash Basis Basic Financial Statements (BFS)

This cash basis annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, as applicable to the Township's cash basis of accounting. The statement of net position - cash basis and statement of activities - cash basis provide information about the activities of the whole Township, presenting an aggregate view of the Township's cash basis finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the Township's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. In the case of the Township, there are three major governmental funds. The general fund, fire district fund and gasoline tax fund are the Township's major funds.

Reporting the Township as a Whole

Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis and the Statement of Activities - Cash Basis

The statement of net position - cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis answer the question, "How did we do financially during 2023?" These statements include only net position using the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This basis of accounting takes into account only the current year's receipts and disbursements if the cash is actually received or paid.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

These two statements report the Township's net position and changes in that position on a cash basis. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Township as a whole, the cash basis financial position of the Township has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the Township's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio, availability of Federal and State funding, facility conditions, mandated Federal and State programs and other factors.

As a result of the use of the cash basis of accounting, certain assets, deferred outflows and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not collected) and liabilities, deferred inflows and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements. Therefore, when reviewing the financial information and discussion within this annual report, the reader should keep in mind the limitations resulting from the use of the cash basis of accounting.

In the statement of net position- cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis, the governmental activities include the Township's programs and services, including fire protection, road and bridge maintenance and repair, and ambulance services. The statement of net position - cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis can be found on pages 12 and 13 of this report.

Reporting the Township's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Township, like other State and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Township are classified as governmental or fiduciary funds.

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the Township's major funds. The Township uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the Township's most significant funds. The Township's major governmental funds are the general fund, fire district fund and gasoline tax fund. The analysis of the Township's major governmental funds begins on page 9.

Governmental Funds

All of the Township's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed view of the Township's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer cash basis financial resources that can be readily spent to finance various Township programs. Since the Township is reporting on the cash basis of accounting, there are no differences in the net position and fund cash balances or changes in net position and changes in fund balances. Therefore, no reconciliation is necessary between such financial statements. However, differences will be apparent when comparing gross receipts and disbursements on the fund financial statements to the statement of activities - cash basis due to transfers between governmental funds being eliminated for reporting in the statement of activities - cash basis. The governmental fund statements can be found on pages 14-15 of this report.

The Township's budgetary process accounts for transactions on the budgetary basis of accounting. The difference between the budgetary basis of accounting and the cash basis of accounting is that encumbrances at year-end are recorded as a disbursement on the budgetary basis of accounting whereas on the cash basis, the disbursement is only recorded when cash is paid. The budgetary statements for the general fund, the fire district fund and the gasoline tax fund are presented to demonstrate the Township's compliance with annually adopted budgets. The budgetary statements can be found on pages 16-18 of this report.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to gain a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 19-42 of this report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Recall that the statement of net position - cash basis provides the perspective of the Township as a whole. The table below provides a summary of the Township's net position at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 9,162,694	\$ 9,945,798
Total assets	<u>9,162,694</u>	<u>9,945,798</u>
<u>Net cash position</u>		
Restricted	5,584,381	6,746,283
Unrestricted	<u>3,578,313</u>	<u>3,199,515</u>
Total net cash position	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>	<u>\$ 9,945,798</u>

For 2023, net position of the Township decreased \$783,104 or 7.87%. The balance of government-wide unrestricted net cash position of \$3,578,313 at December 31, 2023 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

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**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

The table below shows the changes in net position for years 2023 and 2022.

	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2022</u>
Cash Receipts:		
Program cash receipts:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 1,041,694	\$ 898,438
Operating grants and contributions	<u>213,732</u>	<u>288,927</u>
Total program cash receipts	<u>1,255,426</u>	<u>1,187,365</u>
General cash receipts:		
Property and other taxes	8,785,922	8,825,333
Unrestricted grants	743,786	601,838
Investment receipts	220,671	77,058
Miscellaneous	<u>267,372</u>	<u>230,978</u>
Total general cash receipts	<u>10,017,751</u>	<u>9,735,207</u>
Total cash receipts	<u>11,273,177</u>	<u>10,922,572</u>
Cash Disbursements:		
Current:		
General government	915,463	827,510
Public safety	9,471,642	8,060,216
Public works	388,971	294,683
Health	171,728	198,669
Conservation and recreation	533,333	501,488
Capital outlay	446,717	167,417
Debt service:		
Principal retirement	112,000	109,000
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>16,427</u>	<u>18,966</u>
Total cash disbursements	<u>12,056,281</u>	<u>10,177,949</u>
Change in net position	(783,104)	744,623
Net position at beginning of year	<u>9,945,798</u>	<u>9,201,175</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>	<u>\$ 9,945,798</u>

Governmental Activities

Governmental net position decreased by \$783,104 in 2023 from 2022.

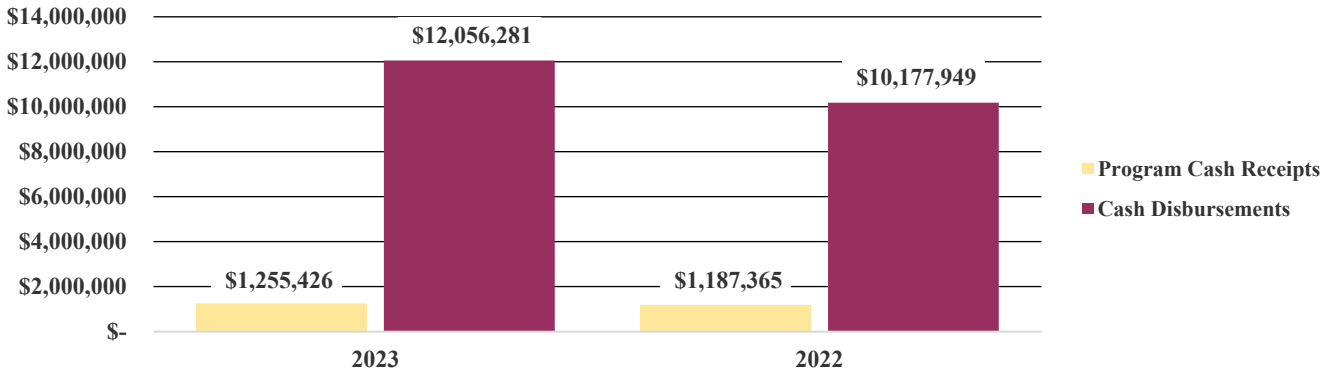
General government represents activities related to the governing body as well as activities that directly support Township programs. In 2023, general government cash disbursements totaled \$915,463 or 7.59% of total governmental cash disbursements. General government programs were supported by \$34,281 in direct charges to users for services. In 2023, the public safety programs accounted for \$9,471,642 or 78.56% of total governmental cash disbursements. These operations are primarily supported through taxes.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

