

Reporting and insights from 2023 audit:

City of Black River Falls

December 31, 2023

Executive summary

July 1, 2024

To the City Council
City of Black River Falls

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of the City of Black River Falls, Wisconsin (the City) for the year ended December 31, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated July 1, 2024. This letter presents communications required by our professional standards.

Your audit should provide you with confidence in your financial statements. The audit was performed based on information obtained from meetings with management, data from your systems, knowledge of your City's operating environment and our risk assessment procedures. We strive to provide you clear, concise communication throughout the audit process and of the final results of our audit.

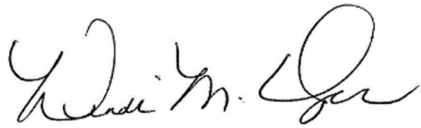
Additionally, we have included information on key risk areas the City of Black River Falls should be aware of in your strategic planning. We are available to discuss these risks as they relate to your organization's financial stability and future planning.

If you have questions at any point, please connect with us:

- Wendi Unger, Partner: wendi.unger@bakertilly.com or +1 (414) 777 5423
- Nick Goeman, Senior Manager: nick.goeman@bakertilly.com or +1 (612) 876 4868

Sincerely,

Baker Tilly US, LLP



Wendi Unger, CPA



Nick Goeman, CPA

THIS COMMUNICATION IS INTENDED SOLELY FOR THE INFORMATION AND USE OF THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, AND, IF APPROPRIATE, MANAGEMENT, AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE AND SHOULD NOT BE USED BY ANYONE OTHER THAN THESE SPECIFIED PARTIES.

BAKER TILLY ADVISORY GROUP, LP AND BAKER TILLY US, LLP, TRADING AS BAKER TILLY, ARE MEMBERS OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK OF BAKER TILLY INTERNATIONAL LTD., THE MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT LEGAL ENTITIES. BAKER TILLY US, LLP IS A LICENSED CPA FIRM THAT PROVIDES ASSURANCE SERVICES TO ITS CLIENTS. BAKER TILLY ADVISORY GROUP, LP AND ITS SUBSIDIARY ENTITIES PROVIDE TAX AND CONSULTING SERVICES TO THEIR CLIENTS AND ARE NOT LICENSED CPA FIRMS.

Responsibilities

Our responsibilities

As your independent auditor, our responsibilities include:

- Planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance.
- Assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. Included in that assessment is a consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting.
- Performing appropriate procedures based upon our risk assessment.
- Evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management.
- Forming and expressing an opinion based on our audit about whether the financial statements prepared by management, with the oversight of those charged with governance:
 - Are free from material misstatement
 - Present fairly, in all material respects and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America
- Performing tests related to compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, as required by *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Considering internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on major federal and major state programs to design tests of both controls and compliance with identified requirements.
- Forming and expressing an opinion based on our audit in accordance with OMB's *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and *State Single Audit Guidelines* about the entity's compliance with requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* and *State Single Audit Guidelines* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal and state programs.
- Our audit does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

We are also required to communicate significant matters related to our audit that are relevant to the responsibilities of those charged with governance, including:

- Internal control matters
- Qualitative aspects of the City's accounting practice including policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures
- Significant unusual transactions
- Significant difficulties encountered
- Disagreements with management
- Circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditors' report
- Audit consultations outside the engagement team
- Corrected and uncorrected misstatements
- Other audit findings or issues

Audit status

Significant changes to the audit plan

There were no significant changes made to either our planned audit strategy or to the significant risks and other areas of emphasis identified during the performance of our risk assessment procedures.

Audit approach and results

Planned scope and timing

Audit focus

Based on our understanding of the City and environment in which you operate, we focused our audit on the following key areas:

- Key transaction cycles
- Areas with significant estimates

Our areas of audit focus were informed by, among other things, our assessment of materiality. Materiality in the context of our audit was determined based on specific qualitative and quantitative factors combined with our expectations about the City's current year results.

Key areas of focus and significant findings

Significant risks of material misstatement

A significant risk is an identified and assessed risk of material misstatement that, in the auditor's professional judgment, requires special audit consideration. Within our audit, we focused on the following areas below.

Significant risk areas	Testing approach	Conclusion
Management override of controls	Incorporate unpredictability into audit procedures, emphasize professional skepticism and utilize audit team with industry expertise	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion
Inadequate segregation of duties	Incorporate unpredictability into audit procedures, emphasize professional skepticism, utilize audit team with industry expertise and performance of sufficient substantive procedures	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion
Improper revenue recognition due to fraud	Confirmation or validation of certain revenues supplemented with detailed predictive analytics based on non-financial data and substantive testing of related receivables	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion

Other areas of emphasis

We also focused on other areas that did not meet the definition of a significant risk, but were determined to require specific awareness and a unique audit response.

Other areas of emphasis		
Cash and investments	Revenues and receivables	General disbursements
Payroll	Pension liabilities/assets	Long-term debt
Capital assets including infrastructure	Net position and fund balance calculations	Financial reporting and required disclosures

Internal control matters

We considered the City's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements. We are not expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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.

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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We identified the following deficiencies as material weaknesses:

- **Inadequate segregation of duties**

A properly designed system of internal control includes adequate staffing as well as policies and procedures to properly segregate duties. This includes systems that are designed to limit the access or control of any one individual to your government's assets or accounting records, and to achieve a higher likelihood that errors or irregularities in your accounting processes would be discovered by your staff in a timely manner.

At this time, due to staffing and financial limitations, the proper internal controls are not in place to achieve adequate segregation of duties. As a result, errors, irregularities or fraud could occur as part of the financial reporting process that may not be discovered by someone in your organization. Therefore, we are reporting a material weakness related to the internal control environment.

- **Missing key controls**

There are certain controls that are not currently in place related to significant transaction cycles. As a result, there is a risk that erroneous or unauthorized transactions or misstatements could occur without the knowledge of management or the governing body. Our recommendations for strengthening controls are listed below.

Controls over payroll

- Persons preparing the payroll should be independent of other personnel duties or restricted from access to the payroll account.

