

CITY OF GWINNER
GWINNER, NORTH DAKOTA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

CITY OF GWINNER
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CITY OF GWINNER
LIST OF OFFICIALS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

CITY COUNCIL

Office

Dan McKeever
Auston Creech
Brian Gilje
ElRoy Odegard
Jaimie Gavin

Mayor

EMPLOYEES:

Jessica Peterson

City Auditor

Harold J. Rotunda
Certified Public Accountant
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Governing Board
City of Gwinner
Gwinner, North Dakota

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, discretely presented component unit, and each major fund of the City of Gwinner, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Gwinner's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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, business-type activities, discretely presented component unit and each major fund of the City of Gwinner as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position and the cash flows, where applicable, for the year then ended, in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinions

I conducted my audit in accordance with 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. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of City of Gwinner and to meet my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter-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.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, 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.

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

My 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 my 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 generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, 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 generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, I:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of City of Gwinner'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 in the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in my judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about City of Gwinner's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, I have also issued reports dated September 30, 2024, 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 solely 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 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.

Fargo, North Dakota
September 30, 2024

CITY OF GWINNER
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Component Units Housing Authority
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and investments	1,503,145.18	3,332,163.97	4,835,309.15	28,824.07
Non-current assets:				
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	4,741,695.94	4,317,736.39	9,059,432.33	
Total Assets	6,244,841.12	7,649,900.36	13,894,741.48	28,824.07
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities:			-	
			-	
			-	
Long term liabilities				
Due within one year	155,000.00	113,691.00	268,691.00	
Due in more than one year	1,600,000.00	1,935,584.00	3,535,584.00	
Total liabilities	1,755,000.00	2,049,275.00	3,804,275.00	-
NET POSITION				
Net investment capital assets	2,986,695.94	2,268,461.39	5,255,157.33	-
Restricted for:			-	
Capital projects	166,627.99		166,627.99	
Debt service	771,161.36		771,161.36	
Highways and streets	19,177.18		19,177.18	
Economic development	2,167,606.12		2,167,606.12	
Unrestricted	(1,621,427.47)	3,332,163.97	1,710,736.50	28,824.07
Total net position	4,489,841.12	5,600,625.36	10,090,466.48	28,824.07

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

CITY OF GWINNER
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES- MODIFIED CASH BASIS					Revenue & Changes
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023		Program Revenues			in net position
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating grants and Contributions	Capital grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
General government	344,858.21	4,981.58			(339,876.63)
Public safety	67,154.92				(67,154.92)
Highways and streets	465,731.39		70,306.81		(395,424.58)
Economic development	2,160,305.16				(2,160,305.16)
					-
Interest expense	53,235.00			208,581.30	155,346.30
					-
Total Governmental Activities	3,091,284.68	4,981.58	70,306.81	208,581.30	(2,807,414.99)
Business-type activities					
Water	672,381.70	374,212.52			(298,169.18)
Sewer	114,182.14	120,643.61			6,461.47
Garbage	90,549.91	125,394.25			34,844.34
Interest expense	48,108.00	-		241,729.78	193,621.78
					-
					-
Total Business-type activities	925,221.75	620,250.38	-	241,729.78	(63,241.59)
Total	4,016,506.43	625,231.96	70,306.81	450,311.08	(2,870,656.58)
Component Unit					
Housing Authority	88,416.23	30,000.00			(58,416.23)
	Governmental	Business-type	Total	Component Units	
Net expense	(2,807,414.99)	(63,241.59)	(2,870,656.58)	Housing Authority	(58,416.23)
General Revenues					
Property taxes	374,130.45		374,130.45		
Sales taxes	863,325.65		863,325.65		
State aid	276,941.30		276,941.30		
Interest	46,862.64		46,862.64	2,203.62	
Other	333,433.50	1,762.08	335,195.58		
Total General Revenues	1,894,693.54	1,762.08	1,896,455.62	2,203.62	
Transfers in (out)	-	-	-		
Change in Net Position	(912,721.45)	(61,479.51)	(974,200.96)	(56,212.61)	
Net Position- January 1	5,402,562.57	5,662,104.87	11,064,667.44	85,036.88	
Net Position- December 31	4,489,841.12	5,600,625.36	10,090,466.48	28,824.27	