The statement of activities - cash basis shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. The following graph shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the program cash receipts for 2023 and 2022. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax receipts and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

Governmental Activities - Program Cash Receipts vs. Total Cash Disbursements



The following table shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services <u>2023</u>	Net Cost of Services <u>2023</u>	Total Cost of Services <u>2022</u>	Net Cost of Services <u>2022</u>
Cash disbursements:				
Current:				
General government	\$ 915,463	\$ 881,182	\$ 827,510	\$ 680,661
Public safety	9,471,642	8,986,968	8,060,216	7,661,015
Public works	388,971	175,239	294,683	122,141
Health	171,728	120,320	198,669	149,237
Conservation and recreation	533,333	62,002	501,488	82,147
Capital outlay	446,717	446,717	167,417	167,417
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	112,000	112,000	109,000	109,000
Interest and fiscal charges	16,427	16,427	18,966	18,966
Total	<u>\$ 12,056,281</u>	<u>\$ 10,800,855</u>	<u>\$ 10,177,949</u>	<u>\$ 8,990,584</u>

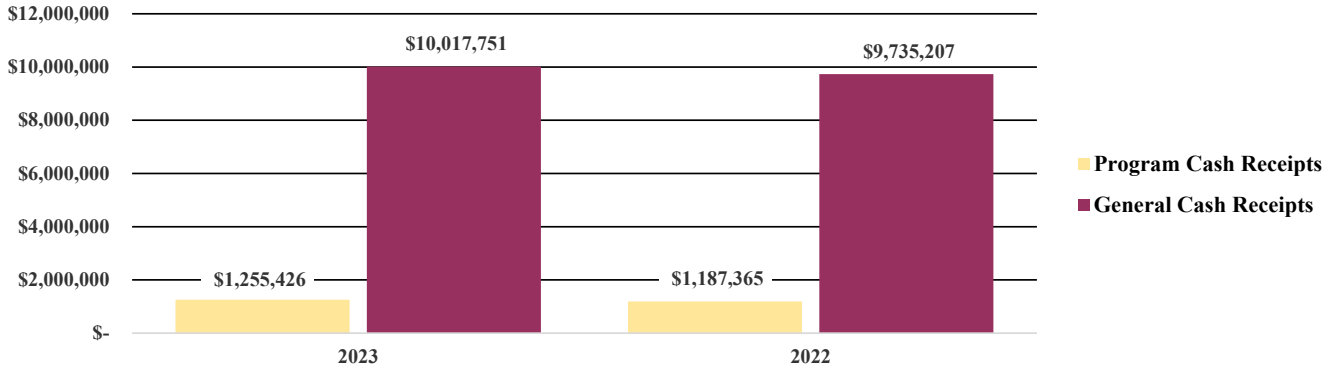
The dependence upon general cash receipts for governmental activities is apparent with 89.59% and 88.33% of cash disbursements supported through taxes and other general cash receipts during 2023 and 2022, respectively.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

The graph below presents the Township’s governmental receipts for 2023 and 2022.

Governmental Activities - General and Program Cash Receipts



Financial Analysis of the Government’s Funds

As noted earlier, the Township uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

The Township’s governmental funds are accounted for using the cash basis of accounting.

At December 31, 2023, the Township’s governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$9,162,694, which is \$783,104 less than the 2022 total of \$9,945,798. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 for all major and nonmajor governmental funds.

	<u>Fund Balance December 31, 2023</u>	<u>Fund Balance December 31, 2022</u>	<u>Change</u>
Major Funds:			
General	\$ 2,394,277	\$ 2,194,619	\$ 199,658
Fire district	2,746,661	4,123,305	(1,376,644)
Gasoline tax	1,366,233	1,327,105	39,128
Nonmajor funds	<u>2,655,523</u>	<u>2,300,769</u>	<u>354,754</u>
Total	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>	<u>\$ 9,945,798</u>	<u>\$ (783,104)</u>

General Fund

The general fund, one of the Township’s major funds, had cash receipts of \$1,405,359 in 2023. The cash disbursements and other financing disbursements of the general fund totaled \$1,205,701 in 2023. The general fund’s fund balance increased \$199,658 from 2022 to 2023.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

The table that follows assists in illustrating the cash receipts of the general fund.

	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>Cash Receipts:</u>			
Taxes	\$ 946,060	\$ 944,531	\$ 1,529
Intergovernmental	165,550	168,193	(2,643)
License, permits and fees	34,281	45,221	(10,940)
Interest	220,671	73,690	146,981
Rental income	21,836	21,038	798
Miscellaneous	<u>16,961</u>	<u>19,353</u>	<u>(2,392)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,405,359</u>	<u>\$ 1,272,026</u>	<u>\$ 133,333</u>

Investment income cash receipts increased due to higher interest rates earned on investments.

The table that follows assists in illustrating the expenditures of the general fund.

	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>Cash Disbursements</u>			
General government	\$ 915,463	\$ 815,128	\$ 100,335
Public safety	21,805	25,195	(3,390)
Health	45,121	77,076	(31,955)
Conservation and recreation	<u>74,885</u>	<u>74,885</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,057,274</u>	<u>\$ 992,284</u>	<u>\$ 64,990</u>

Fire District Fund

The fire district fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$8,100,095 in 2023. The fire district fund had cash disbursements and other financing disbursements of \$9,476,739 in 2022. The fire district fund balance decreased \$1,376,644 from 2022 to 2023.

Gasoline Tax Fund

The gasoline tax fund, a Township major fund, had cash receipts of \$176,518 in 2023. The gasoline tax fund had cash disbursements of \$137,390 in 2023. The gasoline tax fund balance increased \$39,128 from 2022 to 2023.

Budgeting Highlights - General Fund

The Township's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

For 2023, the final budgetary basis receipts of \$1,224,047 were \$29,162 more than the original budget basis receipts of \$1,194,885. Actual cash receipts of \$1,405,359 were \$181,312 greater than final budget basis receipts. The final budgeted disbursements and other financing disbursements were \$2,174,205. Actual budgetary basis disbursements and other financing disbursements of \$1,549,474 were less than final budget estimates by \$624,731.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

The Township does not record capital assets in the accompanying cash basis basic financial statements, but records payments for capital assets as disbursements. The Township had capital outlay disbursements of \$446,717 and \$167,417 during 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Debt Administration

The Township had the following debt outstanding at December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2022</u>
Refunding Bonds - Pool - direct borrowing	<u>\$ 593,000</u>	<u>\$ 705,000</u>

See Note 6 for more information on the Township's debt.

