

AUDIT REPORT

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

RATH & MEHRER, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

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CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

CITY OFFICIALS
December 31, 2023

Vacant	Mayor
Jeffrey Johnson	Council Vice President
Vince Harshbarger, Jr.	Council Member
Robert Krueger	Council Member
David Locken	Council Member
Keith Middleman	Council Member
Brian Schimelfenig	Council Member
Paula Tweton	Auditor

Rath & Mehrer, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

Jayson Rath, CPA
Bryce Fischer, CPA
Todd Goehring, CPA

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Governing Board
City of Fessenden
Fessenden, North Dakota

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Fessenden, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the city'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 modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the city, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position, and where applicable, cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audits 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 city, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter – 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 modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management 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, and for 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.

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 city'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 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 judgement 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 judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audits.
- 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 audits 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, 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 judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the city'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 audits, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audits.

Supplementary Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the city's basic financial statements. The budgeting comparison information and the schedules of fund activity arising from cash transactions are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the budgeting comparison information and the schedules of fund activity arising from cash transactions are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 16, 2024 on our consideration of the city's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 city'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 city's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Rath and Mehrer, P.C.

Bismarck, North Dakota

August 16, 2024

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2023

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	Fessenden Airport Authority
<u>ASSETS:</u>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	406,277.70	581,968.26	988,245.96	38,810.30
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation):				
Buildings and Infrastructure	179,071.00	4,775,421.00	4,954,492.00	
Machinery and Vehicles	195,143.00		195,143.00	
Total Capital Assets	374,214.00	4,775,421.00	5,149,635.00	-
Total Assets	780,491.70	5,357,389.26	6,137,880.96	38,810.30
<u>LIABILITIES:</u>				
Long-Term Liabilities:				
Due Within One Year:				
Lease Payable	15,513.61		15,513.61	
Revenue Bonds Payable	10,036.41	125,000.00	135,036.41	
Due After One Year:				
Lease Payable	50,083.05		50,083.05	
Revenue Bonds Payable	81,991.06	2,855,000.00	2,936,991.06	
Total Liabilities	157,624.13	2,980,000.00	3,137,624.13	-
<u>NET POSITION:</u>				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	216,589.87	1,795,421.00	2,012,010.87	-
Restricted for:				
Debt Service		183,028.45	183,028.45	
Special Purposes	309,939.22		309,939.22	
Unrestricted	96,338.48	398,939.81	495,278.29	38,810.30
Total Net Position	622,867.57	2,377,389.26	3,000,256.83	38,810.30

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2022

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	Fessenden Airport Authority
ASSETS:				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	370,738.84	542,942.18	913,681.02	39,326.80
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation):				
Buildings and Infrastructure	187,737.00	4,926,177.00	5,113,914.00	
Machinery and Vehicles	165,966.00		165,966.00	
Total Capital Assets	353,703.00	4,926,177.00	5,279,880.00	-
Total Assets	724,441.84	5,469,119.18	6,193,561.02	39,326.80
LIABILITIES:				
Long-Term Liabilities:				
Due Within One Year:				
Lease Payable	14,958.39		14,958.39	
Revenue Bonds Payable	9,838.65	125,000.00	134,838.65	
Due After One Year:				
Lease Payable	65,596.66		65,596.66	
Revenue Bonds Payable	92,027.46	3,010,000.00	3,102,027.46	
Total Liabilities	182,421.16	3,135,000.00	3,317,421.16	-
NET POSITION:				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	171,281.84	1,791,177.00	1,962,458.84	-
Restricted for:				
Debt Service		180,726.07	180,726.07	
Special Purposes	226,284.93		226,284.93	
Unrestricted	144,453.91	362,216.11	506,670.02	39,326.80
Total Net Position	542,020.68	2,334,119.18	2,876,139.86	39,326.80

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Net Activities - Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Net (Expense) Revenue and Change in Net Position					Component Unit
	Program Revenues		Primary Government			Fessenden Airport Authority
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Functions/Programs						
Primary Government						
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>						
General Government	140,821.68	12,512.24		(128,309.44)		(128,309.44)
Public Safety	36,000.00			(36,000.00)		(36,000.00)
Streets and Public Works	115,083.14		137,208.93	22,125.79		22,125.79
Culture and Recreation	11,722.10		3,885.06	(7,837.04)		(7,837.04)
Other	2,268.96			(2,268.96)		(2,268.96)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	4,978.34			(4,978.34)		(4,978.34)
Total Governmental Activities	310,874.22	12,512.24	141,093.99	(157,267.99)		(157,267.99)
<u>Business-Type Activities:</u>						
Water	370,654.18	197,550.13	131,607.45		(41,496.60)	(41,496.60)
Sewer	27,184.34	63,459.01			36,274.67	36,274.67
Garbage	81,904.62	94,171.19			12,266.57	12,266.57
Total Business-Type Activities	479,743.14	355,180.33	131,607.45		7,044.64	7,044.64
Total Primary Government	790,617.36	367,692.57	272,701.44	(157,267.99)	7,044.64	(150,223.35)
Component Unit						
Fessenden Airport Authority	7,508.64		237.00			(7,271.64)
<u>General Revenues:</u>						
Taxes:						
Property taxes; levied for general purposes				114,079.48		114,079.48
Property taxes; levied for special purposes				2,873.40		2,873.40
City sales taxes				100,425.50		100,425.50
Cigarette taxes				808.05		808.05
Intergovernmental revenue not restricted to specific programs				46,100.35		46,100.35
Earnings on investments and other revenue				6,148.84	3,904.70	10,053.54
Transfers				(32,320.74)	32,320.74	-
Total General Revenues and Transfers				238,114.88	36,225.44	274,340.32
Change in Net Position				80,846.89	43,270.08	124,116.97
Net Position - January 1				542,020.68	2,334,119.18	2,876,139.86
Net Position - December 31				622,867.57	2,377,389.26	3,000,256.83

