

CITY OF ASHLEY
ASHLEY, NORTH DAKOTA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

CITY OF ASHLEY
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CITY OF ASHLEY
LIST OF OFFICIALS
DECEMBER 31, 2020

CITY COUNCIL

Office

Kyle Thiery	Mayor
Darwin Golz	
Kevin Forsman	
Bruce Speidel	
Michele Utecht	
Myron Mettler	

EMPLOYEES:

Jolene Weisser	City Auditor
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Harold J. Rotunda
Certified Public Accountant
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Governing Board
City of Ashley
Ashley, North Dakota

I have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units and each major fund of City of Ashley as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's 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 modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of 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 in the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the City'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 City's internal control. Accordingly, I 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.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinions.

Opinions

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units and each major fund of City of Ashley as of December 31, 2020, and the changes in the modified cash basis financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended, in conformance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Basis of Accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. My opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, I have also issued reports dated June 14, 2022, on my considerations of the City's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on 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 City's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

West Fargo, North Dakota
June 14, 2022

CITY OF ASHLEY
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Component Units Housing Authority	Library
ASSETS					
Current assets:					
Cash and investments	256,177.47	869,812.81	1,125,990.28	40,033.48	14,580.93
Non-current assets:					
Capital assets (net of accumulated de	1,546,240.98	6,300.25	1,552,541.23	344,151.57	-
Total Assets	1,802,418.45	876,113.06	2,678,531.51	384,185.05	14,580.93
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts Payable			-		
Non-current liabilities					
Due within one year:					
Bonds payable	55,000.00		55,000.00	27,791.25	-
Notes payable			-		
Due after one year:					
Bonds payable	110,000.00		110,000.00	494,097.23	-
Notes payable			-		
Total liabilities	165,000.00	-	165,000.00	521,888.48	-
NET POSITION					
Net investment capital assets	1,381,240.98	6,300.25	1,387,541.23	(177,736.91)	-
Restricted for:			-		
Capital projects	112,754.68		112,754.68		
Debt service	1,969.96		1,969.96		
Economic development	117,145.52		117,145.52		
Unrestricted	24,307.31	869,812.81	894,120.12	40,033.48	14,580.93
Total net position	1,637,418.45	876,113.06	2,513,531.51	(137,703.43)	14,580.93

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

		Program Revenues			Revenue & Change: in net position
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating grants and Contributions	Capital grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
General government	195,087.46	-			(195,087.46)
Public safety	33,154.00				(33,154.00)
Highways and streets	237,847.49		47,679.58		(190,167.91)
Economic development	27,200.26				(27,200.26)
Capital outlays	-				-
Interest expense	2,612.50			66,022.51	63,410.01
					-
Total Governmental Activities	495,901.71	-	47,679.58	66,022.51	(382,199.62)
Business-type activities					
Water	137,146.24	154,403.43			17,257.19
Sewer	28,835.41	22,626.75			(6,208.66)
Garbage	58,402.08	90,783.39			32,381.31
Water tower	1,560.29	-			(1,560.29)
Meter	2,140.00	3,275.00			1,135.00
					-
Total Business-type activities	228,084.02	271,088.57	-	-	43,004.55
Total	723,985.73	271,088.57	47,679.58	66,022.51	(339,195.07)
Component Unit					
Housing Authority	56,273.30	69,820.15			13,546.85
Library	4,572.90				(4,572.90)
				Component Units	
	Governmental	Business-type	Total	Housing Authority	Library
Net expense	(382,199.62)	43,004.55	(339,195.07)	13,546.85	(4,572.90)
General Revenues					
Property taxes	118,809.88		118,809.88		
Sales taxes	82,704.44		82,704.44		
State aid	54,202.87	127,796.25	181,999.12		
Interest	2,902.36		2,902.36	0.00	
Other	252,774.33	7,202.05	259,976.38		5,116.08
Total General Revenues	511,393.88	134,998.30	646,392.18	-	5,116.08
Transfers in (out)	-	-	-		
Change in Net Position	129,194.26	178,002.85	307,197.11	13,546.85	543.18
Net Position- January 1	1,508,224.19	698,110.21	2,206,334.40	(151,250.25)	14,037.75
Net Position- December 31	1,637,418.45	876,113.06	2,513,531.51	(137,703.40)	14,580.93

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
BALANCE SHEET- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2020

	GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE	WATERMAIN	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
ASSETS				
Cash and investments	100,053.25	154,154.26	1,969.96	256,177.47
Total Assets	100,053.25	154,154.26	1,969.96	256,177.47
LIABILITIES				
Total liabilities	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE				
Restricted for Capital Projects		112,754.68		112,754.68
Restricted for Debt Service			1,969.96	1,969.96
Restricted for Economic Development		117,145.52		117,145.52
Unassigned	100,053.25	(75,745.94)		24,307.31
Total fund balance	100,053.25	154,154.26	1,969.96	256,177.47

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE
SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2020

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds	256,177.47
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Total net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in governmental funds		
Cost of capital assets	3,378,334.00	
Less accumulated depreciation	1,832,093.02	
Net capital assets		1,546,240.98

Long-term liabilities applicable to the District's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All liabilities- both current and long-term are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at year end are:

Bonds payable	(165,000.00)
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Total Net Position of Governmental Activities	1,637,418.45
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE	WATERMAIN	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Property taxes	101,287.69	17,522.19		118,809.88
Sales taxes	-	82,704.44		82,704.44
Special Assessments			66,022.51	66,022.51
Intergovernmental	43,120.25	58,762.20		101,882.45
Interest	2,902.36			2,902.36
Charges for services	-	181,463.70		181,463.70
Other	55,267.73	16,042.90		71,310.63
Total Revenues	202,578.03	356,495.43	66,022.51	625,095.97
Current:				
General government	143,903.30	51,184.16		195,087.46
Public safety	33,154.00			33,154.00
Highways and streets		81,514.32		81,514.32
Economic development		27,200.26	-	27,200.26
Capital outlays	-			-
Debt Service				
Principal		-	55,000.00	55,000.00
Interest expense			2,612.50	2,612.50
Total Expenditures	177,057.30	159,898.74	57,612.50	394,568.54
Excess revenues (expenditures)	25,520.73	196,596.69	8,410.01	230,527.43
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers in	-	-		-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Bond proceeds	-	-		-
Total other financing sources and u	-	-	-	-
Net change in fund balances	25,520.73	196,596.69	8,410.01	230,527.43
Fund balance- beginning	74,532.52	(42,442.43)	(6,440.05)	25,650.04
Fund balance- ending	100,053.25	154,154.26	1,969.96	256,177.47

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
 RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
 CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

Net Change in Fund Balances- Total Governmental Funds	230,527.43
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The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current year.

Current year capital outlay	-	
Current year depreciation expense	156,333.17	(156,333.17)

Repayment of long-term debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

Debt issued, net of related premiums and discounts	
Principal retirement	55,000.00

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	129,194.26
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Water & Sewer	Sanitation	Total
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	818,425.93	51,386.88	869,812.81
Non-current assets:			
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	6,300.25		6,300.25
Total Assets	824,726.18	51,386.88	876,113.06
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities:			
			-
			-
			-
			-
Total liabilities	-	-	-
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	6,300.25		6,300.25
Restricted for:			
Capital projects			-
Debt service			-
Unrestricted	818,425.93	51,386.88	869,812.81
Total Net Position	824,726.18	51,386.88	876,113.06

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Water & Sewer	Sanitation	Total
OPERATING REVENUE			
Charges for services	180,305.18	90,783.39	271,088.57
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Salaries and benefits	48,123.64	15,526.75	63,650.39
Professional fees	16,147.43	9,991.87	26,139.30
Telephone	-	-	-
Contract services	-	25,981.68	25,981.68
Electricity	19,180.27	-	19,180.27
Supplies	10,681.30	3,961.84	14,643.14
Repairs and maintenance	44,754.84	1,752.42	46,507.26
Office expense	99.43	-	99.43
Lease expense	14,920.00	-	14,920.00
Depreciation	4,906.60	-	4,906.60
Miscellaneous	10,868.43	1,187.52	12,055.95
Total operating expenses	169,681.94	58,402.08	228,084.02
Operating income (loss)	10,623.24	32,381.31	43,004.55
NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)			
Property taxes	-	-	-
Interest income	-	-	-
Grant income	127,796.25	-	127,796.25
Interest expense	-	-	-
Capital outlay	-	-	-
Other	3,210.05	3,992.00	7,202.05
Total non-operating rev (exp)	131,006.30	3,992.00	134,998.30
Income (loss) before transfers	141,629.54	36,373.31	178,002.85
Transfers in	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-
Change in Net Position	141,629.54	36,373.31	178,002.85
Net Position- January 1	683,096.64	15,013.57	698,110.21
Net Position- December 31	824,726.18	51,386.88	876,113.06