Controls over monthly and year-end accounting

- Adjusting journal entries and supporting documentation should be reviewed and approved by an appropriate person who is not the original preparer.
- Account reconciliations prepared throughout the year should be performed by someone independent of processing transactions in the account and these reconciliations should be reviewed and approved by someone other than the original preparer.

Since the controls listed above or other compensating controls are not currently in place, errors or irregularities could occur as part of the accounting processes that might not be discovered by management or the governing body. Therefore, the absence of these controls is considered to be a material weakness.

We recommend that a designated employee review the segregation of duties, risks, and these potential controls and determine whether additional controls should be implemented. This determination should take into consideration a cost / benefit analysis.

- **Financial statement close process**

Properly designed systems of internal control provide your organization with the ability to process and record accurate monthly and year-end transactions and annual financial reports.

Our audit includes a review and evaluation of the internal controls relating to financial reporting. Common attributes of a properly designed system of internal control for financial reporting are as follows:

- There is adequate staffing to prepare financial reports throughout the year and at year-end.
- Material misstatements are identified and corrected during the normal course of duties.
- Complete and accurate financial statements, including footnotes, are prepared.
- Complete and accurate schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards is prepared.
- Financial reports are independently reviewed for completeness and accuracy.
- Financial reporting software is not based on Microsoft Access, which is susceptible to data manipulation.

Our evaluation of the internal controls over financial reporting has identified control deficiencies that are considered a material weakness surrounding the preparation of financial statements and footnotes including the schedule of federal and state awards, adjusting journal entries identified by the auditors, and an independent review of financial reports.

Management has not prepared financial statements that are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles or the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards that is in conformance with the applicable federal or state requirements. In addition, material misstatements in the general ledger were identified during the financial audit.

Other comments and recommendations

Budget Requirements

Wisconsin state statutes regarding municipal budgeting specify the information that should be incorporated into the class 1 notice regarding the budget public hearing and the budget document adopted by the City.

The City's budget notice should include the following items:

1. Summary budget for the proposed budget, the budget in effect and the percentage change between the budget of the current year and the proposed budget. A summary budget would include:
 - All expenditures by major expenditure category for general fund
 - All revenues by major revenue source for general fund
 - Any financing source and use not included in the first two bullet points above
 - All beginning and year-end fund balances for all funds
 - Total revenues and expenditures for each fund
 - Summary totals of revenues and expenditures for all funds
 - Local property taxes for each fund and the total for all funds
 - List of budget increases and decreases due to new or discontinued activities (if any)
2. The place where the budget, in detail, is available for public inspection.
3. The time and place for holding the public hearing.

The budget document is required to include these items:

1. List all existing indebtedness.
2. Actual revenues and expenditures of the preceding year.
3. Actual revenues and expenditures for not less than the first six months of the current year and estimated revenues and expenditures for the balance of the year.
4. All anticipated revenue from all sources and all proposed appropriations for the ensuing year (proposed budget).
5. All anticipated unexpended or unappropriated balances and surpluses for each fund.

The City should review state statutes pertaining to municipal budgets. When preparing the City's next budget, you should include the items mentioned above.

The City's published 2024 summary budget did not include the beginning and year-end fund balances, total revenues and expenditures, and summary totals of revenues and expenditures of all funds (including utilities and ambulance). The detailed budget that was approved did not list all existing indebtedness, did not include actual revenues and expenditures of the preceding year for all funds, did not include all actual revenues and expenditures for at least the first six months of 2023 and the estimated revenues and expenditures for the balance of the year, and did not include all anticipated unexpended or unappropriated balances and surpluses in each fund.

We can help the City comply with the requirements by reviewing your documents prior to publication and adoption.

Decentralized Cash Collections

Many governments collect cash at numerous decentralized locations that are separate from the primary system of accounting procedures and controls. The opportunity for theft is often higher at those locations because one person is frequently involved in most, if not all, aspects of a transaction (i.e. lack of segregation of duties).

Examples in your government that fit this situation include: police department, library, and aquatic center.

Management is responsible for designing and implementing controls and procedures to detect and prevent fraud. As a result, we recommend that management review its decentralized cash collection procedures and controls on a periodic basis and make changes as necessary to strengthen the internal control environment. Reviewing the adequacy of the controls is a responsibility of the governing body.

Below are example procedures and controls to help mitigate the risk of loss at decentralized cash collection points:

- Implement a centralized receipting process with adequate segregation of duties
- For cash collections, ensure pre-numbered receipts are being used and all receipts in the sequence are being reviewed by someone other than the person receipting the cash and receipts tie to deposits
- Perform surprise procedures at decentralized locations (cash counts, walkthrough of processes, etc.)
- Require regular cash deposits to minimize collection on-hand
- Limit the number of separate bank accounts
- Segregate duties as much as possible – the person receipting cash should be separate from the person preparing deposits and the person reconciling bank accounts should be separate from the cash collection activity
- Perform month-to-month or year-to-year comparisons to look for unusual changes in collections
- If collecting from a drop box site, consider sending two people to collect the funds, especially during peak times

As always, the cost of controls and staffing must be weighed against the benefits of safeguarding your assets.

Information for TIF Audits

The City presently has seven Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Districts which are reported as capital project funds in the financial statements. In addition to the annual financial statement audit coverage, each district is also required by state statute to have separate TIF compliance audits throughout their lifetimes. You are required to have a detailed audit within 12 months of:

1. 30% of project expenditures are made.
2. The end of the expenditure period (100% audit).
3. The termination of the district.

In addition to being in compliance with state statutes, timely periodic compliance audits are important due to records retention. Many of our clients follow a policy of destroying old records, some after seven or ten years, depending on the type of record. Since a 100% TIF audit may not be required until a later date, this could cause audit problems. To make the audit process go as smooth as possible, you will need to keep your general ledger and related journals and supporting documents until each of the compliance audits is complete. As a best practice, we recommend keeping a TIF file with all of the official documents (i.e. project plans, amendments, notices, resolutions, etc.) and financial records for each TIF.

Currently, TIF #3, TIF #4 and TIF #8 are overdue for a 30% audit.