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Net Activities - Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Net (Expense) Revenue and Change in Net Position						Component
	Program Revenues			Primary Government			Unit
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	Fessenden Airport Authority
Functions/Programs							
Primary Government							
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>							
General Government	136,508.14	11,377.72		(125,130.42)		(125,130.42)	
Public Safety	36,000.00		20,360.00	(15,640.00)		(15,640.00)	
Streets and Public Works	104,295.86		72,820.38	(31,475.48)		(31,475.48)	
Culture and Recreation	12,379.51		5,770.98	(6,608.53)		(6,608.53)	
Other	2,268.96			(2,268.96)		(2,268.96)	
Interest on Long-Term Debt	5,707.53			(5,707.53)		(5,707.53)	
Total Governmental Activities	297,160.00	11,377.72	98,951.36	(186,830.92)		(186,830.92)	
<u>Business-Type Activities:</u>							
Water	397,621.54	197,501.90	137,421.85		(62,697.79)	(62,697.79)	
Sewer	42,772.61	54,541.64			11,769.03	11,769.03	
Garbage	80,943.73	89,772.56			8,828.83	8,828.83	
Total Business-Type Activities	521,337.88	341,816.10	137,421.85		(42,099.93)	(42,099.93)	
Total Primary Government	818,497.88	353,193.82	236,373.21	(186,830.92)	(42,099.93)	(228,930.85)	
Component Unit							
Fessenden Airport Authority	5,087.25						(5,087.25)
<u>General Revenues:</u>							
Taxes:							
Property taxes; levied for general purposes				107,006.20		107,006.20	4,804.15
Property taxes; levied for special purposes				2,884.78		2,884.78	
City sales taxes				101,868.50		101,868.50	
Cigarette taxes				882.72		882.72	
Intergovernmental revenue not restricted							
to specific programs				38,820.67		38,820.67	
Earnings on investments and other revenue				7,608.36	3,069.24	10,677.60	
Transfers				(54,341.37)	54,341.37	-	333.95
Total General Revenues and Transfers				204,729.86	57,410.61	262,140.47	5,138.10
Change in Net Position				17,898.94	15,310.68	33,209.62	50.85
Net Position - January 1				524,121.74	2,318,808.50	2,842,930.24	39,275.95
Net Position - December 31				542,020.68	2,334,119.18	2,876,139.86	39,326.80

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Balance Sheet - Modified Cash Basis
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2023

	Major Funds				Other	Total
	General	Street	City Sales Tax	Municipal Infrastructure	Governmental Funds	Governmental Funds
<u>ASSETS:</u>						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	72,638.65	35,001.22	199,777.86	28,017.08	70,842.89	406,277.70
<u>Fund Balances:</u>						
Restricted for:						
Street and Public Works		35,001.22				35,001.22
Infrastructure Improvements			199,777.86	28,017.08		227,794.94
American Recovery Plan Act					47,143.06	47,143.06
Assigned to:						
George & Ruth Litke Gift	13,284.45					13,284.45
Equipment	682.42					682.42
City Hall Maintenance					23,699.83	23,699.83
Unassigned	58,671.78					58,671.78
Total Fund Balances	72,638.65	35,001.22	199,777.86	28,017.08	70,842.89	406,277.70

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Balance Sheet - Modified Cash Basis
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2022

	Major Funds			Other	Total
			City Sales	Governmental	Governmental
	General	Street	Tax	Funds	Funds
<u>ASSETS:</u>					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	118,476.42	16,066.75	141,652.36	94,543.31	370,738.84
<u>Fund Balances:</u>					
Restricted for:					
Street and Public Works		16,066.75			16,066.75
Infrastructure Improvements			141,652.36		141,652.36
American Recovery Plan Act				68,565.82	68,565.82
Assigned to:					
George & Ruth Litke Gift	59,195.38				59,195.38
Equipment	7,546.23				7,546.23
City Hall Maintenance				25,977.49	25,977.49
Unassigned	51,734.81				51,734.81
Total Fund Balances	118,476.42	16,066.75	141,652.36	94,543.31	370,738.84

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet
to the Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2023

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds		406,277.70
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 the governmental funds.		
Cost of Capital Assets	1,324,095.00	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(949,881.00)</u>	
Net Capital Assets		374,214.00
Long-term liabilities applicable to the city's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. Long-term liabilities -both current and long-term- are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at December 31, 2023 are:		
Lease Payable	(65,596.66)	
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>(92,027.47)</u>	
Total Long-Term Liabilities		<u>(157,624.13)</u>
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities		<u><u>622,867.57</u></u>

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet
to the Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2022

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds	370,738.84
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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 the governmental funds.

Cost of Capital Assets	1,278,065.00	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(924,362.00)</u>	
Net Capital Assets		353,703.00

Long-term liabilities applicable to the city's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. Long-term liabilities -both current and long-term- are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at December 31, 2022 are:

Lease Payable	(80,555.05)	
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>(101,866.11)</u>	
Total Long-Term Liabilities		<u>(182,421.16)</u>

Total Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u><u>542,020.68</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances -
Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Major Funds				Other	Total
	General	Street	City Sales Tax	Municipal Infrastructure	Governmental Funds	Governmental Funds
<u>Revenues:</u>						
Taxes	116,952.88		100,425.50			217,378.38
Licenses, Permits and Fees	10,162.24					10,162.24
Intergovernmental	46,908.40	62,392.98		74,815.95		184,117.33
Miscellaneous	11,981.19	19.78			382.93	12,383.90
Total Revenues	186,004.71	62,412.76	100,425.50	74,815.95	382.93	424,041.85
<u>Expenditures:</u>						
Current:						
General Government	112,672.33				24,083.35	136,755.68
Public Safety	36,000.00					36,000.00
Streets and Public Works		46,831.27		46,798.87		93,630.14
Culture and Recreation	11,722.10					11,722.10
Other	2,268.96					2,268.96
Capital Outlay	46,030.00					46,030.00
Debt Service:						
Principal	14,958.39	9,838.64				24,797.03
Interest and Service Charges	2,989.96	1,988.38				4,978.34
Total Expenditures	226,641.74	58,658.29	-	46,798.87	24,083.35	356,182.25
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	(40,637.03)	3,754.47	100,425.50	28,017.08	(23,700.42)	67,859.60
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>						
Transfers In	11,840.00	15,180.00	30,000.00			57,020.00
Transfers Out	(17,040.74)		(72,300.00)			(89,340.74)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(5,200.74)	15,180.00	(42,300.00)	-	-	(32,320.74)
Net Changes in Fund Balances	(45,837.77)	18,934.47	58,125.50	28,017.08	(23,700.42)	35,538.86
Fund Balance - January 1	118,476.42	16,066.75	141,652.36		94,543.31	370,738.84
Fund Balance - December 31	72,638.65	35,001.22	199,777.86	28,017.08	70,842.89	406,277.70

