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Town of Marion, MISSISSIPPI

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Independent Auditor's Report	1-2
Financial Statements:	
Statement of Activities and Net Position - Cash Basis	3
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis in Fund Balances – Governmental and Business- type Funds	4-5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6-9
Required Supplementary Information:	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis) General Fund	10
Other Supplementary Information:	
Schedule of Investments	11
Schedule of Long-term Debt	12
Schedule of Surety Bonds for Municipal Officials	13
Special Report:	
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with State Laws and Regulations	14



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen Town of Marion, Mississippi

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Marion, Mississippi, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1; this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the presentation 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Marion, Mississippi as of September 30, 2020, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive 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.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

The cash basis of accounting requires that the budgetary comparison schedule on page 11 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Omission of Required Supplementary Information

The Town of Marion has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that the cash basis of accounting requires to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of the financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this omitted information.

Other Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Marion, Mississippi's basic financial statements. The schedules of investments, long-term debt, and surety bonds for municipal officials, which are the responsibility of management, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

Walker + Company Cffs, P. C. Flowood, Mississippi

June 9, 2021

TOWN OF MARION, MISSISSIPPI STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND NET POSITION - CASH BASIS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

		P1	Program Cash Receipts	ipts	Net Rece Cha	Net Receipts (Disbursements) and Changes in Net Position	nts) and
	Cash	Charges for	Operating	Capital Grants and	Governmental	Business-type	-
Functions / Programs	Disbursements	Services	Contributions	Contributions	Activities	Activities	Total
Governmental activities:	\$ 771,607	€	€	6-	(201 607)	69	\$ (271,607)
Colora	48,890)	•	ì			
Public safety	383,060	ĸ	85	Ë	(383,060)	3	(383,060)
Public services	113,513	•1.	8	¥iī	(113,513)		(113,513)
Principal and interest	276	*	0	r.i	(276)		(276)
Total governmental activities	817,346	r		ř	(817,346)		(817,346)
Business-type activities:							
Water and sewer	542,395	564,739	×	*	×	22,344	22,344
Sanitation	89,777	57,485	TO	8	10.0	(32,292)	(32,292)
Principal and interest	29,470				(46)	(29,4/0)	(29,470)
Total business-type activities	661,642	622,224	E			(39,418)	(39,418)
Total functions / programs	\$ 1,478,988	\$ 622,224	69	\$	(817,346)	(39,418)	(856,764)
General receipts and transfers:							
Taxes:							
Property tax					489,018	42,523	531,541
Sales tax					247,430	6 0 I	247,430
Franchise tax					67,141		67,141
Alcoholic beverage tax					2,250	/3*	2,250
Municipal aid					738	29.	738
Gasoline tax					4,160	3	4,160
Fire insurance rebate					1,898	ě	1,898
Interest income					4,125	3,332	7,457
Loan proceeds					Œ.	10	***
Other					58,735	55,998	114,733
Transfers					5,008	205	5,213
Total general receipts and transfers					880,503	102,058	982,561
Change in net position					63,157	62,640	125,797
Net position - cash basis, beginning of year					469,664	547,885	1,017,549
Net position - cash basis, end of year					\$ 532,821	\$ 610,525	\$ 1,143,346

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 TOWN OF MARION, MISSISSIPPI