Current Financial Related Activities

The following economic factors were taken into consideration in preparing the budget for 2024:

Plain Township is located in Franklin County in central Ohio. Unemployment in Franklin County typically is slightly below the State and national levels.

State funding is uncertain due to projected budget cuts at the State level. For Plain Township the Local government revenue funds were increased by 3.21% in 2023. Sales and property tax revenues are expected to remain consistent as well as expenditures for 2024. We monitor the real estate tax delinquency information provided by Franklin County for potential revenue shortfall. The voters approved a 2.9 mil fire levy replacement and reduction (from the 1990 3.0 mil fire levy) for collection in 2015 and payment in 2016 collections; we expect this to meet the projected financial needs of the Plain Township Fire Department for the next 4 years.

These economic factors were considered in preparing the Township's budget for 2024. The Township has continued to practice conservative budgetary practices in order to preserve a positive financial position in future years.

Contacting the Township's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Township's finances and to show the Township's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Bud Zappitelli, Fiscal Officer, Plain Township, 45 Second Street, P.O. Box 273, New Albany, Ohio, 43054.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 9,162,694
Total assets	<u>9,162,694</u>
Net cash position:	
Restricted for:	
Public works	1,883,114
American rescue plan act and OneOpioid	215,241
Public safety	3,246,520
Health and human services	234,312
Ulry cemetery	3,162
Nonexpendable	2,032
Unrestricted	<u>3,578,313</u>
Total net cash position	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

		Program Cash Receipts		Net (Cash Disbursements) Cash Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 915,463	\$ 34,281	\$ -	\$ (881,182)
Public safety	9,471,642	484,674	-	(8,986,968)
Health	171,728	51,408	-	(120,320)
Public works	388,971	-	213,732	(175,239)
Conservation and recreation	533,333	471,331	-	(62,002)
Capital outlay	446,717	-	-	(446,717)
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	112,000	-	-	(112,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	16,427	-	-	(16,427)
Total governmental activities	\$ 12,056,281	\$ 1,041,694	\$ 213,732	(10,800,855)
General receipts:				
Property and other taxes levied for:				
General purposes				946,060
Public safety - Fire district				7,578,557
Road and bridge improvements				261,305
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs				743,786
Investment receipts				220,671
Miscellaneous				267,372
Total general receipts				10,017,751
Change in net position				(783,104)
Net cash position at beginning of year				9,945,798
Net cash position at end of year				\$ 9,162,694

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire District</u>	<u>Gasoline Tax</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Assets:					
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 2,394,277	\$ 2,746,661	\$ 1,366,233	\$ 2,655,523	\$ 9,162,694
Fund balances:					
Nonspendable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,032	\$ 2,032
Restricted	-	2,746,661	1,366,233	1,469,455	5,582,349
Committed	-	-	-	1,184,036	1,184,036
Assigned	1,132,174	-	-	-	1,132,174
Unassigned	1,262,103	-	-	-	1,262,103
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 2,394,277</u>	<u>\$ 2,746,661</u>	<u>\$ 1,366,233</u>	<u>\$ 2,655,523</u>	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	General	Fire District	Gasoline Tax	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash receipts:					
Taxes	\$ 946,060	\$ 7,578,555	\$ -	\$ 261,305	\$ 8,785,920
Charges for services	-	-	-	956,005	956,005
Licenses, permits and fees	34,281	-	-	51,408	85,689
Intergovernmental	165,550	407,555	142,099	195,157	910,361
Interest	220,671	-	34,419	12,740	267,830
Rental income	21,836	-	-	-	21,836
Miscellaneous	16,961	113,985	-	114,590	245,536
Total cash receipts	<u>1,405,359</u>	<u>8,100,095</u>	<u>176,518</u>	<u>1,591,205</u>	<u>11,273,177</u>
Cash disbursements:					
Current:					
General government	915,463	-	-	-	915,463
Public safety	21,805	8,926,739	-	523,098	9,471,642
Health	45,121	-	-	126,607	171,728
Public works	-	-	137,390	251,581	388,971
Conservation and recreation	74,885	-	-	458,448	533,333
Capital outlay	-	-	-	446,717	446,717
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	-	-	-	112,000	112,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	-	16,427	16,427
Total cash disbursements	<u>1,057,274</u>	<u>8,926,739</u>	<u>137,390</u>	<u>1,934,878</u>	<u>12,056,281</u>
Excess (deficiency) of cash receipts over (under) cash disbursements	<u>348,085</u>	<u>(826,644)</u>	<u>39,128</u>	<u>(343,673)</u>	<u>(783,104)</u>
Other financing receipts (disbursements):					
Transfers in	-	-	-	698,427	698,427
Transfers out	(148,427)	(550,000)	-	-	(698,427)
Total other financing receipts (disbursements)	<u>(148,427)</u>	<u>(550,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>698,427</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	199,658	(1,376,644)	39,128	354,754	(783,104)
Fund balances at beginning of year	2,194,619	4,123,305	1,327,105	2,300,769	9,945,798
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 2,394,277</u>	<u>\$ 2,746,661</u>	<u>\$ 1,366,233</u>	<u>\$ 2,655,523</u>	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Receipts:				
Taxes	\$ 951,470	\$ 960,128	\$ 946,060	\$ (14,068)
Intergovernmental	131,415	130,415	165,550	35,135
License, permits and fees	32,000	32,000	34,281	2,281
Interest	60,000	60,000	220,671	160,671
Rental income	-	21,504	21,836	332
Miscellaneous	20,000	20,000	16,961	(3,039)
Total receipts	<u>1,194,885</u>	<u>1,224,047</u>	<u>1,405,359</u>	<u>181,312</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
General government	1,554,778	1,704,178	1,244,236	459,942
Public safety	44,000	44,000	21,805	22,195
Health	167,000	167,600	60,121	107,479
Conservation and recreation	80,000	80,000	74,885	5,115
Total disbursements	<u>1,845,778</u>	<u>1,995,778</u>	<u>1,401,047</u>	<u>594,731</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>(650,893)</u>	<u>(771,731)</u>	<u>4,312</u>	<u>776,043</u>
Other financing disbursements:				
Transfers out	<u>(178,427)</u>	<u>(178,427)</u>	<u>(148,427)</u>	<u>30,000</u>
Total other financing disbursements	<u>(178,427)</u>	<u>(178,427)</u>	<u>(148,427)</u>	<u>30,000</u>
Net change in fund balance	(829,320)	(950,158)	(144,115)	806,043
Unencumbered fund balance at beginning of year	2,166,857	2,166,857	2,166,857	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	<u>27,762</u>	<u>27,762</u>	<u>27,762</u>	<u>-</u>
Unencumbered fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 1,365,299</u>	<u>\$ 1,244,461</u>	<u>\$ 2,050,504</u>	<u>\$ 806,043</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS)
FIRE DISTRICT FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Receipts:				
Taxes	\$ 7,172,914	\$ 7,227,024	\$ 7,578,555	\$ 351,531
Intergovernmental	500,000	500,000	407,555	(92,445)
Miscellaneous	191,400	191,400	113,985	(77,415)
Total receipts	<u>7,864,314</u>	<u>7,918,424</u>	<u>8,100,095</u>	<u>181,671</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Public safety	9,444,500	9,833,500	9,350,580	482,920
Total disbursements	<u>9,444,500</u>	<u>9,833,500</u>	<u>9,350,580</u>	<u>482,920</u>
Excess of cash disbursements over cash receipts	<u>(1,580,186)</u>	<u>(1,915,076)</u>	<u>(1,250,485)</u>	<u>664,591</u>
Other financing disbursements:				
Transfers out	(550,000)	(550,000)	(550,000)	-
Total other financing disbursements	<u>(550,000)</u>	<u>(550,000)</u>	<u>(550,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balance	(2,130,186)	(2,465,076)	(1,800,485)	664,591
Unencumbered fund balance at beginning of year	3,858,409	3,858,409	3,858,409	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	<u>264,896</u>	<u>264,896</u>	<u>264,896</u>	<u>-</u>
Unencumbered fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 1,993,119</u>	<u>\$ 1,658,229</u>	<u>\$ 2,322,820</u>	<u>\$ 664,591</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS)
GASOLINE TAX FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Receipts				
Intergovernmental	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 142,099	\$ 42,099
Interest	3,500	3,500	34,419	30,919
Total receipts	<u>103,500</u>	<u>103,500</u>	<u>176,518</u>	<u>73,018</u>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Public works	576,470	576,470	156,390	420,080
Total disbursements	<u>576,470</u>	<u>576,470</u>	<u>156,390</u>	<u>420,080</u>
Net change in fund balance	(472,970)	(472,970)	20,128	493,098
Unencumbered fund balance at beginning of year	1,293,635	1,293,635	1,293,635	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	<u>33,470</u>	<u>33,470</u>	<u>33,470</u>	-
Unencumbered fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 854,135</u>	<u>\$ 854,135</u>	<u>\$ 1,347,233</u>	<u>\$ 493,098</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWNSHIP

Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the “Township”) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees.

The Township provides the following services: fire protection, road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance and emergency medical services as well as general governmental services. The Township contracts with Mifflin Township through its Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium Regional Council of Governments (MECC RCOG) for emergency dispatching services. The Township’s management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.D., these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. In cases where these cash basis statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in the financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided. Following are the more significant of the Township’s accounting policies:

A. Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, the Township’s Basic Financial Statements (BFS) include all funds, agencies, boards, commissions, and departments for which the Township is financially accountable. Financial accountability, as defined by the GASB, exists if the Township appoints a voting majority of an organization’s Governing Board and is either able to impose its will on that organization or there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific burdens on, the Township. The Township may also be financially accountable for governmental organizations with a separately elected Governing Board, a Governing Board appointed by another government, or a jointly appointed Board that is fiscally dependent on the Township. The Township also took into consideration other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Township are such that exclusion would cause the Township’s basic financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Township has no component units.

The following organizations are described due to their significant relationship to the Township:

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

New Albany - Plain Local Joint Park District

The New Albany Plain-Local Joint Park District (the “Park District”) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating entities as follows: (1) The City of New Albany; (2) Plain Township; (3) The New Albany-Plain Local School District. The Park District possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority.

Rocky Fork-Blacklick Accord

The Rocky Fork-Blacklick Accord is an initiative of the City of New Albany, the City of Columbus, and Plain Township to establish long-range planning guidelines to manage future growth and development in the planning area.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

The Township is a participant in the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), a jointly governed organization. MORPC is composed of 74 representatives appointed by member governments who make up the Commission, the policy-making body of MORPC, and the oversight board. MORPC is a voluntary association of local governments in central and south central Ohio and a regional planning agency whose membership includes 42 political subdivisions in and around Franklin, Ross, Fayette, Delaware, Pickaway, Madison, Licking and Fairfield Counties, Ohio. The purpose of the organization is to improve the quality of life for member communities by improving housing conditions, to promote and support livability/sustainability measures as a means of addressing regional growth challenges, and to administer and facilitate the availability of regional environment infrastructure program funding to the full advantage of MORPC's members.

Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium Regional Council of Governments

The Township is a participant in the Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium Regional Council of Governments (MECC RCOG), a jointly governed organization. MECC RCOG is composed of representatives from Mifflin, Truro, Violet, Jefferson and Plain Townships. The purpose of the organization is to enable its members to more effectively manage the provision of shared services and programs, including efficient methods of delivery of public safety dispatch operations, fire, law enforcement and emergency medical and related services, technology services and selected benefit services, and to promote cooperative agreements and contracts between its members or other governmental agencies.

JOINT VENTURE

New Albany Performing Arts Center

In 2004, the Township entered into a joint operating agreement with New Albany-Plain Local School District (the "District"), the City of New Albany (the "City") and the New Albany Community Foundation (the "Foundation") for the operations of the New Albany Performing Arts Center (the "Center"). The Center was constructed through a joint collaboration between the Township, District and City. Each of these entities owns a portion of the Center, as tenants in common, equal to their financial contribution of the construction. The Township, District and Township committed amounts not to exceed \$5 million, \$5 million and \$3 million, respectively, to supplement the construction of the Center. The Township made the \$3 million dollar contribution to the Center on behalf of the Township from an area tax increment financing agreement. The Foundation has committed to use its best efforts to raise approximately \$2.3 million to be applied to an endowment for the purpose of subsidizing the operation of the Center. The Center will serve both school and community needs, including music, theater, dance and ballet.

The Center is operated by a 15-member Board of Trustees (the "Board") consisting of 3 members appointed by the District, 3 members appointed by the Township, 3 members appointed by the City and 3 member appointed by the Foundation. Those appointed individuals may appoint up to 3 additional members, approved by the owners. The Township does not appoint a voting majority of the Board.

The Township has no ongoing financial interest or responsibility in the operation of the Center other than it is obligated to pay 3/13 of the capital expenses approved on an annual basis. The Board of Directors approves the operating budget of the Center. The operating budget is prepared by the Board of Education and delivered to the Board of Directors and Owners annually by May 31st of each year, including projected expenses, the budget year costs from the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, and the Board of Education Usage Charge. "Owners" means the Township, Township and the Township. Complete financial statements for the Center may be obtained from the Treasurer of the New Albany-Plain Local School District at 55 North High Street, New Albany, OH 43054.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

PUBLIC Township RISK POOL

Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a public entity risk pool. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements, and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductible. This organization is discussed in Note 9.