Control Recommendations

A system of internal control should be in place to achieve a higher level of reliability that errors or irregularities in your processes would be discovered by your staff. As part of our review of the City's internal controls, we identified certain control deficiencies and our recommendations for strengthening controls are listed below.

Controls over accounts payable/disbursements

- Persons processing accounts payable and those with access to the system should be separate from those ordering or receiving goods or services.
- There should be a process to review, record, and approve construction contract retainages at year-end.

Required communications

Qualitative aspect of accounting practices

- Accounting policies: Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we have advised management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the City are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 1, the City changed accounting policies related to subscription-based information technology arrangements by adopting GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, in 2023. We noted no transactions entered into by the City during the year for which accounting policies are controversial or for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus or diversity in practice.
- Accounting estimates: Accounting estimates, including fair value estimates, are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements, the degree of subjectivity involved in their development and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The following estimates are of most significance to the financial statements:

Estimate	Management's process to determine	Baker Tilly's conclusions regarding reasonableness
Net pension liability and related deferrals	Evaluation of information provided by the Wisconsin Retirement System	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
Depreciation	Evaluate estimated useful life of the asset and original acquisition value	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
Allowance for uncollectible ambulance receivables	Evaluation of collectability of individual accounts and analysis of historical loss levels	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
Allowance for doubtful accounts	Evaluation of collectability of individual amounts based on knowledge of foreclosures and bankruptcies	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
Landfill post-closure liability	Evaluation of estimates of future monitoring and related operating and maintenance costs	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole

There have been no significant changes made by management to either the processes used to develop the particularly sensitive accounting estimates, or to the significant assumptions used to develop the estimates, noted above.

- Financial statement disclosures: The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear.

Significant unusual transactions

There have been no significant transactions that are outside the normal course of business for the City or that otherwise appear to be unusual due to their timing, size or nature.

Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management and completing our audit.

Disagreements with management

Professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Audit report

There have been no departures from the auditors' standard report.

Audit consultations outside the engagement team

We encountered no difficult or contentious matters for which we consulted outside of the engagement team.

Uncorrected misstatements and corrected misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and to communicate accumulated misstatements to management. The schedule within the attachments summarizes the uncorrected misstatements, other than those that are clearly trivial, that we presented to management and the corrected misstatements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. Some of the corrected misstatements are considered material. The internal control matters section of this report describes the effects on the financial reporting process indicated by the uncorrected misstatements and corrected misstatements, other than those that we consider to be of a lesser magnitude than significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Management has determined that the effects of the uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole. The uncorrected misstatements or the matters underlying them could potentially cause future period financial statements to be materially misstated, even though, in our judgment, such uncorrected misstatements are immaterial to the financial statements under audit.

Other audit findings or issues

We encountered no other audit findings or issues that require communication at this time.

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the City's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Management's consultations with other accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing or accounting matters.

Written communications between management and Baker Tilly

The attachments include copies of other material written communications, including a copy of the management representation letter.

Compliance with laws and regulations

We did not identify any non-compliance with laws and regulations during our audit, other than the budget related items disclosed in Note 2 of the financial statements.

We will issue a separate document which contains the results of our audit procedures to comply with the Uniform Guidance and *State Single Audit Guidelines*.

Fraud

We did not identify any known or suspected fraud during our audit.

Going concern

Pursuant to professional standards, we are required to communicate to you, when applicable, certain matters relating to our evaluation of the City's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time but no less than 12 months from the date of the financial statements, including the effects on the financial statements and the adequacy of the related disclosures, and the effects on the auditor's report. No such matters or conditions have come to our attention during our engagement.

Independence

We are not aware of any relationships between Baker Tilly and the City that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

Related parties

We did not have any significant findings or issues arise during the audit in connection with the City's related parties.

Other matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information which accompanies the financial statements but is not RSI. With respect to the supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Nonattest services

The following nonattest services were provided by Baker Tilly:

- Financial statement preparation, including the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards
- Adjusting journal entries (including preparation of account reconciliations and depreciation schedules)
- Preparation of the auditee sections of the data collection form

In addition, we prepared GASB No. 34 conversion entries which are summarized in the “Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position” and the “Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities” in the financial statements.

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

City Council resources

Visit our resource page for regulatory updates, trending challenges and opportunities in your industry and other timely updates.

Visit the resource page at <https://www.bakertilly.com/insights/audit-committee-resource-page>.

Management representation letter



BLACK RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

A Fine Place to Raise Your Family • A Dynamic Location for Your Business



Baker Tilly US, LLP
790 N. Water Street, Suite 2000
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Baker Tilly US, LLP:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the City of Black River Falls as of December 31, 2023 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate discretely presented component unit and remaining fund information of the City of Black River Falls and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the previously mentioned financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting, and preventing and detecting fraud.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated January 12, 2023, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have engaged you to advise us in fulfilling that responsibility. The financial statements include all properly classified funds of the primary government and all component units required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility 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.

- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, if any, are reasonable in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 6) All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. No other events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the financial statement date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements or in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- 7) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards.
- 8) We believe the effects of the uncorrected financial statement misstatements summarized in the attached schedule are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the basic financial statements as a whole. In addition, you have recommended adjusting journal entries, and we are in agreement with those adjustments.
- 9) There are no known or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements. There are no unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- 10) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the City is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

- 11) We have provided you with:
 - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, documentation, and other matters and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources.
 - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - c) Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
 - d) Minutes of the meetings of the City Council or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 12) We have not completed an assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 13) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
 - a) Management,
 - b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or

- c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 14) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 15) We have no knowledge of known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 16) There are no related parties or related party relationships and transactions, including side agreements, of which we are aware.

Other

- 17) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 18) We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
- 19) We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 20) We have provided our views on reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions, for our report.
- 21) The City has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources or fund balance or net position.
- 22) We are responsible for compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits, debt contracts, and IRS arbitrage regulations; and we have identified and disclosed to you all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 23) There are no:
 - a) Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, federal, state, and local laws or regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance, except those already disclosed in the financial statements, if any.
 - b) Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
 - c) Nonspendable, restricted, committed, or assigned fund balances that were not properly authorized and approved.
 - d) Rates being charged to customers other than the rates as authorized by the applicable authoritative body.

e) Violations of restrictions placed on revenues as a result of bond resolution covenants such as revenue distribution or debt service funding.