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

CITY OF GWINNER
BALANCE SHEET- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

	GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
ASSETS					
Cash and investments	511,483.45	661,579.13	330,082.57	-	1,503,145.15
Interfund receivable		2,009,820.23			2,009,820.23
Total Assets	511,483.45	2,671,399.36	330,082.57	-	3,512,965.38
LIABILITIES					
Interfund payable				2,009,820.23	2,009,820.23
Total liabilities	-	-	-	2,009,820.23	2,009,820.23
FUND BALANCE					
Restricted for					-
Capital projects				166,627.99	166,627.99
Debt service		132,112.81	639,048.55		771,161.36
Highways and streets		19,177.18			19,177.18
Economic development		2,167,606.12			2,167,606.12
Assigned for General Government		352,503.25			352,503.25
Unassigned	511,483.45	(0.00)	(308,965.98)	(2,176,448.22)	(1,973,930.75)
Total fund balance	511,483.45	2,671,399.36	330,082.57	(2,009,820.23)	1,503,145.15
Total liabilities and fund balance	511,483.45	2,671,399.36	330,082.57	-	3,512,965.38

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

CITY OF GWINNER
 RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE
 SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
 DECEMBER 31, 2023

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds	1,503,145.15
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Total net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets is different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in governmental funds

Cost of capital assets	9,508,807.15	
Less accumulated depreciation	4,767,111.21	
Net capital assets		4,741,695.94

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 assets.

Bonds payable	(1,755,000.00)
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Total Net Position of Governmental Activities	4,489,841.09
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF GWINNER
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
REVENUES:					
Property taxes	324,590.27	49,540.18			374,130.45
Sales taxes		863,325.65			863,325.65
Special Assessments			65,354.41	143,226.89	208,581.30
Intergovernmental	95,621.07	94,885.35		156,741.69	347,248.11
Interest	46,862.64				46,862.64
Charges for services	-	62,637.68			62,637.68
Other	71,110.42	204,666.98			275,777.40
Total Revenues	538,184.40	1,275,055.84	65,354.41	299,968.58	2,178,563.23
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
General government	369,681.14	24,117.07		-	393,798.21
Public safety	67,154.92			-	67,154.92
Highways and streets	-	105,338.27		-	105,338.27
Economic development		814,532.83			814,532.83
Capital outlays				1,345,772.33	1,345,772.33
Debt Service					
Principal		-	65,000.00	90,000.00	155,000.00
Interest expense		-	9,827.50	43,407.50	53,235.00
Total Expenditures	436,836.06	943,988.17	74,827.50	1,479,179.83	2,934,831.56
Excess revenues (expenditures)	101,348.34	331,067.67	(9,473.09)	(1,179,211.25)	(756,268.33)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Transfers in		25,478.26		1,500.00	26,978.26
Transfers out	(2,400.00)	(23,078.26)		(1,500.00)	(26,978.26)
Bond proceeds					-
Total other financing sources and uses	(2,400.00)	2,400.00	-	-	-
Net change in fund balances	98,948.34	333,467.67	(9,473.09)	(1,179,211.25)	(756,268.33)
Fund Balance- January 1	412,535.11	2,337,931.69	339,555.66	(830,608.98)	2,259,413.48
Fund Balance- December 31	511,483.45	2,671,399.36	330,082.57	(2,009,820.23)	1,503,145.15

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

CITY OF GWINNER
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balances- Total Governmental Funds (756,268.33)

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	48,940.00	
Current year depreciation expense	360,393.12	(311,453.12)

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 assets.