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances -
Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Major Funds			Other	Total
	General	Street	City Sales Tax	Governmental Funds	Governmental Funds
<u>Revenues:</u>					
Taxes	109,890.98		101,868.50		211,759.48
Licenses, Permits and Fees	8,927.72				8,927.72
Intergovernmental	60,063.39	38,351.60		34,468.78	132,883.77
Miscellaneous	15,430.14	295.18		104.02	15,829.34
Total Revenues	194,312.23	38,646.78	101,868.50	34,572.80	369,400.31
<u>Expenditures:</u>					
Current:					
General Government	119,201.08			13,241.06	132,442.14
Public Safety	36,000.00				36,000.00
Streets and Public Works		59,399.86			59,399.86
Culture and Recreation	12,379.51				12,379.51
Other	2,268.96				2,268.96
Debt Service:					
Principal	14,423.06	9,644.78			24,067.84
Interest and Service Charges	3,525.29	2,182.24			5,707.53
Total Expenditures	187,797.90	71,226.88	-	13,241.06	272,265.84
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	6,514.33	(32,580.10)	101,868.50	21,331.74	97,134.47
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>					
Transfers In	6,600.00	30,300.00		5,215.03	42,115.03
Transfers Out	(50,835.03)		(45,621.37)		(96,456.40)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(44,235.03)	30,300.00	(45,621.37)	5,215.03	(54,341.37)
Net Changes in Fund Balances	(37,720.70)	(2,280.10)	56,247.13	26,546.77	42,793.10
Fund Balance - January 1	156,197.12	18,346.85	85,405.23	67,996.54	327,945.74
Fund Balance - December 31	118,476.42	16,066.75	141,652.36	94,543.31	370,738.84

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities - Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	35,538.86
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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 outlays 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 outlay exceeded depreciation in the current year.

Current Year Capital Outlay	46,030.00	
Current Year Depreciation Expense	<u>(25,519.00)</u>	20,511.00

The proceeds of debt issuances are reported as financing sources in governmental funds and thus contribute to the change in fund balance. In the statement of net position, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. This is the amount by which repayment of debt exceeded debt proceeds.

Debt Proceeds	-	
Repayment of Debt	<u>24,797.03</u>	<u>24,797.03</u>

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u><u>80,846.89</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities - Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	42,793.10
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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 outlays 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 depreciation exceeded capital outlay in the current year.

Current Year Capital Outlay	-	
Current Year Depreciation Expense	<u>(48,962.00)</u>	(48,962.00)

The proceeds of debt issuances are reported as financing sources in governmental funds and thus contribute to the change in fund balance. In the statement of net position, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. This is the amount by which repayment of debt exceeded debt proceeds.

Debt Proceeds	-	
Repayment of Debt	<u>24,067.84</u>	<u>24,067.84</u>

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u><u>17,898.94</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
Proprietary Fund
December 31, 2023

	Major Enterprise Fund
	<u>Utility</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
<u>Current Assets:</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>581,968.26</u>
<u>Noncurrent Assets:</u>	
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation):	
Buildings and Infrastructure	<u>4,775,421.00</u>
Total Assets	<u>5,357,389.26</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
<u>Current Liabilities:</u>	
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>125,000.00</u>
<u>Noncurrent Liabilities:</u>	
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>2,855,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,980,000.00</u>
<u>NET POSITION</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,795,421.00
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	183,028.45
Unrestricted	<u>398,939.81</u>
Total Net Position	<u>2,377,389.26</u>

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
Proprietary Fund
December 31, 2022

	Major Enterprise Fund
	<u>Utility</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
<u>Current Assets:</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>542,942.18</u>
<u>Noncurrent Assets:</u>	
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation):	
Buildings and Infrastructure	<u>4,926,177.00</u>
Total Assets	<u>5,469,119.18</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
<u>Current Liabilities:</u>	
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>125,000.00</u>
<u>Noncurrent Liabilities:</u>	
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>3,010,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>3,135,000.00</u>
<u>NET POSITION</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,791,177.00
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	180,726.07
Unrestricted	<u>362,216.11</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>2,334,119.18</u></u>

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
Proprietary Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Major Enterprise Fund
	<u>Utility</u>
<u>Operating Revenues:</u>	
Charges for Sales and Services:	
Water Charges	157,383.14
Sewer Charges	63,459.01
Garbage Charges	94,171.19
Surcharges	20,413.37
Miscellaneous Charges and Services	<u>19,753.62</u>
Total Operating Revenues	<u>355,180.33</u>
<u>Operating Expenses:</u>	
Water	75,729.77
Rural Water Costs	82,997.15
Sewer	2,376.84
Garbage	81,904.62
Repairs and Maintenance	29,124.07
Depreciation	<u>150,756.00</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>422,888.45</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>(67,708.12)</u>
<u>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses):</u>	
Special Assessments	129,843.96
State Grant	1,763.49
Interest Income	554.83
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,349.87
Miscellaneous Expenses	(329.99)
Interest and Service Charges	<u>(56,524.70)</u>
Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>78,657.46</u>
Income (Loss) Before Transfers	<u>10,949.34</u>
Transfers In	87,174.74
Transfers Out	<u>(54,854.00)</u>
Total Transfers	<u>32,320.74</u>
Changes in Net Position	<u>43,270.08</u>
Net Position - January 1	<u>2,334,119.18</u>
Net Position - December 31	<u><u>2,377,389.26</u></u>