24) In regards to the nonattest services performed by you listed below, we acknowledge our responsibility related to these nonattest services and have 1) accepted all management responsibility; 2) designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services; 3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and 4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.

a) Financial statement preparation, including the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards

b) Adjusting journal entries and GASB No. 34 conversion entries (including preparation of account reconciliations and depreciation schedules)

c) Preparation of auditee sections of the data collection form

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

25) The City of Black River Falls has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.

26) The City of Black River Falls has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.

27) The financial statements include all component units as well as joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations, if any. Component units have been properly presented as either blended or discrete.

28) The financial statements include all fiduciary activities required by GASB No. 84.

29) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.

30) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Statement No. 34 and No. 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.

31) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and components of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.

32) The City of Black River Falls has no derivative financial instruments such as contracts that could be assigned to someone else or net settled, interest rate swaps, collars or caps.

33) Provisions for uncollectible receivables, if any, have been properly identified and recorded.

34) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.

35) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues and general revenues.

36) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.

- 37) Deposits and investments are properly classified, valued, and disclosed (including risk disclosures, collateralization agreements, valuation methods, and key inputs, as applicable).
- 38) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated/amortized. Any known impairments have been recorded and disclosed.
- 39) We believe that the estimate made for the pollution remediation liability is in accordance with GASB 49 and reflects all known available facts at the time it was recorded.
- 40) Tax-exempt bonds issued have retained their tax-exempt status.
- 41) We have appropriately disclosed the City of Black River Falls' policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available and have determined that net position were properly recognized under the policy. We have also disclosed our policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available.
- 42) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
- 43) With respect to the supplementary information, (SI):
 - a) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the SI in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the SI, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SI have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
 - b) If the SI is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.
- 44) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the information provided by the Wisconsin Retirement System as audited by the Legislative Audit Bureau relating to the net pension asset/liability and related deferred outflows and deferred inflows and have adequately considered the reasonableness of the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We also assume responsibility for the census data that has been reported to the plan.
- 45) We have reviewed our long-term debt agreements and believe that all terms related to significant events of default with finance-related consequences, termination events with finance-related consequences and subjective acceleration clauses have been properly identified and disclosed.
- 46) We have considered the implementation of GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. We compiled related documentation of outstanding agreements and have concluded that the standard is not material to the City and therefore, implementation is not necessary.

- 47) The auditing standards define an annual report as “a document, or combination of documents, typically prepared on an annual basis by management or those charged with governance in accordance with law, regulation, or custom, the purpose of which is to provide owners (or similar stakeholders) with information on the entity’s operations and the financial results and financial position as set out in the financial statements.” Among other items, an annual report contains, accompanies, or incorporates by reference the financial statements and the auditors’ report thereon. We confirm that we do not prepare and have no plans to prepare an annual report.
- 48) We are not aware of any material asset retirement obligations associated with our long-lived assets (i.e., asbestos or other hazardous material removal costs) that are required to be recorded in accordance with GASB Statement No. 83.
- 49) We have evaluated the potential OPEB liabilities, deferred outflows, and deferred inflows related to the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds Local Retiree Life Insurance Program in accordance with GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions, and believe that they are not material to the financial statements.
- 50) With respect to federal and state award programs:
- a) We are responsible for understanding and complying with and have complied with the requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, *OMB's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), *State Single Audit Guidelines*, including requirements relating to preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards (SEFSA).
 - b) We acknowledge our responsibility for preparing and presenting the SEFSA and related disclosures in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines*, and we believe the SEFSA, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines*. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SEFSA have not changed from those used in the prior period and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the SEFSA.
 - c) If the SEFSA is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the SEFSA no later than the date we issue the SEFSA and the auditors’ report thereon.
 - d) We have identified and disclosed to you all of our government programs and related activities subject to the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines* and included in the SEFSA, expenditures made during the audit period for all awards provided by federal agencies in the form of grants, federal cost reimbursement contracts, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other direct assistance.
 - e) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with the requirements of laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements related to each of our federal and state programs and have identified and disclosed to you the requirements of laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements that are considered to have a direct and material effect on each major federal and state program.

- f) We are responsible for establishing and maintaining, and have established and maintained, effective internal control over compliance for federal and state programs that provide reasonable assurance that we are administering our federal and state awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements that could have a material effect on our federal and state programs. We believe the internal control system is adequate and is functioning as intended. Also, no changes have been made in the internal control over compliance or other factors to the date of this letter that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action taken with regard to control deficiencies reported in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- g) We have made available to you all contracts and grant agreements (including amendments, if any) and any other correspondence with federal or state agencies or pass-through entities relevant to the programs and related activities.
- h) We have received no requests from a federal or state agency to audit one or more specific programs as a major program.
- i) We have complied with the direct and material compliance requirements including when applicable, those set forth in the OMB Compliance Supplement and the *State Single Audit Guidelines*, relating to federal and state awards.
- j) We have disclosed any communications from grantors and pass-through entities concerning possible noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including communications received from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditors' report.
- k) We have disclosed to you the findings received and related corrective actions taken for previous audits, attestation agreements, and internal or external monitoring that directly relate to the objectives of the compliance audit, if any, including findings received and corrective actions taken from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditors' report.
- l) Amounts claimed or used for matching were determined in accordance with relevant guidelines in the Uniform Guidance.
- m) We have disclosed to you our interpretation of compliance requirements that may have varying interpretations.
- n) We have made available to you all documentation related to the compliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including information related to federal and state program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements.
- o) We have disclosed to you the nature of any subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period affecting noncompliance during the reporting period.
- p) We are not aware of any instances of noncompliance with direct and material compliance requirements that occurred subsequent to the period covered by the auditors' report.
- q) No changes have been made in internal control over compliance or other factors that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action we have taken regarding significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control over compliance, subsequent to the date as of which compliance was audited.
- r) Federal and state program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements are supported by the books and records from which the financial statements have been prepared.