	Co	Governmental Activities	Activitie	S		В	Business-type Activities	e Activ	ities	I	Total
	General Fund	Fire Fund		Modern Infra Fund	n Infra nd	<u>≽</u> ⊬	Water Fund	San	Sanitation Fund	Gove	Governmental Funds
RECEIPTS											
General property taxes	\$ 467,756	\$ 21	21,262	€9	1	↔	*	↔	42,523	6/3	531,541
Licenses and permits	5,860		ī		ă		ent.		1		5,860
Franchise tax on utilities	67,141		ř		Ñ		1007		ж		67,141
Intergovernmental revenues:											
State shared revenues:											1
Sales tax	247,430				•		ā		ì		247,430
Gasoline tax	4,160		1)		¥0		τĒ		ı		4,160
Alchoholic beverage licenses	2,250		3)(ř		Ř		2,250
Municipal aid	738		Ţ,		ě		3		í		738
Fire insurance premium distribution	ij	1	868,1		(1)		r		(6		1,898
Modern infrastructure use tax	ï		į.		14,703						14,703
Charges for services:											1
Sanitation	ï		ž		*		×		57,485		57,485
Water and sewer	540		ā		ï		564,739		ř		564,739
Fines and forfeits	5,386		a.		ğ		Œ.		g.		5,386
Grant receipts	*		rii		190		26,000		4		26,000
Interest	3,807		318		ŧ		2,708		624		7,457
Miscellaneous	31,957		827		1		29,998		£		62,782
Total receipts	836,485	24	24,305		14,703		623,445		100,632	į	1,599,570
DISBURSEMENTS											
General government	271,469		ı		138		*		t/:		271,607
Court	48,890		9				æ		£		48,890
Public safety	352,449	-	17,190				ar		Œ		369,639
Public services	113,513		Ť				(1		э		113,513
Enterprise:											(
Water and sewer			ř				515,251				515,251
Sanitation	()		ij				(8)		89,777		89,111
Redemption of principal	•		٠				563		ř		563
Debt service interest	276		·				28,907		•		29,183
Total disbursements	786,597		17,190		138		544,721		89,777		1,438,423
Excess of receipts over disbursements	49,888		7,115		14,565		78,724		10,855		161,147

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 TOWN OF MARION, MISSISSIPPI

		Š	vernme	Governmental Activities	es			Business-type Activities	e Activ	ities		Total
27	G	General Fund		Fire Fund	Mode	Modern Infra Fund		Water Fund	San	Sanitation Fund	Gov	Governmental Funds
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Proceeds from issuance of debt		9		9				0				,
Capital outlay		(4,852)		(8,569)				(27,144)		ġ		(40,565)
Transfers in (out)		11,057		5,218		(11,267)		205		ιĒ:		5,213
Total other financial uses		6,205		(3,351)		(11,267)		(26,939)		ï		(35,352)
Excess (deficiency) of receipts and other financing sources over (under)												
disbursements and other financing uses		56,093		3,764		3,298		51,785		10,855		125,795
Cash basis fund balance - beginning of year		432,209		37,455		0		473,321		74,564		1,017,549
Cash basis fund balance - end of year	€9	488,302	649	41,219	€	3,298	↔	525,106	↔	85,419	69	1,143,344
Cash basis assets - end of year:											ŀ	
Cash and cash equivalents	8	488,302	89	41,219		3,298	8	525,106	69	85,419	6-9	1,143,344
Total cash basis assets	89	488,302	649	41,219	69	3,298	65	525,106	89	85,419	€>	1,143,344
Cash basis fund balances - end of year	e	788 202	6	41.210	€	3 708	€	525 106	€	85 419	64	1 143 344
Oliassigned	9	400,004	9	717,17	9	0,470	7	242,100	9	62,117	•	100001767
Total cash basis fund balances	↔	488,302	69	41,219	89	3,298	89	525,106	8	85,419	8	1,143,344

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The Town of Marion, Mississippi, ("Town") was incorporated in 1971. The Town operates under a Mayor-Board of Alderman form of government and provides public safety (police and fire), water and sewer services, sanitation and other rights and privileges provided by statute for municipalities.

The financial statements of the Town have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

B. Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the Town. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. *Governmental activities*, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from *business-type activities*, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct disbursements* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program receipts* include 1) receipts from customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program receipts are reported instead as *general receipts*.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statement and the governmental fund financial statement are reported using the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Receipts are recorded when collected and disbursements are recorded when cash is spent.

The Town reports the following major governmental fund:

The General Fund is the government's primary operating fund. It accounts for all the financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The Town reports the following major proprietary funds:

The Water and Sewer Fund is used to account for the activities of providing water and sewer services to citizens of the Town.

The Sanitation Fund is used to account for the activities of providing trash collection services to citizens of the Town.

Amounts reported as *program receipts* include 1) receipts from customers or applicants for goods, services or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as *general receipts* rather than as program receipts.

When both restricted and unrestricted cash is available for use, it is the Town's policy to use restricted cash first, then unrestricted cash as it is needed.

D. Assets and Net Position or Fund Balance

Cash and Certificates of Deposit

The Town's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand or invested in certificates of deposit.

Net Position

Restricted net position — Consists of cash with constraints placed on the use by external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position - All other net position not meeting the definition of "restricted."

Fund Balances

In accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the Town classifies governmental fund balances as follows:

Non-spendable — Includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual constraints. The Town does not have any non-spendable fund balances.