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
Proprietary Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Major Enterprise Fund
	<u>Utility</u>
<u>Operating Revenues:</u>	
Charges for Sales and Services:	
Water Charges	162,514.83
Sewer Charges	54,541.64
Garbage Charges	89,772.56
Surcharges	17,902.27
Miscellaneous Charges and Services	<u>17,084.80</u>
Total Operating Revenues	<u>341,816.10</u>
<u>Operating Expenses:</u>	
Water	80,968.25
Rural Water Costs	84,015.79
Sewer	25,789.20
Garbage	80,943.73
Repairs and Maintenance	38,616.89
Depreciation	<u>150,756.00</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>461,089.86</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>(119,273.76)</u>
<u>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses):</u>	
Special Assessments	137,421.85
Interest Income	397.48
Miscellaneous Revenue	2,671.76
Miscellaneous Expenses	(971.64)
Interest and Service Charges	<u>(59,276.38)</u>
Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>80,243.07</u>
Income (Loss) Before Transfers	<u>(39,030.69)</u>
Transfers In	78,815.37
Transfers Out	<u>(24,474.00)</u>
Total Transfers	<u>54,341.37</u>
Changes in Net Position	<u>15,310.68</u>
Net Position - January 1	<u>2,318,808.50</u>
Net Position - December 31	<u><u>2,334,119.18</u></u>

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Cash Flows - Modified Cash Basis
Proprietary Funds
For the Year ended December 31, 2023

	Major Enterprise Fund
	<u>Utility</u>
<u>Cash flows from operating activities:</u>	
Receipts from customers	355,180.33
Payments to suppliers	(204,830.18)
Payments to employees	<u>(67,302.27)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>83,047.88</u>
<u>Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:</u>	
State grant	1,763.49
Miscellaneous receipts	3,349.87
Miscellaneous disbursements	(329.99)
Transfers in	87,174.74
Transfers out	<u>(54,854.00)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by noncapital financing activities	<u>37,104.11</u>
<u>Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:</u>	
Special assessments	129,843.96
Principal payments	(155,000.00)
Interest payments and service charges	<u>(56,524.70)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	<u>(81,680.74)</u>
<u>Cash flows from investing activities:</u>	
Interest income	<u>554.83</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	<u>39,026.08</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, January 1	<u>542,942.18</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, December 31	<u><u>581,968.26</u></u>
 <u>Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided (used) by Operating Activities:</u>	
Operating income (loss)	(67,708.12)
<u>Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:</u>	
Depreciation expense	<u>150,756.00</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u><u>83,047.88</u></u>

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Statement of Cash Flows - Modified Cash Basis
Proprietary Funds
For the Year ended December 31, 2022

	Major Enterprise Fund
	<u>Utility</u>
<u>Cash flows from operating activities:</u>	
Receipts from customers	341,816.10
Payments to suppliers	(247,705.53)
Payments to employees	<u>(62,628.33)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>31,482.24</u>
<u>Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:</u>	
Miscellaneous receipts	2,671.76
Miscellaneous disbursements	(971.64)
Transfers in	78,815.37
Transfers out	<u>(24,474.00)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by noncapital financing activities	<u>56,041.49</u>
<u>Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:</u>	
Special assessments	137,421.85
Principal payments	(137,569.99)
Interest payments and service charges	<u>(59,276.38)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	<u>(59,424.52)</u>
<u>Cash flows from investing activities:</u>	
Interest income	<u>397.48</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	<u>28,496.69</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, January 1	<u>514,445.49</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, December 31	<u><u>542,942.18</u></u>
 <u>Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided (used) by Operating Activities:</u>	
Operating income (loss)	(119,273.76)
 <u>Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:</u>	
Depreciation expense	<u>150,756.00</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u><u>31,482.24</u></u>

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

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The City of Fessenden operates under a city council form of government. The financial statements of the city have been prepared on a modified cash basis, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the government's accounting policies are described below.

A. Financial 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 are such that exclusion would cause the city's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Government Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include 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 these criteria, the component unit discussed below is included within the city's reporting entity because of the significance of their operational or financial relationship with the city.

Discretely presented component unit: The component unit's column in the basic financial statements include the financial data of the city's component unit. This unit is reported in a separate column to emphasize that it is legally separate from the city.

Fessenden Airport Authority: The Fessenden municipal airport authority's governing board is appointed by the city's governing board. The city's governing body has the authority to disapprove, amend, or approve the airport authority budget. The airport authority has the authority to issue its own debt.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government, the City of Fessenden and its component unit. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the *governmental and business-type* activities of the city. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties.

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: The fund financial statements provide information about the city's funds. Separate statements for each fund category – *governmental and proprietary* – are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

Proprietary fund operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Nonoperating revenues, such as subsidies and investment earnings, result from nonexchange transactions or ancillary activities.

The city reports the following major governmental funds:

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

Street. This fund accounts for the accumulation of the highway distribution tax to be used for street repairs and maintenance.

City Sales Tax: This fund accounts for the accumulation of city sales taxes which the city has dedicated to general infrastructure improvements.

Municipal Infrastructure: This fund is used to account for funding received through the North Dakota Municipal Infrastructure Fund (House Bill 1066) to be used for infrastructure projects.

The city reports the following major enterprise fund:

Utility. This fund accounts for the activities of the city's water distribution system, sewage collection system and garbage collection system.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "how" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to "when" transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Measurement Focus

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, both governmental and business-like activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus, within the limitations of the modified cash basis of accounting, as defined in item b below.

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:

- a. 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 present 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.

- b. 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 position (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 position.

Basis of Accounting

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities and the fund financial statements, governmental and business-like activities are presented using a modified cash basis of accounting. This basis recognizes assets, liabilities, net position/fund equity, revenues, and expenditures/expenses when they result from cash transactions with a provision for depreciation in the government-wide statements and proprietary fund statements. This basis is a 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, while the fund financial statements for proprietary fund types would use the accrual basis of accounting. All government-wide financial statements would be presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits, money market accounts and highly liquid short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less.

E. Capital Assets

Capital assets include plant and equipment. Assets are reported in the governmental activities column and the business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Assets are also reported in the proprietary fund statements. Capital assets are defined by the city as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$5,000 or more. Such assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. 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. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is not capitalized.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings and Infrastructure	25 to 75 years
Machinery and Vehicles	8 to 20 years

F. 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 position. 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.

G. Fund Equity

Fund equity at the governmental fund financial reporting level is classified as "fund balance". Fund equity for all other reporting is classified as "net position".