- s) The copies of federal and state program financial reports provided you are true copies of the reports submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the respective federal and state agency or pass-through entity, as applicable.
- t) We have charged costs to federal and state awards in accordance with applicable cost principles.
- u) We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the summary schedule of prior audit findings to include all findings required to be included by the Uniform Guidance and the *State Single Audit Guidelines* and we have provided you with all information on the status of the follow-up on prior audit findings by federal and state awarding agencies and pass-through entities, including all management decisions.
- v) We are responsible for and have ensured the reporting package does not contain protected personally identifiable information.
- w) We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the auditee section of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance.
- x) We are responsible for preparing and implementing a corrective action plan for each audit finding.
- y) We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the auditee section of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance.

Sincerely,

City of Black River Falls

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

City of Black River Falls
SUMMARY OF UNCORRECTED FINANCIAL STATEMENT MISSTATEMENTS

December 31, 2023

	Financial Statements Effect - Debit (Credit) to Financial Statement Total									
	Current <u>Assets</u>	Noncurrent <u>Assets</u>	Total Assets/ <u>Deferred Outflows</u>	Current <u>Liabilities</u>	Noncurrent <u>Liabilities</u>	Total Liabilities/ <u>Deferred Inflows</u>	Total <u>Net Position/ Fund Balances</u>	Total <u>Revenues</u>	Total <u>Expenses/ Expenditures</u>	Change in <u>Net Position/ Fund Balances</u>
Governmental Activities	-	-	102,372	-	-	(274,516)	172,144	(102,372)	85,257	(17,115)
Business-Type Activities	-	-	-	-	-	(278,102)	278,102	-	75,383	75,383
Major Fund - General Fund	-	-	102,372	-	-	-	(102,372)	(60,952)	(17,270)	(78,222)
Major Fund - Electric Utility	-	-	72,378	(50,755)	(155,719)	(328,857)	256,479	50,755	71,601	122,356
Major Fund - Water Utility	-	-	-	-	(28,370)	(28,370)	28,370	-	(18,894)	(18,894)
Major Fund - Sewer Utility	-	-	12,388	(21,294)	(26,652)	(68,892)	56,504	-	(22,059)	(22,059)
Major Fund - Ambulance	-	-	10,107	-	(21,746)	(38,837)	28,730	-	12,992	12,992

Accounting changes relevant to the City of Black River Falls

Future accounting standards update

GASB Statement Number	Description	Potentially Impacts you	Effective Date
100	Accounting Changes and Error Corrections – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62	✓	12/31/24
101	Compensated Absences	✓	12/31/24
102	Certain Risk Disclosure	✓	12/31/25

Further information on upcoming [GASB pronouncements](#).

Revised guidance for accounting changes and error corrections

GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*, seeks to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent and comparable information for making decisions and assessing accountability.

The standard establishes the following categories:

1. Accounting changes, which is comprised of:
 - a. Changes in accounting principles – result from a change from one generally accepted accounting principle to another that is justified on the basis that the newly adopted principle is preferable to the previously applied principle, or the implementation of a new pronouncement.
 - b. Changes in accounting estimates – occur when inputs change due to a change in circumstances, new information, or more experience. Note that the focus is on changes to the inputs used; a change in the value of an input such as an annual inflation update does not require disclosure under this standard.
 - c. Changes to or within the financial reporting entity – result from the addition or removal of a fund that results from the movement of continuing operations (such as moving sanitation operation from the general fund to its own separate fund), a change in a fund's presentation as major or nonmajor, the addition or removal of a component unit (with certain exceptions), or a change in a component unit's presentation as blended or discretely presented.
2. Error corrections – result from mathematical mistakes, mistakes in the application of accounting principles, or oversight or misuse of facts that existed at the time of the financial statements were issued (i.e., facts that could reasonably be expected to have been obtained and considered at that time).

A summary of the reporting impact of each category is as follows:

Reporting considerations	Accounting changes			
	Change in accounting principle	Change in estimate	Change to the financial reporting entity	Correction of an error
Basic financial statement schedules:	Restate earliest period presented	Report prospectively	Adjust current year beginning balances	Restate earliest period presented
Required supplementary information & supplementary information:	Should match the financial statement presentation noted above; no adjustments to earlier periods needed			Restate all periods impacted
Additional disclosures?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

The City should become familiar with the new guidance in advance of the implementation effective date.

Updated accounting and reporting for compensated absences

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued its Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, in June 2022. The objective of GASB 101 is to update the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences for state & local government employers. It supersedes GASB No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, issued in 1992, as well as earlier guidance, and addresses changes resulting from the types of leave now being offered. GASB 101 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023 (December 31, 2024 year-end reporting entities).

GASB 101 more appropriately reflects a liability *when* a government incurs an obligation for compensated absences and will improve comparability of reporting between governments that offer different types of leave. It requires that liabilities be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used, and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled-up via non-cash means. Compensated absences is defined as leave for which employees may receive one or more of the following:

- Cash payments when the leave is used for time off;
- Other cash payments, such as payment for unused leave upon termination of employment, or;
- Noncash settlements, such as conversion to defined benefit postemployment benefits.

Examples of compensated absences provided in GASB 101 include vacation, sick leave, paid time off (PTO), holidays, parental leave, bereavement leave, and certain types of sabbatical leave. Payment or settlement of compensated absences could occur during employment, or upon termination of employment. GASB 101 does not apply to benefits that are within the scope of GASB 47, *Accounting for Termination Benefits*.

GASB 101 requires that a liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if all of the following are true:

- The leave is attributable to services already rendered;
- The leave accumulates, and;
- The leave is “more likely than not” (i.e., likelihood of more than 50%) to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means (101 provides factors to assess this criteria). (This differs from GASB 16, which required payment to be “probable” to be recognized).

Under GASB 101, governments will now need to accrue for time that has accumulated and is likely to be used, even if the employee is not eligible for a payout upon termination. This was not a requirement under GASB 16, and thus may result in a higher compensated absence liability.