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Water & Sewer	Sanitation	Total
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers	180,305.18	90,783.39	271,088.57
Payments to suppliers	(116,651.70)	(42,875.33)	(159,527.03)
Payments to employees	(48,123.64)	(15,526.75)	(63,650.39)
Other receipts	131,006.30	3,992.00	134,998.30
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	146,536.14	36,373.31	182,909.45
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Transfers to other funds	-	-	-
Transfers from other funds	-	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) noncapital financing activities	-	-	-
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of capital assets	(3,000.25)		(3,000.25)
Principal paid on capital debt	-		-
Interest paid on capital debt	-	-	-
Debt proceeds	-		-
Net cash provided by (used in) capital and related financing activities	(3,000.25)	-	(3,000.25)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Interest and dividends	-	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	-	-	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	143,535.89	36,373.31	179,909.20
Balance- beginning of year	674,890.04	15,013.57	689,903.61
Balance- end of year	818,425.93	51,386.88	869,812.81
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Operating income (loss)	10,623.24	32,381.31	43,004.55
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:			
Depreciation expense	4,906.60	-	4,906.60
Miscellaneous receipts (expense)	131,006.30	3,992.00	134,998.30
Net cash provided by operating activities	146,536.14	36,373.31	182,909.45

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
ASHLEY, NORTH DAKOTA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2020

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the City of Ashley (City) have been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting. The modified cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the City's accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the City. The City has considered all potential component units for which the City is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the City such that exclusion would cause the City's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the City to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the City. Based on the above criteria the city has the following discretely presented component units:

Ashley Library- The Library was organized to provide management of the library in Ashley. The Council appoints all Board members and approves its tax levy. The Library does not issue separate reports.

Housing Authority- The Ashley Housing Authority was organized to provide housing in the City. The Council approves all Board members and guarantees its debt.

B. BASIS OF PRESENTATION, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Government-wide statements: The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The Housing Authority does not issue separate reports.

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the City's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements: Fund financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenses/expenditures. Funds are organized into two major categories: governmental and proprietary. The City currently has no fiduciary funds.

The City reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund. The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City and always classified as a major fund. It is used to account for all activities except those legally or administratively required to be accounted for in other funds.

Watermain fund. Debt funds are used to account for the accumulation of financial resources for the payment of principal and interest on the City's debt. The City annually levies special assessments restricted for the retirement of debt.

Special Revenue Funds. Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of the specific revenue sources that are either legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes or designated to finance particular functions or activities of the City.

The City reports the following major enterprise funds:
Water and Sewer- accounts for operating activities of the City's water and sewer utility services.

Sanitation- accounts for operating activities of the City's sanitation services

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting
Government-wide Financial Statements. In the government-wide Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus, within the limitations of the modified cash basis of accounting as defined below.

CITY OF ASHLEY

Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus or the "economic resources" measurement focus, as applied to the modified cash basis of accounting, is used as appropriate. All governmental funds utilize a "current financial resources" measurement focus. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their operating statements presents sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. These funds use fund balance as their measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.

The proprietary fund utilizes an "economic resources" measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net assets (or cost recovery), financial position and cash flows. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent, financial or nonfinancial) associated with their activities are reported. Proprietary fund equity is classified as net assets.

In the government-wide Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, activities are presented using a modified cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting recognizes assets, liabilities, net assets/fund equity, revenues and expenditures when they result from cash transactions with a provision for depreciation in the government-wide statements. This basis is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As a result of the use of this modified 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.

If the City utilized the basis of accounting recognized as generally accepted, the fund financial statements for governmental funds would use the modified accrual basis of accounting. All government-wide financial statements would be presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

Operating income reported in proprietary fund financial statements includes revenues and expenses related to the primary, continuing operations of the fund. Principal operating revenues for proprietary funds are charges to customers for sales or services. Principal operating expenses are the costs of providing goods or services and include administrative expenses and depreciation of capital assets. Other revenues and expenses are classified as non-operating in the financial statements.

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Under the terms of grant agreements, the City funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net assets available to finance the program. It is the City's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, and then by general revenues.

D. Budgets

Based upon available financial information and requests by the city council, the auditor prepares the City budget. The budget is prepared for the general, special revenue, and debt service funds on the modified cash basis of accounting. The budget includes the proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end.