Fund Balance – Generally, fund balance represents the difference between the current assets and current liabilities. In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the city is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Fund balances are classified as follows:

Nonspendable – Fund balances are reported as nonspendable when amounts cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form (i.e., items that are not expected to be converted to cash such as inventories or prepaid expenses) or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact (i.e., endowment funds).

Restricted – Fund balances are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the city or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments (i.e., funds restricted by state statute, unspent bond proceeds, grants earned but not spent, debt covenants or taxes raised for a specific purpose).

Committed – Fund balances are reported as committed when they can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the city council through the adoption of a resolution. The city council also may modify or rescind the commitment.

Assigned – Fund balances are reported as assigned when amounts are constrained by the city's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed.

Unassigned – Fund balances are reported as unassigned as the residual amount when the balances do not meet any of the above criterion. The city reports positive unassigned fund balance only in the general fund. Negative fund balances may be reported in all funds.

Flow Assumptions – When both restricted and unrestricted amounts of fund balance are available for use for expenditures incurred, it is the city's policy to use restricted amounts first and then unrestricted amounts as they are needed. For unrestricted amounts of fund balance, it is the city's policy to use fund balance in the following order:

- Committed
- Assigned
- Unassigned

Net Position – Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used (i.e., the amount that the city has not spent) for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted as described in the fund balance section above. All other net position is reported as unrestricted.

H. Interfund Transactions

In the governmental and proprietary fund financial 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.

In the government-wide financial statements, interfund transactions have been eliminated.

I. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the special purpose framework (SPF) used by the city requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures (such as estimated useful lives in determining depreciation expense); accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 2 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 institutions 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 deposits not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes or bonds issued by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal Land Bank bonds, bonds, notes, warrants, 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 or instrumentalities or by any county, city, township, school district, park district or any 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 other securities approved by the banking board.

At December 31, 2023 the city's carrying amount of deposits was \$988,246 and the bank balance was \$1,004,488. Of the bank balance, \$297,836 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining balance of \$706,652 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

At December 31, 2022 the city's carrying amount of deposits was \$913,681 and the bank balance was \$926,042. Of the bank balance, \$326,123 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining balance of \$599,919 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

Credit Risk

The city may invest idle funds as authorized in North Dakota Statutes, as follows:

- (1) Bonds, treasury bills and notes, or other securities that are a direct 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 of the type listed above.
- (3) Certificates of deposit fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation.
- (4) Obligations of the State.

Concentration of Credit Risk

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

Note 3 PROPERTY TAXES

The county treasurer acts as an 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 the 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.

Note 4 CAPITAL ASSETS

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

December 31, 2023

	<u>Balance January 1</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance December 31</u>
Governmental Activities:				
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	1,029,900			1,029,900
Machinery and Vehicles	248,165	46,030		294,195
Total	<u>1,278,065</u>	<u>46,030</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,324,095</u>
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	842,163	8,666		850,829
Machinery and Vehicles	82,199	16,853		99,052
Total	<u>924,362</u>	<u>25,519</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>949,881</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>353,703</u>	<u>20,511</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>374,214</u>

December 31, 2022

	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31
Governmental Activities:				
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	1,029,900			1,029,900
Machinery and Vehicles	248,165			248,165
Total	1,278,065	-	-	1,278,065
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	807,897	34,266		842,163
Machinery and Vehicles	67,503	14,696		82,199
Total	875,400	48,962	-	924,362
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	402,665	(48,962)	-	353,703

December 31, 2023

	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31
Business-type Activities:				
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	6,024,225			6,024,225
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	1,098,048	150,756		1,248,804
Business-type Activities Capital Assets, Net	4,926,177	(150,756)	-	4,775,421

December 31, 2022

	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31
Business-type Activities:				
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	6,024,225			6,024,225
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Buildings and Infrastructure	947,292	150,756		1,098,048
Business-type Activities Capital Assets, Net	5,076,933	(150,756)	-	4,926,177

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the city as follows for the years ended December 31:

	2023	2022
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>		
General Government	4,066	4,066
Streets and Public Works	21,453	44,896
Total Depreciation Expense	25,519	48,962
<u>Business-type Activities:</u>		
Utility	150,756	150,756

Note 5 LEASE PAYABLE

The city has entered into the following lease agreement:

\$108,885 lease-purchase of a John Deere 524L Wheel Loader due in annual installments of \$17,948.35 through November 16, 2027; payments include interest at 3.65%	65,596.66
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This lease agreement qualifies as a lease for accounting purposes (title transfers at the end of the lease term). The following is a schedule of the future minimum lease payments under this capital lease, and the net present value of the minimum lease payments at December 31, 2023:

<u>Year Ending December 31</u>	<u>Principal</u>
2024	17,948.35
2025	17,948.35
2026	17,948.35
2027	17,948.35
Total minimum lease payments	71,793.40
Less: amount representing interest	(6,196.74)
Present value of future minimum lease payments	65,596.66

Note 6 LONG-TERM DEBT

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities. During the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in the long-term liabilities of the city:

Governmental Activities:

	Balance January 1	Increases	2023 Decreases	Balance December 31	Due Within One Year
Lease Payable	80,555		14,958	65,597	15,514
Revenue Bonds Payable	101,866		9,839	92,027	10,036
Total	182,421	-	24,797	157,624	25,550

			<u>2022</u>		
	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31	Due Within One Year
Lease Payable	94,978		14,423	80,555	14,958
Revenue Bonds Payable	111,511		9,645	101,866	9,839
Total	<u>206,489</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,068</u>	<u>182,421</u>	<u>24,797</u>

Business-type Activities (Proprietary Funds):

			<u>2023</u>		
	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31	Due Within One Year
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>3,135,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>155,000</u>	<u>2,980,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>

			<u>2022</u>		
	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31	Due Within One Year
Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>3,272,570</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>137,570</u>	<u>3,135,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>

Governmental Activities:

Outstanding debt at December 31, 2023 consists of the following:

Revenue Bonds. The city has issued bonds whereby the city pledges income derived for the acquired or constructed assets to pay debt service. Revenue bonds outstanding at December 31, 2023, are as follows:

\$148,433.51 Sewer Revenue Bond, Series 2018, due in annual payments of \$11,827.02 through May 1, 2032; payments include interest at 2%.	<u>92,027.47</u>
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The annual requirements to amortize the outstanding revenue bonds payable are as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2024	10,036.41	1,790.61
2025	10,238.14	1,588.88
2026	10,443.92	1,383.10
2027	10,653.84	1,173.18
2028	10,867.99	959.03
2029-2032	<u>39,787.17</u>	<u>1,607.40</u>
Total	<u>92,027.47</u>	<u>8,502.20</u>

Business-type Activities (Proprietary Funds):

Revenue Bonds. The city has issued bonds whereby the city pledges income derived from the acquired or constructed assets to pay debt service. Revenue bonds outstanding at December 31, 2023 are as follows:

\$1,037,555 Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2018, due in annual installments of \$5,000 to \$40,000 through September 1, 2048; interest is at 1.5%.	810,000.00
\$2,470,000 Refunding Improvement Bonds, Series 2021, due in annual installments of \$65,000 to \$130,000 through January 1, 2044; interest is at 1.1% to 2%.	<u>2,170,000.00</u>
Total Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>2,980,000.00</u>

The annual requirements to amortize the outstanding revenue bonds payable are as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2024	125,000.00	31,262.50
2025	125,000.00	48,000.00
2026	130,000.00	45,625.00
2027	130,000.00	43,175.00
2028	135,000.00	40,725.00
2029-2033	680,000.00	173,835.00
2034-2038	740,000.00	120,915.00
2039-2043	750,000.00	52,725.00
2044-2048	<u>165,000.00</u>	<u>6,375.00</u>
Total	<u>2,980,000.00</u>	<u>562,637.50</u>

Note 7 TRANSFERS

The following is a reconciliation between transfers in and transfers out as reported in the basic financial statements for the year ended December 31:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Transfers In</u>	<u>Transfers Out</u>
<u>December 31, 2023</u>		
General Fund: Equipment	11,040.00	
Utility: Water System Reserve	12,834.00	
Utility: Operations		23,874.00
To set-aside funds for reserves.		
Utility: Operations	72,300.00	
City Sales Tax		72,300.00
To subsidize debt service payments.		

Street	15,180.00	
General Fund: Operating		15,000.00
Utility: Water and Sewer Project		180.00
Utility: Operations	2,040.74	
General Fund		2,040.74
General Fund: Operating	800.00	
Utility: Water and Sewer Project		800.00
City Sales Tax	30,000.00	
Utility: Operations		30,000.00
To subsidize expenditures.		
<u>December 31, 2022</u>		
General Fund: Equipment	6,000.00	
City Hall Maintenance	5,040.00	
Utility: Water System Reserve	12,834.00	
Utility: Operations		23,874.00
To set-aside funds for reserves.		
General Fund: Operating	600.00	
Utility: Water and Sewer Project		600.00
Street	30,300.00	
Utility: Operations	20,360.00	
City Hall Maintenance	175.03	
General Fund: Operating		50,835.03
To subsidize expenditures.		
Utility: Operations	45,621.37	
City Sales Tax		45,621.37
To subsidize debt service payments.		

Note 8 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The City of Fessenden 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 (NDRF), 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 NDRF for its general liability, automobile and public assets insurance coverage. The coverage by NDRF is limited to losses of \$2,000,000 per occurrence for general liability and automobile; and \$392,000 for public assets.

The city also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund and the State Bonding Fund. The city pays an annual premium to the Fire and Tornado Fund to cover property damage to buildings and personal property.

Replacement cost coverage is provided by estimating replacement cost in consultation with the Fire and Tornado Fund. The Fire and Tornado Fund is reinsured by a third-party insurance carrier for losses in excess of \$1,000,000 per occurrence during a 12-month period. The State Bonding Fund currently provides the city with a blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$242,952 for its employees. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

The city has worker's compensation with the Department of Workforce Safety and Insurance; and purchases commercial insurance for employee health and accident insurance.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Note 9 PENSION PLAN

The city provides benefits for its full-time employees through a defined contribution plan. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan plus investment earnings. The city contributes 15.26% of the employee's gross salary for the year. During the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the city contributed \$7,617.84 and \$7,617.87, respectively.

Note 10 TAX ABATEMENTS

The city has not entered into any tax abatement agreements that would reduce the city's tax revenues for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Modified Cash Basis
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Taxes	118,000.00	116,952.88	(1,047.12)
Licenses, Permits and Fees	8,920.00	10,162.24	1,242.24
Intergovernmental	34,400.00	46,908.40	12,508.40
Miscellaneous	11,145.00	11,981.19	836.19
Total Revenues	172,465.00	186,004.71	13,539.71
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
General Government	97,466.00	112,672.33	(15,206.33)
Public Safety	36,000.00	36,000.00	-
Culture and Recreation	13,500.00	11,722.10	1,777.90
Other	3,000.00	2,268.96	731.04
Capital Outlay		46,030.00	(46,030.00)
Debt Service:			
Principal	14,958.39	14,958.39	-
Interest and Service Charges	2,989.96	2,989.96	-
Total Expenditures	167,914.35	226,641.74	(58,727.39)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	4,550.65	(40,637.03)	(45,187.68)
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>			
Transfers In	11,040.00	11,840.00	800.00
Transfers Out		(17,040.74)	(17,040.74)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	11,040.00	(5,200.74)	(16,240.74)
Net Change in Fund Balances	15,590.65	(45,837.77)	(61,428.42)
Fund Balance - January 1	118,476.42	118,476.42	
Fund Balance - December 31	134,067.07	72,638.65	(61,428.42)