GASB 101 requires liabilities for compensated absences to be recognized in financial statements prepared using the economic resources measurement focus equal to the amount of leave that has not yet been used and leave that has been used but not yet paid or settled. GASB 101 did not change the report for financial statements prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus (i.e., governmental funds).

Other changes in financial statement disclosures include the change in compensated absences liability can now be disclosed as a net change, rather than gross increases/decreases in the liability. Also, governments are no longer required to disclose which fund has typically liquidated the liability.

We recommend that governments begin to review the guidance contained in GASB 101 within the context of your existing compensated absences policies and accounting practices, in order to be better informed in terms of the information that you will need for this implementation.

Updated reporting for certain risk disclosures

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued its Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*, in June 2022. The objective of GASB 102 is to provide financial statement users with information about certain risks when circumstances make a government vulnerable to a heightened possibility of loss or harm. It requires governments to disclose essential information about risks related to vulnerabilities due to certain concentrations or constraints.

The Statement generally requires a government to disclose information about a concentration or constraint if all of the following criteria are met.

- The concentration or constraint is known to the government prior to issuing the financial statements.
- The concentration or constraint makes the government vulnerable to the risk of a substantial impact.
- An event or events associated with the concentration or constraint that could cause a substantial impact have occurred, have begun to occur, or are more likely than not to begin to occur within 12 months of the date the financial statements are issued.

The disclosures should include a description of the following:

- The concentration or constraint,
- Each event associated with the concentration or constraint that could cause a substantial impact if the event has occurred or has begun to occur prior to the issuance of the financial statements, and
- Actions taken by the government to mitigate the risk prior to the issuance of the financial statements.

Uncorrected misstatements

Financial statement effects – debit (credit) to financial statement total:

Opinion unit	Total assets/ deferred outflows	Total liabilities/ deferred inflows	Net position/ fund balance	Total revenues	Total expenses/ expenditures	Change in net position/fund balance
Governmental activities	\$ 102,372	\$ (274,516)	\$ 172,144	\$ (102,372)	\$ 85,257	\$ (17,115)
Business-Type Activities	-	(278,102)	278,102	-	75,383	75,383
Major Governmental Fund - General Fund	102,372	-	(102,372)	(60,952)	(17,270)	(78,222)
Major Enterprise Fund - Electric Utility	72,378	(328,857)	256,479	50,755	71,601	122,356
Major Enterprise Fund - Water Utility	-	(28,370)	28,370	-	(18,894)	(18,894)
Major Enterprise Fund - Sewer Utility	12,388	(68,892)	56,504	-	(22,059)	(22,059)
Major Enterprise Fund - Ambulance	10,107	(38,837)	28,730	-	12,992	12,992

Corrected misstatements

Number	Date	Account Number	Account Name	Debit	Credit
A01	12/31/2023	100-00-11100-000-000	GENERAL FUND TREASURE'S CASH		-2,290.00
A01	12/31/2023	100-00-41110-000-000	GENERAL PROPERTY TAX	2,290.00	
A01	12/31/2023	408-00-11100-000-000	TIF #8 SWIDERSKI TREAS CASH	2,290.00	
A01	12/31/2023	408-00-12101-000-000	TAXES RECEIVABLE		-2,290.00
A01	12/31/2023	408-00-26000-000-000	DEFERRED REVENUE	2,290.00	
A01	12/31/2023	408-00-41110-000-000	GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES - CITY		-2,290.00
<p>To move TIF #8 increment related to the prior year tax roll to fund 408 and clear prior year tax roll amounts out of receivable and deferred revenue.</p>					
A02	12/31/2023	408-00-21100-000-000	VOUCHERS PAYABLE		-39,825.00
A02	12/31/2023	408-00-56000-000-000	OTHER EXPENSE	39,825.00	
<p>To record retainage on Riverview Drive utility extension project.</p>					
A03	12/31/2023	408-00-11300-000-000	TEMP INVESTMENT - TID 8	25,427.00	
A03	12/31/2023	408-00-48100-000-000	INTEREST INCOME		-25,427.00
<p>To adjust the investment balance in TIF #8 to actual at year-end.</p>					
A04	12/31/2023	100-00-12632-000-000	S/A 2020 - 2021 RECEIVABLE		-1,400.00
A04	12/31/2023	100-00-46100-000-000	MISC REVENUE GENERAL GOVT	1,400.00	
<p>To adjust special assessments receivable to actual per the confirmation from the County.</p>					
A05	12/31/2023	100-00-34000-000-000	FUND BALANCE - UNDESIGNATED	199,414.00	
A05	12/31/2023	100-00-34001-000-000	FUND BALANCE - DESIGNATED		-199,414.00
<p>To adjust designated fund balance to actual.</p>					
A06	12/31/2023	196-00-26000-000-000	DEFERRED REVENUE - CITY	530.00	
A06	12/31/2023	196-00-26000-200-000	DEFERRED REVENUE - RURAL	50.00	
A06	12/31/2023	196-00-46220-000-000	MVC/FIRE CALL REVENUE - CITY		-580.00
<p>To true up the Lifequest deferred revenue balances for the fire department to match the related receivable balances.</p>					