Debt issued, net of related premiums and discounts	-
Principal retirement	155,000.00

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (912,721.45)

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

CITY OF GWINNER
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

	Water & Sewer	Sanitation	Total
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash, cash equivalents and investments	2,843,329.97	488,834.03	3,332,164.00
Noncurrent assets:			-
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	4,317,736.39		4,317,736.39
Total Assets	7,161,066.36	488,834.03	7,649,900.39
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities:			-
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Due within one year:			
Bonds payable	113,691.00		113,691.00
Notes payable	-		-
Due after one year:			
Bonds payable	1,935,584.00		1,935,584.00
Notes payable	-		-
Total liabilities	2,049,275.00	-	2,049,275.00
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	2,268,461.39		2,268,461.39
Restricted for:			
Capital projects	-		-
Debt service	-		-
Unrestricted	2,843,329.97	488,834.03	3,332,164.00
Total net position	5,111,791.36	488,834.03	5,600,625.39

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

CITY OF GWINNER
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	Water & Sewer	Sanitation	Total
OPERATING REVENUE			
Charges for services	494,856.13	125,394.25	620,250.38
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Salaries	129,171.24	-	129,171.24
Employee benefits	70,816.23	-	70,816.23
Professional fees	73,413.80	-	73,413.80
Purchased services	41,453.21	-	41,453.21
Contract services	-	90,549.91	90,549.91
Electricity	42,112.33	-	42,112.33
Supplies	106,734.20	-	106,734.20
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	-
Office expense	3,625.06	-	3,625.06
Depreciation	244,496.78	-	244,496.78
Miscellaneous	74,740.99	-	74,740.99
Total operating expenses	786,563.84	90,549.91	877,113.75
Operating income (loss)	(291,707.71)	34,844.34	(256,863.37)
NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)			
Special assessments	241,729.78		241,729.78
Interest income	-		-
Grant income	-		-
Interest expense	(48,108.00)		(48,108.00)
Capital outlay	-		-
Other	1,762.08	-	1,762.08
Total non-operating rev (exp)	195,383.86	-	195,383.86
Income (loss) before transfers	(96,323.85)	34,844.34	(61,479.51)
Transfers in	-		-
Transfers out	-		-
Change in net position	(96,323.85)	34,844.34	(61,479.51)
Net Position- January 1	5,208,115.18	453,989.69	5,662,104.87
Net Position- December 31	5,111,791.33	488,834.03	5,600,625.36

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

CITY OF GWINNER
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	Water & Sewer	Sanitation	Total
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers	494,856.13	125,394.25	620,250.38
Payments to suppliers	(412,895.82)	(90,549.91)	(503,445.73)
Payments to employees	(129,171.24)	-	(129,171.24)
Other receipts	1,762.08	-	1,762.08
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(45,448.85)	34,844.34	(10,604.51)
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Transfers to other funds	-	-	-
Transfers from other funds	-	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) noncapital financing activ	-	-	-
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of capital assets	-	-	-
Principal paid on capital debt	(108,163.00)	-	(108,163.00)
Interest paid on capital debt	(48,108.00)	-	(48,108.00)
Debt proceeds	-	-	-
Special assessments	241,729.78	-	241,729.78
Net cash provided by (used in) capital and related financi	85,458.78	-	85,458.78
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Interest and dividends	-	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	-	-	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	40,009.93	34,844.34	74,854.27
Balance- beginning of year	2,803,320.04	453,989.69	3,257,309.73
Balance- end of year	2,843,329.97	488,834.03	3,332,164.00
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Operating income (loss)	(291,707.71)	34,844.34	(256,863.37)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:			
Depreciation expense	244,496.78	-	244,496.78
Miscellaneous receipts (expense)	1,762.08	-	1,762.08
Net cash provided by operating activities	(45,448.85)	34,844.34	(10,604.51)
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.			

CITY OF GWINNER
GWINNER, NORTH DAKOTA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the City of Gwinner (City) have been prepared on the 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 these criteria, there is one discretely presented component unit:

Gwinner Housing Authority- The Housing Authority is a non-profit corporation formed for the purpose of providing funds to finance improvements on City property and for leasing property from the City. The directors of the Authority are appointed by the Mayor. The activity of the Authority are discretely presented. The Authority does not issue separate statements.

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.

CITY OF GWINNER
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.

Special Revenue Fund- This fund accounts for financial resources that exist for special purposes. The major sources of revenues is property taxes, sales taxes and intergovernmental revenues.

Capital Projects Funds. Capital project funds are used to account for resources restricted for the acquisition or construction of specific capital projects or items.