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Modified Cash Basis
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Taxes	102,795.00	109,890.98	7,095.98
Licenses, Permits and Fees	7,100.00	8,927.72	1,827.72
Intergovernmental	30,000.00	60,063.39	30,063.39
Miscellaneous	9,300.00	15,430.14	6,130.14
Total Revenues	149,195.00	194,312.23	45,117.23
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
General Government	95,409.60	119,201.08	(23,791.48)
Public Safety	36,000.00	36,000.00	-
Culture and Recreation	13,500.00	12,379.51	1,120.49
Other	2,800.00	2,268.96	531.04
Debt Service:			
Principal		14,423.06	(14,423.06)
Interest and Service Charges		3,525.29	(3,525.29)
Total Expenditures	147,709.60	187,797.90	(40,088.30)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	1,485.40	6,514.33	5,028.93
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>			
Transfers In		6,600.00	6,600.00
Transfers Out		(50,835.03)	(50,835.03)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	-	(44,235.03)	(44,235.03)
Net Change in Fund Balances	1,485.40	(37,720.70)	(39,206.10)
Fund Balance - January 1	156,197.12	156,197.12	
Fund Balance - December 31	157,682.52	118,476.42	(39,206.10)

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Modified Cash Basis
Street Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Intergovernmental	36,000.00	62,392.98	26,392.98
Miscellaneous	212.00	19.78	(192.22)
Total Revenues	36,212.00	62,412.76	26,200.76
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
Street and Public Works	79,150.00	46,831.27	32,318.73
Debt Service:			
Principal	10,000.00	9,838.64	161.36
Interest and Service Charges	2,000.00	1,988.38	11.62
Total Expenditures	91,150.00	58,658.29	32,491.71
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	(54,938.00)	3,754.47	58,692.47
<u>Other Financing Sources:</u>			
Transfers In		15,180.00	15,180.00
Net Change in Fund Balances	(54,938.00)	18,934.47	73,872.47
Fund Balance - January 1	16,066.75	16,066.75	
Fund Balance - December 31	(38,871.25)	35,001.22	73,872.47

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Modified Cash Basis
Street Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Intergovernmental	30,000.00	38,351.60	8,351.60
Miscellaneous	75.00	295.18	220.18
Total Revenues	30,075.00	38,646.78	8,571.78
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
Street and Public Works	63,000.00	59,399.86	3,600.14
Debt Service:			
Principal	24,123.06	9,644.78	14,478.28
Interest and Service Charges	5,825.29	2,182.24	3,643.05
Total Expenditures	92,948.35	71,226.88	21,721.47
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	(62,873.35)	(32,580.10)	30,293.25
<u>Other Financing Sources:</u>			
Transfers In		30,300.00	30,300.00
Net Change in Fund Balances	(62,873.35)	(2,280.10)	60,593.25
Fund Balance - January 1	18,346.85	18,346.85	
Fund Balance - December 31	(44,526.50)	16,066.75	60,593.25

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Modified Cash Basis
City Sales Tax Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Taxes	100,000.00	100,425.50	425.50
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
Urban and Economic Development	-	-	-
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	100,000.00	100,425.50	425.50
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>			
Transfers In		30,000.00	30,000.00
Transfers Out	(50,000.00)	(72,300.00)	(22,300.00)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(50,000.00)	(42,300.00)	7,700.00
Net Change in Fund Balances	50,000.00	58,125.50	8,125.50
Fund Balance - January 1	141,652.36	141,652.36	
Fund Balance - December 31	191,652.36	199,777.86	8,125.50

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Modified Cash Basis
City Sales Tax Fund
For they Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Taxes	75,000.00	101,868.50	26,868.50
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
Urban and Economic Development	30,000.00	-	30,000.00
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	45,000.00	101,868.50	56,868.50
<u>Other Financing (Uses):</u>			
Transfers Out	(45,000.00)	(45,621.37)	(621.37)
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	56,247.13	56,247.13
Fund Balance - January 1	85,405.23	85,405.23	
Fund Balance - December 31	85,405.23	141,652.36	56,247.13

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Notes to the Budgetary Comparison Schedules
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Note 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT BUDGET POLICIES

Based upon available financial information and requests by the governing board, the city auditor prepares the preliminary budget. The city budget is prepared for the general and special revenue funds by function and activity on the cash basis of accounting. The preliminary budget includes the proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. All annual appropriations lapse at year end.

The governing board holds a public hearing where any taxpayer may testify in favor of, or against, any proposed expenditures or tax levies requested in the preliminary budget. After the budget hearing and on or before October 7, the board adopts the final budget. The final budget must be filed with the county auditor by October 10. No expenditure shall be made, or liability incurred, in excess of the total appropriation by fund except as authorized by North Dakota Century Code Section 40-40-18. However, the governing board may amend the budget during the year for any revenues and appropriations not anticipated at the time the budget was prepared. The budget amendments must be approved by the board and the approval must be noted in the official proceedings of the board.

Note 2 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Budget Amendments

The governing board did not amend the city's budgets during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Excess of Actual Expenditures Over Budget

Expenditures exceeded budget in the following fund for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
General Fund	58,727.39	40,088.30
<u>Special Revenue Fund</u>		
+ Municipal Infrastructure	46,798.87	
* City Hall Maintenance	277.66	13,241.06
+ ARPA Fund	21,805.69	

* A budget was not prepared for this fund for the year ended December 31, 2022.

+ A budget was not prepared for this fund for the year ended December 31, 2023.

No remedial action is anticipated or required by the city regarding these excess expenditures.

Note 3 A formal budget was not adopted for the Municipal Infrastructure Fund for December 31, 2023 and therefore a budgetary comparison schedule is not shown for this major governmental fund.