Restricted – Includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are internally imposed by providers, such as creditors or amounts constrained due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed – Includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision-making authority and does not lapse at year-end. The Town does not have any committed fund balances.

Assigned – Includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted nor committed. Fund balance may be assigned by management other than the highest decision-making authority of the Town. The Town does not have any assigned fund balances.

Unassigned – Includes positive fund balance with the General Fund which has not been classified within the above-mentioned categories and negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

The Town uses restricted/committed amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this, such as a grant agreement requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the Town would first use committed, then assigned, and lastly, unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

NOTE 2 – CASH AND CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

The collateral for public entities' deposits in financial institutions are held in the name of the State Treasurer under a program established by the Mississippi Legislature and is governed by Section 27-105-5, Mississippi Code Ann. (1972). Under this program, the Town's funds are protected through a collateral pool administered by the State Treasurer. Financial institutions holding deposits of public funds must pledge securities as collateral against those deposits. In the event of failure of a financial institution, securities pledged by that institution would be liquidated by the State Treasurer to replace the public deposits not covered by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

As of September 30, 2020, the carrying amount of the Town's cash and certificate of deposit was \$1,082,778 and \$60,565, respectively. The bank balance was \$1,081,910 and \$60,565, respectively. The difference of \$868 includes outstanding checks and deposits.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits. Custodial credit risk is defined as the risk that, in the event of a failure of a financial institution, the Town will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Town does not have a formal policy for custodial credit risk. However, the Mississippi State Treasury manages the risk on behalf of the Town through State Depository member banks of the Mississippi Public Funds Guaranty Pool. As of September 30, 2020, Town's bank balances of \$1,143,343 was collateralized by the State Public Funds Guaranty Pool.

Interest Rate Risk. The Town does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Credit Risk. State law limits investments to those prescribed in Sections 27-105-33(d) and 27-105-33(e) Miss. Code Ann. (1972). The Town does not have a formal investment policy that would further limit its investment choices or one that addresses credit risk.

NOTE 3 - PROPERTY TAX

Property taxes for fiscal year 2020 were levied in September 2019 on the assessed valuation of property located in the Town of Marion, Mississippi as of the preceding January 1, the lien date. Real property, personal property and automobile ad valorem taxes and certain road taxes are collected by the Lauderdale County tax collector and disbursed to the Town accordingly.

The tax rate levied by the Town for fiscal year 2020 was set at 36.36 mills to be allocated as follows: 32.21 mills for general fund, 2.77 mills for sanitation, and 1.38 mill for fire protection.

NOTE 4 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

Plan Description - The Town of Marion, Mississippi contributes to the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi ("PERS"), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. PERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by State law and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. PERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That information may be obtained by writing to Public Employees' Retirement System, PERS Building, 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201-1005 or by calling (601) 359-3589 or 1-800-444-PERS, or by visiting online at www.pers.ms.gov.

Funding Policy - PERS members are required to contribute 9% of their annual covered salary and the Town is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 17.4% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of PERS' members are established and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. The Town's contributions to PERS for the years ended September 30, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, and 2016 were \$72,359 \$63,767 \$63,082 \$59,012, and \$56,493 respectively, which is the required contribution for each year.

NOTE 5 - RISK ASSESSMENT

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees, and natural disasters. The Town carries commercial insurance for risks of loss other than workers' compensation and liability. Settled claims resulting from these commercially covered risks have not exceeded commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE 6 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through June 9, 2021, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued and noted no matters requiring adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements. However, the flowing general disclosure is made:

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic. As a result, economic uncertainties have arisen which are likely to negatively impact net income. Other financial impact could occur though such potential impact is unknown at this time.

TOWN OF MARION, MISSISSIPPI BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BASIS) - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