Debt Service funds. 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.

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

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Measurement Focus

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "how" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus, within the limitations of the modified cash basis of accounting. All assets and liabilities associated with the operation of the City are included in the statement of net position.

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.

The current financial resources measurement focus differ from the manner which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Due to the difference, the City's financial statements include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for government funds.

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.

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

The government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, and the fund financial statements, governmental and business-type activities are presented using the 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 capital assets, related depreciation, debt and accrued expenses in the government-wide statements and propriety fund statements and accrued expenses in the fund financial 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) 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 financials would be presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

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 cash basis of accounting. The budget includes the proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

City taxes must be levied by the governing board on or before October 7. 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, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits and money market accounts and certificates of deposits with maturity of less than 90 days. Investments consist of certificates of deposits, with a maturity date in excess of 90 days, 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, 2003. Prior to January 1, 2003, 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.

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

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

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.

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.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

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.

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.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

NOTE 2: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The Council did not amend the City budget for 2023.

EXPENDITURES OVER APPROPRIATIONS

The City did not overspend any budgets. No remedial action is required.

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, 2023, the City's carrying amount of deposits was \$4,835,309. Of the bank balances, \$250,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining balance was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

At December 31, 2022, the Housing Authority's carrying amount of deposits was \$28,824. The bank balances was covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

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 GWINNER
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, 2023:

	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31
Government activities				
Construction in progress	529,757			529,757
Bldgs and Improvements	4,421,219			4,421,219
Vehicles & Equipment	611,839	48,940		660,779
Infrastructure	3,897,053			3,897,053
Total	9,459,867	48,940		9,508,807
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings & Improve	2,567,840	131,015		2,698,855
Vehicles & Equip	522,545	22,097		544,643
Infrastructure	1,316,333	207,281		1,523,614
Total accumulated Dep	4,406,718	360,393		4,767,111
Total net	5,053,149			4,741,696
Business-type activities:				
Bldgs and Improvements	2,895,110			2,895,110
Vehicles & equipment	193,607			193,607
Infrastructure	4,626,154			4,626,154
Total	7,714,871			7,714,871
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings & Improve	2,124,276	48,197		2,172,473
Vehicles & equipment	127,847	11,254		139,101
Infrastructure	900,515	185,046		1,085,561
Total	3,152,638	244,497		3,397,135
Total net	4,562,233			4,317,736

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

Governmental Activities:	
General government	131,015
Public works	22,097
Infrastructure	207,281
Total	360,393

Business-type Activities:	
Water and sewer	244,497

COMPONENT UNIT- BUILDING AUTHORITY

	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31
Buildings	2,030,000		2,030,000	
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	609,000	40,600	649,600	

Net 1,421,000
-23-

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

NOTE 6: LONG-TERM DEBT

During the years ended December 31, 2023, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term debt:

	Payable 2022	Increases	Decreases	Payable 2023	Due Within One Year
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Bonds payable	1,910,000		155,000	1,755,000	155,000
BUSINESS TYPE ACTIVITIES					
SRF loans	1,225,000		80,000	1,145,000	85,000
Bonds payable	932,438		28,163	904,275	28,691
TOTAL	2,157,438		108,163	2,049,275	113,691

COMPONENT UNIT- BUILDING AUTHORITY

Bonds payable	1,529,935	1,529,935
Notes payable	43,317	43,317
TOTAL	1,573,252	1,573,252

BONDS PAYABLE

Bonds payable consist of the following:

	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES			
Refunding bond 2012	05/01/2028	3.00%	315,000
Refunding bond 2017	05/01/2036	1.1-3.0%	1,440,000
			1,755,000
BUSINESS TYPE			
USDA Loan	05/01/2048	1.875%	904,275

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.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

SRF NOTES PAYABLE

The City obtained financing from the State of North Dakota's State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) to finance improvements to the City's utility systems. Details relative to the outstanding notes payable are shown below:

	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES			
Water treatment bonds-2022	09/01/2035	2.5%	1,145,000
Total			1,145,000