Corrected misstatements

Number	Date	Account Number	Account Name	Debit	Credit
A07	12/31/2023	299-00-14510-000-000	LOANS RECEIVABLE		-13,704.00
A07	12/31/2023	299-00-26101-000-000	DEFERRED REV - RES REHAB ACT	13,704.00	
To adjust residential rehabilitation loan balances to listing.					
A08	12/31/2023	200-00-26000-000-000	UNEARNED REVENUE	106,794.00	
A08	12/31/2023	200-00-42000-000-000	LFRF REVENUE - CITY		-106,794.00
To recognize revenue for ARPA funding spent during the year.					
A09	12/31/2023	196-00-21100-000-000	VOUCHERS PAYABLE		-12,340.00
A09	12/31/2023	196-00-52201-147-000	RURAL FIRE EXP - CITY SHARE	12,340.00	
To record the City's 2023 contribution to the Black River Falls Rural Fire Department as accounts payable.					
A10	12/31/2023	406-00-21100-000-000	SUNDRY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		-135,370.00
A10	12/31/2023	406-00-56000-000-000	TIF OTHER EXPENSE	135,370.00	
To record development agreement reimbursements earned during 2023 as accounts payable at 12/31/2023.					
A11	12/31/2023	196-00-15200-000-000	DUE FROM RURAL FIRE	409.00	
A11	12/31/2023	196-00-47323-000-000	RURAL FIRE REIMBURSEMENT		-409.00
To record billing service fees due from Rural Fire that were not invoiced prior to year-end.					
X01	12/31/2023	650-16500-000	Restricted Net Pension Asset		-457,081.00
X01	12/31/2023	650-19952-000	Deferred Outflow - GASB 68	714,668.00	
X01	12/31/2023	650-19952-000	Deferred Outflow - GASB 68		-180,789.00
X01	12/31/2023	650-29953-000	Deferred Inflow - GASB68	243,488.00	
X01	12/31/2023	650-29953-000	Deferred Inflow - GASB68		-354,027.00
X01	12/31/2023	650-52300-100	Ambulance/Wages	33,741.00	
To record current year GASB 68 activity.					
X02	12/31/2023	650-25100-000	Compensated Absences - One Yr.	4,626.00	
X02	12/31/2023	650-52300-100	Ambulance/Wages		-4,626.00
To adjust accrued sick and vacation to actual at year-end.					

Corrected misstatements

Number	Date	Account Number	Account Name	Debit	Credit
X03	12/31/2023	650-35000-000	Accumulated depreciation		-77,865.00
X03	12/31/2023	650-57250-000	Depreciation expense	77,865.00	
To record current year depreciation expense.					
X04	12/31/2023	650-12000-000	Accounts Receivable		-172,219.00
X04	12/31/2023	650-12000-000	Accounts Receivable		-2,568.00
X04	12/31/2023	650-12001-000	Accounts Receivable Sub	17,027.00	
X04	12/31/2023	650-12300-000	Old Accounts Receivable	2,407.00	
X04	12/31/2023	650-12500-000	Allowance for Doubtful Account	172,219.00	
X04	12/31/2023	650-12500-000	Allowance for Doubtful Account		-33,480.00
X04	12/31/2023	650-46230-000	Ambulance Revenue BLS		-16,866.00
X04	12/31/2023	650-46230-000	Ambulance Revenue BLS		-219,685.00
X04	12/31/2023	650-46231-000	Ambulance Revenue ALS	219,685.00	
X04	12/31/2023	650-54500-000	BAD DEBT EXPENSES	33,480.00	
To adjust EMS receivables and allowance to actual at year-end.					
X05	12/31/2023	650-26000-000	BT Created - UNEARNED REVENUE		-92,180.00
X05	12/31/2023	650-34100-000	Retained Earnings	92,180.00	
To adjust beginning of year net position to actual.					
X06	12/31/2023	650-21100-000	Accounts Payable		-41,876.00
X06	12/31/2023	650-21100-000	Accounts Payable		-9,901.00
X06	12/31/2023	650-52300-100	Ambulance/Wages	41,876.00	
X06	12/31/2023	650-52300-100	Ambulance/Wages	9,901.00	
To record payable for December City EMS and Rural EMS expense reimbursements due to the City.					
X07	12/31/2023	650-11117-000	Temp Investment-EMS		-267,149.00
X07	12/31/2023	650-48110-000	Interest on Investments	267,149.00	
To adjust EMS investments to actual at year-end.					
X08	12/31/2023	650-21100-002	Lifequest Clearing	13,388.00	
X08	12/31/2023	650-46230-000	Ambulance Revenue BLS		-13,388.00
To clear out Lifequest clearing account and recognize related revenue for services provided during the year.					

Corrected misstatements

Number	Date	Account Number	Account Name	Debit	Credit
X09	12/31/2023	650-21100-000	Accounts Payable		-3,230.00
X09	12/31/2023	650-48000-000	Uncategorized Income	3,230.00	
To move receipt of ARPA funds from the City done in error to accounts payable.					
X10	12/31/2023	650-30000-000	Capital Assets	276,691.00	
X10	12/31/2023	650-30000-000	Capital Assets		-13,069.00
X10	12/31/2023	650-35000-000	Accumulated depreciation	12,569.00	
X10	12/31/2023	650-53910-000	Wisconsin FAP Monies		-15,276.00
X10	12/31/2023	650-53910-000	Wisconsin FAP Monies		-1,561.00
X10	12/31/2023	650-54000-000	Miscellaneous Expenses		-2,599.00
X10	12/31/2023	650-54000-001	Other Miscellaneous Expense	500.00	
X10	12/31/2023	650-57220-000	Capital Outlay		-257,255.00
To record EMS capital asset additions and removals.					
X11	12/31/2023	650-11116-000	Cash Donations		-4,160.00
X11	12/31/2023	650-53910-000	Wisconsin FAP Monies	1,561.00	
X11	12/31/2023	650-54000-000	Miscellaneous Expenses	2,599.00	
To record check #1421 for Mac 2 laryngoscope blade.					
X12	12/31/2023	650-11116-000	Cash Donations		-34.00
X12	12/31/2023	650-53910-000	Wisconsin FAP Monies	34.00	
To record check #1422 for an ambulance driving course.					
X13	12/31/2023	650-11116-000	Cash Donations	800.00	
X13	12/31/2023	650-48500-000	Donations		-800.00
To record miscellaneous donations.					
X14	12/31/2023	650-11116-000	Cash Donations		-500.00
X14	12/31/2023	650-48500-000	Donations	500.00	
To record a chargeback for a donation check that was deposited beyond date.					
X15	12/31/2023	650-11113-000	Ambulance checking		-2,457.00
X15	12/31/2023	650-53500-000	Vehicle Fuel	2,457.00	
To record EFT for July ambulance fuel.					