B. Basis of Presentation

The Township's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and a fund financial statement which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Township as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the Township at year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each of the Township's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the Township is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and receipts of interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the Township's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements - During the year, the Township segregates transactions related to certain Township functions or activities in separate funds to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the Township at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

C. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds are used to segregate resources that are restricted as to use. The funds of the Township are divided into three categories, governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. The Township has no proprietary or fiduciary funds.

Governmental Funds - The Township classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants) and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the Township's major governmental funds:

General fund - This fund is used to account for all financial activities of the Township except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Fire district fund - This fund is used to account for all financial activities of the fire operations.

Gasoline tax fund - This fund accounts for revenues derived from gasoline taxes. Expenditures are restricted for road improvements, repairs, street signs, equipment, etc.

Other governmental funds of the Township are used to account for (a) financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets, (b) specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to an expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects and (c) financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraphs.

D. Basis of Accounting

The Township's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the Township's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received, but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

E. Budgetary Process

All funds are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the amended certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations ordinance, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The amended certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Township may appropriate.

The appropriations ordinance is the Township's authorization to spend resources and sets limits on disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Township. The legal level of control has been established at the object level for all funds. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved).

The amended certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Township Fiscal Officer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Township.

The appropriations ordinance is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation ordinance for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Township during the year.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

F. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the Township is pooled and invested. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Township records. Interest in the pool is presented as “equity in pooled cash and investments”.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments. Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra revenue), respectively.

Investments were limited to Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB) securities, Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) securities, Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) securities, Negotiable CDs, U.S Government money market mutual fund and the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio). STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer’s Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, “Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants.” The Township measures its investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For 2023, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million or more is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Interest earnings are allocated to Township funds according to State statutes, grant requirements, or debt related restrictions. Interest receipts credited to the general fund during 2023 were \$220,671 which includes \$156,352 assigned from other Township funds.

G. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The Township reports disbursements for inventories and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

H. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

I. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township’s cash basis of accounting.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

J. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The Township recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. In addition to these disbursements the Township also contributes the entire employee share. As described in Notes 7 and 8, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB); these amounts are the required amounts and are not necessarily the amounts that are paid.

K. Long-term Obligations

The Township's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds or other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when the cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use asset) when entering into a lease, SBITA or finance purchase transaction is not the result of a cash transaction, neither another financing source nor a capital outlay disbursement is reported at inception. Lease payments, SBITA payments and finance purchase payments are reported when paid.

L. Net Cash Position

Net cash position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

The Township first applies restricted resources when an obligation is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

M. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable - The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

Committed - The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Township Board of Trustees (the highest level of decision making authority). Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Township Board of Trustees removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Township for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the Township Board of Trustees, which includes giving the Fiscal Officer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

Unassigned - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) fund balance is available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

N. Interfund Activity

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing receipt (disbursement) in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements. Interfund transfers between government funds are eliminated for reporting in the statement of activities.

O. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of management and are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during 2023.

P. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

Q. Leases

Accruals related to leases (as defined by GASB 87) are not reflected under the Township's cash basis of accounting. Lease receipts/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

R. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements

Accruals related to Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITA) contracts (as defined by GASB 96) are not reflected under the Township's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

S. Settlement Monies

Ohio has reached settlement agreements with various distributors of opioids which are subject to the OneOhio memorandum of understanding. The original settlement was reached in 2021 with annual payments anticipated through 2038. For 2023, distributions of \$8,779 are reflected as miscellaneous revenue in the OneOhio Opioid Settlement Fund (a nonmajor governmental fund) in the accompanying financial statements.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Change in Accounting Principles

For 2023, the Township has implemented GASB Statement No. 94, "Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements", GASB Statement No. 96, "Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements", certain questions and answers of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 and certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022".

GASB Statement No. 94 is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public partnership arrangements (PPPs). As used in this Statement, a PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 94 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

GASB Statement No. 96 provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). This Statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 96 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

GASB Statement No. 99 is to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Township.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes classify monies held by the Township into three categories.

Active deposits are public deposits necessary to meet current demands on the treasury. Such monies must be maintained either as cash in the Township treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Township has identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use, but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions or the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings accounts including but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items 1 and 2 above, and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio);
8. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days and two hundred seventy days, respectively, from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met; and,
9. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Protection of the Township's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutes participating in the Ohio Pooled Collateral Systems (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited, except as noted above. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Township and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Fiscal Officer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At December 31, 2023, the carrying amount of all Township deposits was \$1,658,178 and the bank balance of all Township deposits was \$1,707,577. Of the bank balance, \$255,195 was covered by the FDIC and the remaining was potentially exposed to custodial credit risk discussed below because those deposits were uninsured and could be uncollateralized. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the Township to a successful claim by the FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Township will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Township has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the Township and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State. For 2023, the Township's financial institutions were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 50 percent through the OPCS. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the Township to a successful claim by the FDIC.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

B. Investments

As of December 31, 2023, the Township had the following investments and maturities:

Investment type	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Investment Maturities				
			6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
FFCB	\$ 269,259	\$ 268,770	\$ 148,842	\$ -	\$ 119,928	\$ -	\$ -
FHLB	626,187	599,260	193,098	145,107	-	-	261,055
Negotiable CDs	2,812,038	2,802,939	-	743,800	765,336	709,141	584,662
US Government money market	23,870	23,870	23,870	-	-	-	-
STAR Ohio	<u>3,773,162</u>	<u>3,773,162</u>	<u>3,773,162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 7,504,516</u>	<u>\$ 7,468,001</u>	<u>\$ 4,138,972</u>	<u>\$ 888,907</u>	<u>\$ 885,264</u>	<u>\$ 709,141</u>	<u>\$ 845,717</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.72 years.