City taxes must be levied by the governing board on or before the first day of October. The taxes levied must be certified to the County auditor by October 10. The governing body of the City may amend its tax levy and budget for the current fiscal year on or before the tenth day of October of each year, but the certification must be filed with the County auditor by October 10. The current budget, except for property taxes, may be amended during the year for any revenues and appropriations not anticipated at the time the budget was prepared.

E. Cash and Investments

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and money market accounts. Investments consist of certificates of deposits stated at cost.

F. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Net estimated historical cost was used to value the majority of assets acquired prior to January 1, 2004. Prior to January 1, 2004, governmental funds' infrastructure assets were not capitalized. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets of business-type activities is included as part of the capitalized value of the assets constructed.

Property, plant, and equipment of the City is depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

ASSETS	YEARS
Permanent Buildings	50
Vehicles and equipment	10

G. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long term debt and other long term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net assets. Bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs are recognized in the current period since the amounts are not material.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs in the current period. The face amount of the debt is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

H. Fund Balance

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report aggregate amounts for five classifications of fund balances based on the constraints imposed on the use of these resources. The non-spendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form - inventories; or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

The spendable portion of the fund balance comprises the remaining four classifications: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

Restricted - This classification reflects the constraints imposed on resources either (a) externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Committed - These amounts can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal resolutions or ordinances of the city council-the City's highest level of decision making authority. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the council removes the specified use by taking the same type of action imposing the commitment. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned - This classification reflects the amounts constrained by the City's "intent" to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The council has the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Assigned fund balances include all remaining amounts (except negative balances) that are reported in governmental funds, other than the General Fund, that are not classified as non-spendable and are neither restricted nor committed.

Unassigned - This fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. It is also used to report negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, the City's preference is to first use restricted resources, then unrestricted resources-committed, assigned, and unassigned-in order as needed.

The council has set a General Fund minimum fund balance target at 10% of expenditures and recurring transfers.

I. Interfund Transactions

In the governmental fund statements, transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures in the fund that is reimbursed.

All other interfund transactions, except reimbursements, are reported as transfers. Nonrecurring or nonroutine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transfers are reported as operating transfers. In the government-wide financial statements, interfund transactions have been eliminated.

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

J. Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the Other comprehensive basis of accounting (OCBOA) used by the City requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures; accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 2: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The Council did not amend the City budget for 2020.

EXPENDITURES OVER APPROPRIATIONS

The City did not overspend any budgets

NOTE 3 DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, the City maintains deposits at the depository banks designated by the governing board. All depositories are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institution situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the deposit not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes, or bonds issued by the United State government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal Land Bank bonds, notes, warrants, and certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the State of North Dakota, its boards, agencies, instrumentalities, or by any City, city, township, school district, park district, or other political subdivision of the State of North Dakota whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by another state of the United States, or such other securities approved by the banking board.

At December 31, 2020, the City's carrying amount of deposits was \$1,125,990. Of the bank balances, \$250,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining balance of \$875,990 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

At December 31, 2020, the Housing Authority and Library carrying amount of deposits was \$40,033 and \$14,581. The bank balances was covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

Credit Risk

State statutes authorize the City to invest in: (1) Bonds, treasury bills and notes, or other securities that are a direct obligation of, or an obligation insured or guaranteed by, the treasury of the United States, or its agencies, instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress. (2) Securities sold under agreements to repurchase written by a financial institution in which the underlying securities for the agreement to repurchase are the type listed above. (3) Certificates of Deposit fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation or the state. (4) Obligations of the state.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The City does not have a limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

NOTE 4: PROPERTY TAXES

The County treasurer acts as and agent to collect property taxes levied in the County for all taxing authorities. Any material tax collections are distributed after the end of each month.

Property taxes are levied as of January 1. The property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on January 1 and may be paid in two installments. The first installment includes one-half of the real estate taxes and all the special assessments and the second installment is the balance of the real estate taxes. The first installment is due by March 1 and the second installment is due by October 15. A 5% discount on property taxes is allowed if all taxes and special assessments are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent and penalties are assessed.

Most property owners choose to pay property taxes and special assessments in a single payment on or before February 15 and receive the discount on the property taxes.