Corrected misstatements

Number	Date	Account Number	Account Name	Debit	Credit
X16	12/31/2023	650-11113-000	Ambulance checking		-1,760.00
X16	12/31/2023	650-53500-000	Vehicle Fuel	1,760.00	
To record EFT for August ambulance fuel.					
X17	12/31/2023	650-11113-000	Ambulance checking		-1,642.00
X17	12/31/2023	650-53500-000	Vehicle Fuel	1,642.00	
To record EFT for September fuel.					
X18	12/31/2023	650-11113-000	Ambulance checking		-1,862.00
X18	12/31/2023	650-53500-000	Vehicle Fuel	1,862.00	
To record EFT for October ambulance fuel.					
X19	12/31/2023	650-11113-000	Ambulance checking		-2,592.00
X19	12/31/2023	650-53175-000	Uniform Allowance	329.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53175-000	Uniform Allowance	853.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53175-000	Uniform Allowance	28.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53175-000	Uniform Allowance	504.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53270-000	New Hire Expense	154.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53322-000	Postage & Shipping	17.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53627-000	Computer Expenses	180.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53627-000	Computer Expenses	21.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53627-000	Computer Expenses	180.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53627-000	Computer Expenses	21.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53627-000	Computer Expenses	10.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53700-000	Utilities	21.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53700-000	Utilities	10.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53700-000	Utilities	35.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-53700-000	Utilities	21.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-54000-000	Miscellaneous Expenses	39.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-54000-000	Miscellaneous Expenses	32.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-54000-000	Miscellaneous Expenses	9.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-54200-000	Public Relations	40.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-54200-000	Public Relations	36.00	
X19	12/31/2023	650-54200-000	Public Relations	52.00	
To record credit card charges.					

Corrected misstatements

Number	Date	Account Number	Account Name	Debit	Credit
X20	12/31/2023	650-11113-000	Ambulance checking	466.00	
X20	12/31/2023	650-46230-000	Ambulance Revenue BLS		-466.00
To record ACH payment from the State of Wisconsin.					
X21	12/31/2023	650-11113-000	Ambulance checking		-1,394.00
X21	12/31/2023	650-53500-000	Vehicle Fuel	1,394.00	
To record EFT for November ambulance fuel.					
X22	12/31/2023	650-11114-000	Ambulance CD's	22,866.00	
X22	12/31/2023	650-48110-000	Interest on Investments		-22,866.00
To record accrued interest earned on EMS CDs.					
X23	12/31/2023	650-26000-000	BT Created - UNEARNED REVENUE	92,180.00	
X23	12/31/2023	650-43500-000	Intergovernmental Aid		-65,643.00
X23	12/31/2023	650-48530-000	Wisconsin FAP Monies		-26,537.00
To recognize revenue for the grants that were unearned at 12/31/2022 and spent in 2023.					

Two-way audit communications

As part of our audit of your financial statements, we are providing communications to you throughout the audit process. Auditing requirements provide for two-way communication and are important in assisting the auditor and you with more information relevant to the audit.

As this past audit is concluded, we use what we have learned to begin the planning process for next year's audit. It is important that you understand the following points about the scope and timing of our next audit:

- a. We address the significant risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, through our detailed audit procedures.
- b. We will obtain an understanding of the five components of internal control sufficient to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to error or fraud, and to design the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures. We will obtain a sufficient understanding by performing risk assessment procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of financial statements and to determine whether they have been implemented. We will use such knowledge to:
 - Identify types of potential misstatements.
 - Consider factors that affect the risks of material misstatement.
 - Design tests of controls, when applicable, and substantive procedures.
- c. We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations and provisions of contracts or grant programs. For audits performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, our report will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance and that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.
- d. The concept of materiality recognizes that some matters, either individually or in the aggregate, are important for fair presentation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles while other matters are not important. In performing the audit, we are concerned with matters that, either individually or in the aggregate, could be material to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that material misstatements, whether caused by errors or fraud, are detected.

Our audit will be performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, *OMB's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and the *State Single Audit Guidelines*.

We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts or grant programs. For audits done in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance and *State Single Audit Guidelines*, our report will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe (a) the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, (b) the scope of testing internal control over compliance for major programs and major program compliance and the result of that testing and to provide an opinion on compliance but not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance and, (c) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the Uniform Guidance and *State Single Audit Guidelines* in considering internal control over compliance and major program compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

We are very interested in your views regarding certain matters. Those matters are listed here:

- a. We typically will communicate with your top level of management unless you tell us otherwise.
- b. We understand that the governing board has the responsibility to oversee the strategic direction of your organization, as well as the overall accountability of the entity. Management has the responsibility for achieving the objectives of the entity.
- c. We need to know your views about your organization's objectives and strategies, and the related business risks that may result in material misstatements.
- d. We anticipate that the City will receive an unmodified opinion on its financial statements.
- e. Which matters do you consider warrant particular attention during the audit, and are there any areas where you request additional procedures to be undertaken?
- f. Have you had any significant communications with regulators or grantor agencies?
- g. Are there other matters that you believe are relevant to the audit of the financial statements?

Also, is there anything that we need to know about the attitudes, awareness and actions of the governing body concerning:

- a. The entity's internal control and its importance in the entity, including how those charged with governance oversee the effectiveness of internal control?
- b. The detection or the possibility of fraud?

We also need to know if you have taken actions in response to developments in financial reporting, laws, accounting standards, governance practices, or other related matters, or in response to previous communications with us.

With regard to the timing of our audit, here is some general information. If necessary, we may do preliminary financial audit work during the months of December or January. Our final financial fieldwork is scheduled during the spring to best coincide with your readiness and report deadlines. After fieldwork, we wrap up our financial audit procedures at our office and may issue drafts of our report for your review. Final copies of our report and other communications are issued after approval by your staff. This is typically 6-12 weeks after final fieldwork, but may vary depending on a number of factors.

Keep in mind that while this communication may assist us with planning the scope and timing of the audit, it does not change the auditor's sole responsibility to determine the overall audit strategy and the audit plan, including the nature, timing and extent of procedures necessary to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

We realize that you may have questions on what this all means, or wish to provide other feedback. We welcome the opportunity to hear from you.