Interest Rate Risk: As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the Township's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: STAR Ohio and the US Government money market fund carry a rating of AAAM by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard service rating. The Township's investments in federal agency securities (FFCB and FHLB) and US Treasury Notes were rated AA+ and AAA by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Township will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the Township's name. The Township has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Fiscal Officer or qualified trustee.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk: The Township places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the Township at December 31, 2023:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
FFCB	\$ 269,259	3.59
FHLB	626,187	8.34
Negotiable CDs	2,812,038	37.46
US Government money market	23,870	0.32
STAR Ohio	<u>3,773,162</u>	<u>50.29</u>
Total	<u>\$ 7,504,516</u>	<u>100.00</u>

C. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net position - cash basis as of December 31, 2023:

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 1,658,178
Carrying amount of investments	<u>7,504,516</u>
Total	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>
 <u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>
Total	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAX

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the Township. Taxes collected from real property taxes (other than public utility) in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on the assessed value as of January 1 of that preceding year, the lien date. Assessed values are established by the County Auditor at 35 percent of appraised market value. All property is required to be revaluated every six years. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes collected in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values determined as of December 31 of the second year preceding the tax collection year, the lien date. Public utility tangible personal property is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2023 public utility property taxes became a lien December 31, 2022, are levied after October 1, 2023, and are collected in 2024 with real property taxes. Public utility property taxes are payable on the same dates as real property taxes described previously.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAX - (Continued)

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the County, including the Township. The County Auditor periodically remits to the Township its portion of the taxes collected.

The full tax rate for all Township operations for the year ended December 31, 2023, was \$15.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real and tangible personal property upon which 2022 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

	<u>2023</u>
Real property tax	\$ 798,723,070
Public utility tangible personal property	<u>62,838,550</u>
Total assessed valuation	<u>\$ 861,561,620</u>

NOTE 6 - DEBT OBLIGATIONS

Transactions for the year ended December 31, 2023 are summarized as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance December 31, 2022</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Balance December 31, 2023</u>
Refunding Bonds - Pool - direct borrowing	\$ 705,000	\$ -	\$ (112,000)	\$ 593,000
Total	<u>\$ 705,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (112,000)</u>	<u>\$ 593,000</u>

General obligation bonds and notes are direct obligations of the Township for which its full faith, credit and resources, are pledged and are payable from tax levies on all taxable property in the Township.

Series 2015 Capital Facilities Refunding Bonds: On March 30, 2015, the Township issued \$1,515,000 in pool refunding bonds to refund the Series 2004 capital facilities bonds that were for the construction of the township aquatic center. These bonds are considered a direct borrowing in that the terms have been negotiated directly between the Township and the lender and are not offered for public sale. The bonds were issued for a thirteen year period, with final maturity on December 1, 2028 at an interest rate of 2.33%. The bonds are being retired from the debt service fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

The principal and interest requirements to retire the debt obligations outstanding at December 31, 2023, are as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Current Interest Bonds - direct borrowing</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 115,000	\$ 13,817	\$ 128,817
2025	112,000	11,137	123,137
2026	120,000	8,528	128,528
2027	122,000	5,732	127,732
2028	<u>124,000</u>	<u>2,889</u>	<u>126,889</u>
Total	<u>\$ 593,000</u>	<u>\$ 42,103</u>	<u>\$ 635,103</u>

Under the cash basis of accounting, debt obligations at year end are not reported on the financial statements.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Net Pension Liability/Asset and Net OPEB Liability

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions – between an employer and its employees – of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions and OPEB are provided to an employee – on a deferred-payment basis – as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension liability/asset and the net OPEB liability represent the Township’s proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan’s collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension/OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability/asset calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost-of-living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

The Ohio Revised Code limits the Township’s obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Township cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the Township does receive the benefit of employees’ services in exchange for compensation including pension and OPEB.

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability/asset is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years, each retirement system’s board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/OPEB liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide health care to eligible benefit recipients.

The net pension liability/asset net OPEB liability are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the pension disclosures. See Note 8 for the OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

Plan Description - Township employees, other than full-time police and firefighters, participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple employer public employee retirement system which administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a combination cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit/defined contribution pension plan. Participating employers are divided into state, local, law enforcement and public safety divisions. While members in the state and local divisions may participate in all three plans, law enforcement and public safety divisions exist only within the traditional plan.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members in the traditional and combined plans were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group.

The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional and combined plans as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

Group A Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013 or five years after January 7, 2013	Group B 20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013	Group C Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013
State and Local	State and Local	State and Local
Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age and Service Requirements: Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit
Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	Traditional Plan Formula: 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35
Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 30	Combined Plan Formula: 1% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 1.25% for service years in excess of 35

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount. The amount of a member's pension benefit vests upon receipt of the initial benefit payment. The options for Public Safety and Law Enforcement permit early retirement under qualifying circumstances as early as age 48 with a reduced benefit.

When a traditional plan benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, the member is eligible for an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA). This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. Members retiring under the combined plan receive a cost-of-living adjustment on the defined benefit portion of their pension benefit. For those who retired prior to January 7, 2013, the cost-of-living adjustment is 3.00%. For those retiring on or after January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the adjustment is based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3.00%.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Defined contribution plan benefits are established in the plan documents, which may be amended by the Board. Member-directed plan and combined plan members who have met the retirement eligibility requirements may apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the combined plan consists of the member's contributions plus or minus the investment gains or losses resulting from the member's investment selections. Combined plan members wishing to receive benefits must meet the requirements for both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Member-directed participants must have attained the age of 55, have money on deposit in the defined contribution plan and have terminated public service to apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the member-directed plan consists of the members' contributions, vested employer contributions and investment gains or losses resulting from the members' investment selections. Employer contributions and associated investment earnings vest over a five-year period, at a rate of 20.00% each year. At retirement, members may select one of several distribution options for payment of the vested balance in their individual OPERS accounts. Options include the annuitization of the benefit (which includes joint and survivor options and will continue to be administered by OPERS), partial lump-sum payments (subject to limitations), a rollover of the vested account balance to another financial institution, receipt of entire account balance, net of taxes withheld, or a combination of these options. When members choose to annuitize their defined contribution benefit, the annuitized portion of the benefit is reclassified to a defined benefit.

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**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

	<u>State and Local</u>
	<u>Traditional</u>
2023 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates	
Employer	14.0 %
Employee *	10.0 %
 2023 Actual Contribution Rates	
Employer:	
Pension ****	14.0 %
Post-employment Health Care Benefits ****	0.0
Total Employer	14.0 %
 Employee	 10.0 %

* Member contributions within the combined plan are not used to fund the defined benefit retirement allowance.

**** These pension and employer health care rates are for the traditional and combined plans. The employer contributions rate for the member-directed plan is allocated 4 percent for health care with the remainder going to pension; however, effective July 1, 2022, a portion of the health care rate is funded with reserves.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll.

The Township's contractually required contribution for the Traditional Pension Plan, the Combined Plan and Member-Directed Plan was \$104,152 for 2023.