	,	Original Budget	240	Final Budget	(B	Actual udgetary Basis)	Fina and Fa	ariance al Budget d Actual vorable avorable)
RECEIPTS	Φ.	411.025	d'	426,384	\$	467,756	\$	41,372
Property taxes	\$	411,035	\$	77,500	Ψ	73,001	4	(4,499)
Licenses and permits		77,500		77,500		75,001		18%
State grants		277 500		262,200		254,578		(7,622)
State shared		277,500		33,355		41,150		7,795
Other		37,645	-	33,333				
Total receipts		803,680		799,439		836,485		37,046
Total roompto	-							
EXPENDITURES						251 460		TV.
General government		216,187		271,470		271,469		1
Court		48,890		48,890		48,890		40,465
Public safety		392,914		392,914		352,449		2,800
Public services		136,819		116,313		113,513		2,800
Total expenditures		794,810	·	829,587		786,321		43,266
Excess if receipts over (under) expenditures		8,870		(30,148)		50,164		80,312
Excess in recorpts over (many)	*							
OTHER CASH SOURCES (USES)						(4.052)		(5,263)
Capital outlay		411		411		(4,852)		(3,203)
Debt service		(3,376)		-		(276)		(10,217)
Transfers in (out)		(7,720)		840		11,057	-	(10,217)
Total other cash sources (uses)		(10,685)		1,251		5,929	-	(10,217)
Net change in fund balance - cash basis	\$	(1,815)	\$	(28,897)	\$	56,093	\$	90,529
Fund balance - cash basis, beginning of year						432,209		
Fund balance - cash basis, end of year					\$	488,302		

TOWN OF MARION, MISSISSIPPI SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

		Ва	lance Per
Investment	Fund	Gene	eral Ledger
Certificate of Deposit, .5%, dated	Water & Sewer Fund	\$	60,565
July 23 2019, matures July 23, 2021			

TOWN OF MARION, MISSISSIPPI SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM DEBT YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

	Interest Rate	Final Maturity Date	Balance Outstanding 10/1/2019	Issued in Fiscal Year 2020	Redeemed in Fiscal Year 2020	Balance Outstanding 9/30/2020
Governmental Activities:						
BancorpSouth Equipment Finance	2.45%	4/2020	\$ 4,592	\$	\$ 4,592	\$ -
Business-type Activities:						
State of Mississippi - Drinking Water Systems Systems Improvement Revolving Loan	4.00%	7/2020	46,270	a-	46,270	
Mississippi Development Authority - Sewer Improvement Loan	2.00%	9/2029	242,545	* 3	20,785	221,760
US Department of Agriculture Rural Development Loan	2.125%	4/2050	1,226,401	æs	29,352	1,197,049
BancorpSouth Equipment Finance	2.45%	5/2020	15,360		15,360	a.
BancorpSouth Equipment Finance	2.85%	8/2021	9,908	<u> </u>	5,190	4,718
Total			\$ 1,545,076	\$	\$ 121,549	\$ 1,423,527

TOWN OF MARION, MISSISSIPPI SCHEDULE OF SURETY BONDS FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Position	Company	 Amount
Mayor	Municipal Program	\$ 100,000
Aldermen (5 @ \$50,000 each)	Municipal Program	\$ 250,000
City Clerk	Travelers	\$ 100,000
Court Clerk	Travelers	\$ 50,000
Deputy Clerks (3 @ \$50,000 each)	Travelers	\$ 150,000
Chief of Police	Travelers	\$ 50,000
Police Officers (29 @ \$25,000 each)	Travelers	\$ 725,000
Water Operator	Travelers	\$ 50,000

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen Town of Marion, Mississippi

We have audited the financial statements of the Town of Marion, Mississippi ("Town") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2020, and have issued our report dated June 9, 2021. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

As required by the state legal compliance audit program prescribed by the Mississippi Office of the State Auditor, we have also performed procedures to test compliance with certain state laws and regulations. However, providing an opinion on compliance with state laws and regulations was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The results of those procedures and our audit of the financial statements disclosed the following instances of noncompliance with state laws and regulations. Our findings and recommendations and the Town's responses are as follows:

Finding 2020-1 Reporting Requirement:

While efforts have been taken by the Town to take an inventory of fixed assets and compile an accurate listing, the Town has not maintained a complete and accurate accounting of fixed assets. The Board of Aldermen is responsible for the custody of its assets. This protective custody cannot be accomplished without complete and accurate records.

The Town should continue to take efforts to update the accounting of fixed assets and ensure that a complete and accurate accounting of fixed assets is maintained.

Response:

The Board of Aldermen along with the Mayor and Town Clerk plan to continue compiling an accurate and complete accounting of fixed assets in order to be compliant in future years.

The Office of the State Auditor or a public accounting firm will review, on a subsequent year's audit engagement, the findings in this report to ensure that corrective action has been taken.

This report is intended for the information of the Town's management and the Office of the State Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Walker & Company Offs, D.C. Flowood, Mississippi

June 9, 2021