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2020:

	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31
Governmental activities				
Infrastructure	2,378,837			2,378,837
Bldgs and Improvements	475,194			475,194
Vehicles & Equipment	524,303			524,303
Total Cap Assets	3,378,334			3,378,334
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Infrastructure	832,593	118,942		951,535
Buildings & Improve	419,860	8,073		427,933
Vehicles & Equip	423,307	29,318		452,625
Total Accumulated Dep	1,675,760	156,333		1,832,093
Total Cap Assets, Net	1,702,574			1,546,241
Capital assets, being depreciated				
Business-type activities				
Bldgs and Improvements	296,066			296,066
Construction in progress		3,000		3,000
Vehicles & Equipment	332,339			332,339
Total Cap Assets	628,405	3,000		628,405
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings & Improve	294,459	1,607		296,066
Vehicles & Equip	325,739	3,300		329,039
Total Accumulated Dep	620,198	4,907		625,105
Total Cap Assets, Net	8,206			6,300
Component Unit- Housing Authority				
	Balance			Balance
	January 1	Increases	Decreases	December 31
Building- Cost	812,957			812,957
Building- Accumulated dep	436,287	32,518		468,805
Net	376,670	32,518		344,152

Depreciation Expense was charged to functions/programs of the City as follows:
Governmental Activities:

General government	5,439
Public safety	
Highways and streets	<u>150,894</u>
Total	156,333
Business-type activities	
Water and sewer	4,907

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

NOTE 6: LONG-TERM DEBT

During the year ended December 31, 2020, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term debt:

	Payable 2019	Increases	Decreases	Payable 2020	Due Within One Year
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Bonds Payable	220,000		55,000	165,000	55,000
COMPONENT UNIT ACTIVITIES					
BONDS PAYABLE	597,703		75,815	521,888	27,791

Bonds payable consist of the following:

	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding
Improvement bond 2012	06/01/2023	.5-2.75%	165,000

There are a number of limitations and restrictions contained in the various bond indentures. The City is in compliance with all significant limitations and restrictions.

Special Assessment bonds are paid directly from debt service sinking funds. Special assessments are certified annually in amounts sufficient to pay debt service requirements. Whenever all special assessments appropriated and collected for a special assessment district are insufficient to pay principal and interest then due on special assessment improvement bonds issued against such improvement district, the city is required to levy a deficiency levy upon all taxable property in the City.

Year Ending	Bonds Payable	
December 31	Principal	Interest
2021	55,000	3,987
2022	55,000	2,750
2023	55,000	1,513
TOTAL	165,000	8,250

NOTES PAYABLE-COMPONENT UNIT

Notes payable to Bank, due in monthly installments of \$4,223, including interest at 3.03%, through October 2033. Note used for apartments. 521,888

2021	50,676
2022	50,676
2023	50,676
2025	50,676
2026	50,676
2027-2031	253,380
2032-2033	<u>101,352</u>
	608,112
Less amount representing interest	<u>86,224</u>
Principal balance remaining	521,888

CITY OF ASHLEY
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

NOTE 7. DEFICIT FUND BALANCE

The following fund balances had deficits at December 31, 2020:

Library	13,672	Will be eliminated with taxes/transfers
Cemetery	10,201	Will be eliminated with taxes/transfers
Street	51,873	Will be eliminated with taxes/transfers

NOTE 8: TRANSFERS

The City transfers utility revenue to the general fund. The City also transfers sales tax revenue per the ordinance. The City also transfers to the general fund to consolidate funds. The City made no transfers in 2020.

NOTE 9: PENSION PLANS

The City participates in the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) administered by the State of North Dakota. Following is a brief description of the plan:

PERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of North Dakota. PERS provides for retirement, disability and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. If an active employee dies with less than three years of credited service, a death benefit equal to the value of the employee's accumulated contributions, plus interest, is paid to the employee's beneficiary. If the employee has earned more than three years of credited service, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a single payment refund, lifetime monthly payments in an amount equal to 50% of the employee's accrued normal retirement benefit, 60 monthly payments equal to the employee's accrued normal retirement benefit calculated as if the employee were age 65 the day before death occurred or monthly payments in an amount equal to the employee's accrued 100% joint and survivor retirement benefit if the member had reached normal retirement age prior to death. If the surviving spouse dies before the employee's accumulated pension benefits are paid, the balance will be paid to the surviving spouse's designated beneficiary.

Eligible employees, who become totally disabled after a minimum of 180 days of service, receive monthly disability benefits that are equal to 25% of their final average salary with a minimum benefit of \$100. To qualify under this section, the employee must meet the criteria established by the Retirement Board for being considered totally disabled. Employees are entitled to unreduced monthly pension benefits equal to 2% of their final average salary for each year of service beginning when the sum of age and years of credited service equal or exceed 85, or at the normal retirement age (65). The plan permits early retirement at ages 55-64, with three or more years of service.