Plan Description - Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund (OP&F)

Plan Description - Township full-time firefighters participate in Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by OP&F. OP&F provides retirement and disability pension benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by the Ohio State Legislature and are codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code. OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information and detailed information about OP&F fiduciary net position. The report may be obtained by visiting the OP&F website at www.op-f.org or by writing to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Upon attaining a qualifying age with sufficient years of service, a member of OP&F may retire and receive a lifetime monthly pension. OP&F offers four types of service retirement: normal, service commuted, age/service commuted and actuarially reduced. Each type has different eligibility guidelines and is calculated using the member's average annual salary. The following discussion of the pension formula relates to normal service retirement.

For members hired after July 1, 2013, the minimum retirement age is 52 for normal service retirement with at least 25 years of service credit. For members hired on or before after July 1, 2013, the minimum retirement age is 48 for normal service retirement with at least 25 years of service credit.

The annual pension benefit for normal service retirement is equal to a percentage of the allowable average annual salary. The percentage equals 2.50% for each of the first 20 years of service credit, 2.00% for each of the next five years of service credit and 1.50% for each year of service credit in excess of 25 years. The maximum pension of 72.00% of the allowable average annual salary is paid after 33 years of service credit (see OP&F Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced above for additional information, including requirements for Deferred Retirement Option Plan provisions and reduced and unreduced benefits).

Under normal service retirement, retired members who are at least 55 years old and have been receiving OP&F benefits for at least one year may be eligible for a cost-of-living allowance adjustment. The age 55 provision for receiving a COLA does not apply to those who are receiving a permanent and total disability benefit, statutory survivors and annuity beneficiaries. Members participating in the DROP program have separate eligibility requirements related to COLA.

The COLA amount for members who have 15 or more years of service credit as of July 1, 2013, and members who are receiving a pension benefit that became effective before July 1, 2013, will be equal to 3.00% of the member's base pension benefit.

The COLA amount for members who have less than 15 years of service credit as of July 1, 2013, and members whose pension benefit became effective on or after July 1, 2013, will be equal to a percentage of the member's base pension benefit where the percentage is the lesser of 3.00% or the percentage increase in the consumer price index, if any, over the twelve-month period that ends on the thirtieth day of September of the immediately preceding year, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of one percent.

Members who retired prior to July 24, 1986, or their surviving beneficiaries under optional plans are entitled to cost-of-living allowance increases. The annual increase is paid on July 1st of each year. The annual COLA increase is \$360 under a Single Life Annuity Plan with proportional reductions for optional payment plans.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

	<u>Firefighters</u>
2023 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates	
Employer	24.00 %
Employee	12.25 %
2023 Actual Contribution Rates	
Employer:	
Pension	23.50 %
Post-employment Health Care Benefits	<u>0.50 %</u>
Total Employer	<u>24.00 %</u>
Employee	12.25 %

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution to OP&F was \$1,053,769 for 2023.

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability

See Note 7 for a description of the net OPEB liability.

Plan Description - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

Plan Description - The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care trust. The 115 Health Care Trust (115 Trust or Health Care Trust) was established in 2014, under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The purpose of the 115 Trust is to fund health care for the Traditional Pension, Combined and Member-Directed plans. Medicare-enrolled retirees in the Traditional Pension and Combined plans may have an allowance deposited into a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) account to be used toward the health care program of their choice selected with the assistance of an OPERS vendor. Non-Medicare retirees have converted to an arrangement similar to the Medicare-enrolled retirees, and are no longer participating in OPERS provided self-insured group plans.

With one exception, OPERS-provided health care coverage is neither guaranteed nor statutorily required. Ohio law currently requires Medicare Part A equivalent coverage or Medicare Part A premium reimbursement for eligible retirees and their eligible dependents.

OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to traditional pension plan and combined plan benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

OPERS members enrolled in the Traditional Pension Plan or Combined Plan retiring with an effective date of January 1, 2022, or after must meet the following health care eligibility requirements to receive an HRA allowance:

Medicare Retirees Medicare-eligible with a minimum of 20 years of qualifying service credit

Non-Medicare Retirees Non-Medicare retirees qualify based on the following age-and-service criteria:

Group A 30 years of qualifying service credit at any age;

Group B 32 years of qualifying service credit at any age or 31 years of qualifying service credit and minimum age 52;

Group C 32 years of qualifying service credit and minimum age 55; or,

A retiree from groups A, B or C who qualifies for an unreduced pension, but a portion of their service credit is not health care qualifying service, can still qualify for health care at age 60 if they have at least 20 years of qualifying health care service credit

Retirees who don't meet the requirement for coverage as a non-Medicare participant can become eligible for coverage at age 65 if they have at least 20 years of qualifying service.

Members with a retirement date prior to January 1, 2022 who were eligible to participate in the OPERS health care program will continue to be eligible after January 1, 2022.

Eligible retirees may receive a monthly HRA allowance for reimbursement of health care coverage premiums and other qualified medical expenses. Monthly allowances, based on years of service and the age at which the retiree first enrolled in OPERS coverage, are provided to eligible retirees, and are deposited into their HRA account.

Retirees will have access to the OPERS Connector, which is a relationship with a vendor selected by OPERS to assist retirees participating in the health care program. The OPERS Connector may assist retirees in selecting and enrolling in the appropriate health care plan.

When members become Medicare-eligible, recipients enrolled in OPERS health care programs must enroll in Medicare Part A (hospitalization) and Medicare Part B (medical).

OPERS reimburses retirees who are not eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A (hospitalization) for their Part A premiums as well as any applicable surcharges (late-enrollment fees). Retirees within this group must enroll in Medicare Part A and select medical coverage, and may select prescription coverage, through the OPERS Connector. OPERS also will reimburse 50.00% of the Medicare Part A premium and any applicable surcharges for eligible spouses. Proof of enrollment in Medicare Part A and confirmation that the retiree is not receiving reimbursement or payment from another source must be submitted. The premium reimbursement is added to the monthly pension benefit.

The health care trust is also used to fund health care for member-directed plan participants, in the form of a Retiree Medical Account (RMA). At retirement or separation, member directed plan participants may be eligible for reimbursement of qualified medical expenses from their vested RMA balance.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority allowing public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. When funding is approved by OPERS Board of Trustees, a portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans. Beginning in 2018, OPERS no longer allocated a portion of its employer contributions to health care for the traditional plan.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2023, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.00% of earnable salary and public safety and law enforcement employers contributed at 18.10%. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. For 2023, OPERS did not allocate any employer contribution to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and beginning July 1, 2022, there was a 2.00% allocation to health care for the Combined Plan. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the member-directed plan for 2023 was 4.00%; however, effective July 1, 2022, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Township's contractually required contribution was \$4,351 for 2023.