Year Ending	Bonds Payable					
December 31	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2024	155,000	48,650	85,000	22,900	28,691	16,955
2025	160,000	45,355	85,000	21,200	29,229	16,417
2026	165,000	40,880	90,000	19,500	29,777	15,869
2027	160,000	36,192	90,000	17,700	30,335	15,311
2028	165,000	31,573	90,000	15,900	30,904	14,742
2029-2033	570,000	105,938	495,000	51,200	163,432	64,798
2034-2038	380,000	22,950	210,000	6,300	179,339	48,891
2039-2043					196,794	31,436
2044-2048					215,774	12,456
TOTAL	1,755,000	331,538	1,145,000	154,700	904,275	236,875

8. DEFICIT FUND BALANCE

The following fund balances had deficits at December 31, 2022:

Main Street South	30,369	Will be eliminated with specials.
Fairway addition	533,257	Will be eliminated with transfers.
Housing authority	1,315,404	Will be eliminated with debt proceeds.
City wide street	308,966	Will be eliminated with specials.
GCDC 3 rd addition	297,419	Will be eliminated with specials.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

NOTE 5: TRANSFERS

Transfer are used to 1) move unrestricted general fund revenues to finance various programs, 2) move sales tax revenues to fund programs and projects, and 3) move revenues from the fund with collection authorization to the debt service fund as debt service principal and interest payments become due.

	Transfer in	Transfer out
General Fund		2,400
Special Revenue Fund	25,478	23,078
Capital Project Fund	1,500	1,500
Debt Service Fund		
Total Governmental Funds	26,978	26,978

The City had the following due to/from other funds at December 31, 2023. They were made to cover the City's cash flow needs.

Receivable	Payable	Amount
Special Revenue	Capital Projects	2,009,820

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 employees 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.

CITY OF GWINNER
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

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.

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, 2023, 2022, and 2020 were \$28,138, \$19,810, and \$27,457, 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 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 GWINNER

REPORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

City of Gwinner
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Harold J. Rotunda

Certified Public Accountant

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S 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 Gwinner
Gwinner, 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, business-type activities, discretely presented component unit and each major fund of City of Gwinner as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise basic financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated September 30, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered City of Gwinner'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 my opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, I 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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. 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 certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that I consider to be a significant deficiency (2023-001 and 2023-002).

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether City of Gwinner'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

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City's response to the finding identified in my audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The City's responses were 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 entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Fargo, North Dakota
September 30, 2024

CITY OF GWINNER
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

2023-001 Segregation of Duties

Criteria

An appropriate system of internal controls maintains proper segregation of duties to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are handled properly.

Condition

The City has one employee who is responsible for most accounting functions. The city auditor collects monies, issues checks, sends checks to vendors, records receipts and disbursements in journals, maintains the general ledger, and prepares financial reports.

Cause

The City is subject to size and budget constraints limiting the number of personnel within the accounting department

Effect

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

Recommendation

I recommend the City review its internal controls over accounting functions to determine if additional procedures can be implemented that are cost effective. The Board should constantly be aware of the this condition. Compensating controls that mitigate the related risks could be (or are) provided through appropriate oversight of the performance of these functions and review of the financial reports by individuals with knowledge of current operations and accounting principles.

View of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions

The Council will review its current monitoring functions and determine if any additional monitoring procedures are warranted. However, due to the small size of the City, it is not cost effective for the City to hire additional accounting personnel to address this deficiency.

CITY OF GWINNER
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

2023-002 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 personnel prepared periodic financial information for internal use that meets the needs of management and the Council. However, the City currently does not prepare the financial statements, including accompanying note disclosures as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The City elected to have the auditor assist in the preparation of the financial statements and notes.

Cause

The City elected to not allocate resources for the preparation of the financial statements.

Effect

There is an increased risk of material misstatement to the City's financial statements.

Recommendation

I recommend the City consider the additional risk of having the auditor assist in the in the preparation of financial statements and note disclosures and consider preparing them in the future. As a compensating control the City should establish an internal control policy to document the annual review of the financial statements and schedules and to review a financial statement disclosure checklist.

View of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions

The City will continue to have the auditor prepare the financial statements. It is currently not cost-effective for management to perform the preparation.