CITY OF ASHLEY

Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Benefit and contribution provisions are administered in accordance with chapter 54-52 of the North Dakota Century Code. This state statute requires that 7% of the participants annual covered salary be contributed to the plan by either the employee or by the employer under a "salary reduction" agreement. The City is required to contribute 7.12% of each participant's salary as the employer's share. The City is required to contribute 1.14% of each participating covered wage to a prefunded retiree health insurance program. The required contributions are determined using an entry age normal actuarial funding method and are included in state statute. The North Dakota Retirement Board was created by the State Legislature and is the governing authority of PERS.

The City's contributions to PERS for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2020, 2019, and 2018 were \$10,708, \$11,740, and \$10,545, respectively, equal to the required contributions for the year.

PERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for PERS. That report may be obtained on the NDPERS website.

NOTE 10: RISK MANAGEMENT

The City is exposed to various risks of loss relating to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. In 1986 state agencies and political subdivisions of the State of North Dakota joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. The City pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability and automobile insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of one million dollars per occurrence. The State Bonding Fund currently provides the City with blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 for its employees. The State Bonding fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage. The City has workers compensation with the Workforce, Safety and Insurance and purchases commercial insurance for personal property, building, inland marine, and boiler and machinery.

CITY OF ASHLEY

REPORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

DECEMBER 31, 2020

City of Ashley
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Harold J. Rotunda

Certified Public Accountant

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND
OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*
Independent Auditor's Report

Governing Board
City of Ashley
Ashley, North Dakota

I have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units and each major fund of City of Ashley as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise basic financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated June 14, 2022.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered City of Ashley's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of 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 City'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.

My 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during my audit I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. I did identify two deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that I consider to be a significant deficiency (2020-1 and 2020-2).

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether City of Ashley's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I 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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit, and accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

City's Response to Findings

City of Ashley's response to the finding identified in my audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. City of Ashley's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, I express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City'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 City's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Harold Rotunda, CPA
June 14, 2022

CITY OF ASHLEY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

2020-001 Segregation of Duties

Criteria

To provide reasonable assurance that segregation of duties takes place while also taking into account the size of the City.

Condition

The City Auditor is responsible for all accounting functions involved. The employee handles all income of monies, prepares the receipts documents, prepares the deposits, issues all checks and distributes them, receives the bank statements and does the reconciliations. The employee also records the receipts and disbursements to the journals and maintains the general ledger. Considering the size of the City, it is not feasible to obtain proper segregation of duties and the degree of internal control is severely limited.

Cause

The City Auditor is the employee responsible for all functions and due to the City's size, they are unable to hire additional staff.

Effect

Lack of segregation of duties leads to a limited degree of internal control.

Recommendation

The City should separate the duties when it becomes feasible.

Management's Response

Some procedures to promote segregation of duties have been implemented. Funds are counted by other individuals prior to being given to the Auditor to receipt and deposit at the various financial institutions. The Council reviews and approves bills before payments are made. The Mayor reviews and signs all checks written. The City will formally segregate other duties when feasible.

CITY OF ASHLEY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

2020-002 Financial Statement Preparation
Criteria

An appropriate system of internal controls requires that a City make a determination that financial statements and the underlying general ledger accounts are properly stated in compliance with the modified cash basis of accounting. This requires the City's personnel to maintain a working knowledge of current modified cash basis of accounting required financial statement disclosures.

Condition

The City's auditor prepared the financial statements for the year ended. In addition, adjusting entries were proposed to bring the financial statements into compliance with the modified cash basis of accounting. An appropriate system of internal controls requires that a City must make a determination that financial statements and the underlying general ledger accounts are properly stated in compliance with the modified cash basis. This requires the City's personnel to maintain a working knowledge of current accounting principles in accordance with the modified cash basis.

Cause

The City does not have the resources to prepare full modified cash basis financial statements.

Effect

The City currently does not maintain the working knowledge of current accounting principles for the modified cash basis and required financial statement disclosures to make a determination that financial statements are properly stated in compliance with the modified cash basis.

Recommendation

Compensating controls could be provided through client preparation of the financial statement preparation and/or review function.

Management's Response

Management agrees that it is currently not cost-effective.