Plan Description - Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund (OP&F)

Plan Description – The Township contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) sponsored healthcare program, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined post-employment health care plan administered by a third-party provider. This program is not guaranteed and is subject to change at any time upon action of the Board of Trustees. On January 1, 2019, OP&F implemented a new model for health care. Under this new model, OP&F provides eligible retirees with a fixed stipend earmarked to pay for health care and Medicare Part B reimbursements.

OP&F contracted with a vendor who assists eligible retirees in choosing health care plans that are available where they live (both Medicare-eligible and pre-65 populations). A stipend funded by OP&F is available to these members through a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and can be used to reimburse retirees for qualified health care expenses.

Regardless of a benefit recipient's participation in the health care program, OP&F is required by law to pay eligible recipients of a service pension, disability benefit and spousal survivor benefit for their Medicare Part B insurance premium, up to the statutory maximum provided the benefit recipient is not eligible to receive reimbursement from any other source. Once OP&F receives the necessary documentation, a monthly reimbursement is included as part of the recipient's next benefit payment. The stipend provided by OP&F meets the definition of an Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75.

OP&F maintains funds for health care in two separate accounts: one account for health care benefits and one account for Medicare Part B reimbursements. A separate health care trust accrual account is maintained for health care benefits under IRS Code Section 115 trust. IRS Code Section 401(h) account is maintained for Medicare Part B reimbursements.

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**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the plan. The report may be obtained by visiting the OP&F website at www.op-f.org or by writing to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides for contribution requirements of the participating employers and of plan members to the OP&F defined benefit pension plan. Participating employers are required to contribute to the pension plan at rates expressed as percentages of the payroll of active pension plan members, currently 19.50% and 24.00% of covered payroll for police and fire employer units, respectively. The Ohio Revised Code states that the employer contribution may not exceed 19.50% of covered payroll for police employer units and 24.00% of covered payroll for fire employer units. Active members do not make contributions to the OPEB Plan.

The Board of Trustees is authorized to allocate a portion of the total employer contributions for retiree health care benefits. For 2023, the portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was 0.50% of covered payroll. The amount of employer contributions allocated to the health care plan each year is subject to the Trustees' primary responsibility to ensure that pension benefits are adequately funded.

The OP&F Board of Trustees is also authorized to establish requirements for contributions to the health care plan by retirees and their eligible dependents or their surviving beneficiaries. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected.

The Township's contractually required contribution to OP&F was \$22,421 for 2023.

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31 (the latest information available):

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2023</u>
Cash and investments	\$ 33,494,457
Actuarial liabilities	10,885,549

Insurance Benefits - Health Insurance

The Township provides health insurance to employees through United Health Care.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 10 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Litigation

The Township is currently not party to any pending litigation.

B. Grants

The Township receives significant financial assistance from numerous Federal, State and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on any of the financial statements of the individual funds included herein or on the overall financial position of the Township at December 31, 2023.

C. Jefferson Health Plan Claims

The Township was previously a member of the Jefferson Health Plan (the "Health Plan"), a claims servicing insurance pool organized under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 167, for the purpose of establishing and carrying out a cooperative program to administer medical, prescription, vision and dental benefits for employees of the participating entities and their eligible dependents. Upon leaving the Health Plan, the Township assumed responsibility for any incurred but not reported (IBNR) claims. At the date of the report, it was unclear the impact these claims would have on future cash disbursements of the Township.

NOTE 11 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2023, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund financial statements:

<u>Transfers to a nonmajor governmental fund from:</u>	
General fund	\$ 148,427
<u>Transfers to nonmajor governmental funds from:</u>	
Fire district fund	<u>550,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 698,427</u>

Transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, (2) move receipts restricted to debt service from the funds collecting the receipts to the debt service fund as debt service payments become due, and (3) use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. All transfers were made in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated for reporting in the statement of activities.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 12 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

The Township utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year end may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund balance. At year end, the Township's commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General fund	\$ 343,773
Fire district	423,841
Gasoline tax	19,000
Other governmental	<u>85,574</u>
 Total	 <u><u>\$ 872,188</u></u>

NOTE 13 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The statement of cash receipts, cash disbursements and changes in fund cash balance - budget and actual (budgetary basis) presented for the general fund and any major special revenue fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis is outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as disbursements on the budgetary basis but are not on a cash basis.

Adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations at the end of the year on the cash basis to the budget basis are as follows:

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire District</u>	<u>Gasoline Tax</u>
Cash basis	\$ 199,658	\$(1,376,644)	\$ 39,128
Encumbrances	<u>(343,773)</u>	<u>(423,841)</u>	<u>(19,000)</u>
Budget basis	<u><u>\$ (144,115)</u></u>	<u><u>\$(1,800,485)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 20,128</u></u>

NOTE 14 - TAX ABATEMENTS

The Township, along with the City of New Albany entered into property tax abatement agreements with property owners under The Ohio Community Reinvestment Area ("CRA") program. The CRA program is a directive incentive tax exemption program benefiting property owners who renovate or construct new buildings. Under this program, the Township and/or Township designates areas to encourage revitalization of the existing housing stock and the development of new structures. The Township has 23 properties that are receiving tax abatements. The total value of taxes abated for 2023 was \$608,478.

**PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 15 - FUND BALANCE

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the Township is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of resources in the governmental funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

Fund balance	General	Fire District Fund	Gasoline Tax Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Nonspendable:					
Permanent fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,032	\$ 2,032
Total Nonspendable	-	-	-	2,032	2,032
Restricted:					
Public safety programs	-	2,746,661	-	499,859	3,246,520
Public works programs	-	-	1,366,233	516,881	1,883,114
Health programs	-	-	-	449,553	449,553
Ulry cemetery	-	-	-	3,162	3,162
Total Restricted	-	2,746,661	1,366,233	1,469,455	5,582,349
Committed:					
Conservation and recreation programs	-	-	-	110,191	110,191
Public works programs	-	-	-	234,196	234,196
Capital improvements - swimming pool	-	-	-	3,151	3,151
Capital improvements - fire	-	-	-	836,498	836,498
Total Committed	-	-	-	1,184,036	1,184,036
Assigned:					
General government	328,773	-	-	-	328,773
Health	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Subsequent year appropriation	788,401	-	-	-	788,401
Total Assigned	1,132,174	-	-	-	1,132,174
Unassigned	1,262,103	-	-	-	1,262,103
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 2,394,277</u>	<u>\$ 2,746,661</u>	<u>\$ 1,366,233</u>	<u>\$ 2,655,523</u>	<u>\$ 9,162,694</u>

NOTE 16 - COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. During 2023, the Township received COVID-19 funding. The Township will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Plain Township
Franklin County
45 Second Street
New Albany, Ohio 43054

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the Township) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated August 22, 2025, wherein we noted the Township uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control.

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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
August 22, 2025