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Schedule of Fund Activity
Arising from Cash Transactions
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Balance 1-1-2023	Receipts	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Balance 12-31-2023
<u>Major Governmental Funds</u>						
General Fund:						
Operating	51,723.90	185,841.10	800.00	17,040.74	162,663.39	58,660.87
George & Ruth Litke Gift	59,195.38	119.07			46,030.00	13,284.45
Equipment	7,546.23	44.54	11,040.00		17,948.35	682.42
Primary Share	10.91					10.91
Total General Fund	118,476.42	186,004.71	11,840.00	17,040.74	226,641.74	72,638.65
Street	16,066.75	62,412.76	15,180.00		58,658.29	35,001.22
City Sales Tax	141,652.36	100,425.50	30,000.00	72,300.00		199,777.86
Municipal Infrastructure		74,815.95			46,798.87	28,017.08
Total Major Governmental Funds	276,195.53	423,658.92	57,020.00	89,340.74	332,098.90	335,434.81
<u>Non-major Governmental Funds</u>						
City Hall Maintenance	25,977.49				2,277.66	23,699.83
American Recovery Plan Act	68,565.82	382.93			21,805.69	47,143.06
Total Non-major Governmental Funds	94,543.31	382.93	-	-	24,083.35	70,842.89
Total Governmental Funds	370,738.84	424,041.85	57,020.00	89,340.74	356,182.25	406,277.70
<u>Major Enterprise Fund</u>						
Utility Fund:						
Operations	362,216.11	360,689.41	74,340.74	53,874.00	344,432.45	398,939.81
Water and Sewer Project	82,306.73	129,970.66		980.00	139,554.69	71,742.70
Water System Reserve	98,419.34	32.41	12,834.00			111,285.75
Total Major Enterprise Fund	542,942.18	490,692.48	87,174.74	54,854.00	483,987.14	581,968.26
Total Primary Government	913,681.02	914,734.33	144,194.74	144,194.74	840,169.39	988,245.96
<u>Discretely Presented Component Unit</u>						
Fessenden Airport Authority	39,326.80	6,992.14			7,508.64	38,810.30
Total Reporting Entity	953,007.82	921,726.47	144,194.74	144,194.74	847,678.03	1,027,056.26

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Schedule of Fund Activity
Arising from Cash Transactions
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Balance 1-1-2022	Receipts	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Balance 12-31-2022
<u>Major Governmental Funds</u>						
General Fund:						
Operating	77,600.73	194,207.25	600.00	50,835.03	169,849.05	51,723.90
George & Ruth Litke Gift	59,124.14	71.24				59,195.38
Equipment	19,461.34	33.74	6,000.00		17,948.85	7,546.23
Primary Share	10.91					10.91
Total General Fund	156,197.12	194,312.23	6,600.00	50,835.03	187,797.90	118,476.42
Street	18,346.85	38,646.78	30,300.00		71,226.88	16,066.75
City Sales Tax	85,405.23	101,868.50		45,621.37		141,652.36
Total Major Governmental Funds	259,949.20	334,827.51	36,900.00	96,456.40	259,024.78	276,195.53
<u>Non-major Governmental Funds</u>						
City Hall Maintenance	34,003.52		5,215.03		13,241.06	25,977.49
American Recovery Plan Act	33,993.02	34,572.80				68,565.82
Total Non-major Governmental Funds	67,996.54	34,572.80	5,215.03	-	13,241.06	94,543.31
Total Governmental Funds	327,945.74	369,400.31	42,115.03	96,456.40	272,265.84	370,738.84
<u>Major Enterprise Fund</u>						
Utility Fund:						
Operations	341,246.07	344,817.90	65,981.37	23,874.00	365,955.23	362,216.11
Water and Sewer Project	87,641.57	137,461.80		600.00	142,196.64	82,306.73
Water System Reserve	85,557.85	27.49	12,834.00			98,419.34
Total Major Enterprise Fund	514,445.49	482,307.19	78,815.37	24,474.00	508,151.87	542,942.18
Total Primary Government	842,391.23	851,707.50	120,930.40	120,930.40	780,417.71	913,681.02
<u>Discretely Presented Component Unit</u>						
Fessenden Airport Authority	39,275.95	5,138.10			5,087.25	39,326.80
Total Reporting Entity	881,667.18	856,845.60	120,930.40	120,930.40	785,504.96	953,007.82

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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 Fessenden
Fessenden, North Dakota

We 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 discretely presented component unit, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Fessenden as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the city's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 16, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audits of the financial statements, we considered the city'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 city's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the city'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 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.

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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audits we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2023-001 and 2023-002, that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the city's financial statements are free of 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 audits, 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*.

City's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on the city's response to the findings identified in our audits and described in the accompanying *Schedule of Findings and Responses*. The city's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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 city's internal control or on compliance. This 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.



Rath and Mehrer, P.C.

Bismarck, North Dakota

August 16, 2024

CITY OF FESSENDEN
Fessenden, North Dakota

Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of Auditor's Report Issued:

Governmental Activities	Unmodified-Modified Cash Basis
Business-Type Activities	Unmodified-Modified Cash Basis
Discretely Presented Component Unit	Unmodified-Modified Cash Basis
Major Governmental Funds	Unmodified-Modified Cash Basis
Major Business-Type Funds	Unmodified-Modified Cash Basis
Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified-Modified Cash Basis

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? ☒ Yes ☐ None Reported
- Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? ☐ Yes ☒ No

SECTION II – FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS:

Significant Deficiencies

1. 2023-001 – Segregation of Duties

Criteria: To ensure adequate internal control over financial reporting and prevent material misstatements due to errors or fraud, there should be a segregation of the functions of approval, custody of assets, posting and reconciliation.

Condition: The city has one person responsible for most accounting functions. The employee is responsible to collect monies, deposit monies, issue checks, send checks to vendors, record receipts and disbursements in journals, maintain the general ledger and prepare bank reconciliations.

Cause: The city does not have a large enough staff to properly segregate all duties.

Effect: A lack of segregation of duties leads to a limited degree of internal control.

Recommendation: We recommend that management and the governing board be aware of the lack of segregation of duties and implement controls whenever possible to mitigate this risk.

Views of Responsible Officials: The city is aware of the condition and segregates duties whenever possible.

2. 2023-002- Financial Statement Preparation

Criteria: A good system of internal controls requires the city to determine that the financial statements are prepared based on accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This means that the city must maintain knowledge of current accounting principles and required financial statement disclosures.

Condition: The city's financial statements, including the accompanying note disclosures, are prepared by the city's external auditors.

Cause: The city feels that it is more cost effective to have their external auditors prepare the complete financial statements and disclosures, rather than invest in ongoing specialized training that would be necessary.

Effect: Without the assistance of the auditors, the financial statements could be misstated or omit material financial statement disclosures.

Recommendation: We recommend that management be aware of this condition and be prepared and able to provide all necessary information and schedules to complete the financial statements and disclosures; and review and approve them prior to external distribution.

Views of Responsible Officials: The city will continue to have the external auditors prepare the financial statements, including note disclosures, but will review and approve them prior to external distribution.