

# CITY OF READING HILLSDALE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

# ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

# YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

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# GABRIDGE & CQ

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council City of Reading, Michigan

### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Reading, Michigan (the "City"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of the investment in joint venture (the Reading Fire Department), which represents 3.7% and 4.1% of the total assets and deferred outflows and net position, respectively, as of June 30, 2024 of the governmental activities. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the investment in joint venture, is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

### **Basis for Opinions**

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

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for

the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

# Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment 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*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment 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 the City's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

# **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and pension schedules be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

# Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 30, 2024, on our consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering City's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Gabridge a Company

Gabridge & Company, PLC Grand Rapids, Michigan December 30, 2024

Management's Discussion and Analysis

# City of Reading Management's Discussion and Analysis June 30, 2024

As management of the City of Reading, Michigan (The "City" or "government") we offer readers of the City's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the City for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the financial statements.

# **Financial Highlights**

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the City exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$5,571,172 (*net position*). The City had an *unrestricted net position* of \$1,048,911.
- Revenues of \$1,946,289 exceeded expenses of \$1,865,076 leading to an increase in net position of \$81,213 during the year.
- At the close of the current fiscal year, the City's governmental funds reported combined fund balances of \$1,083,741, a decrease of \$155,981 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 65.3% of this amount, or \$707,178, is available for spending at the government's discretion (*unassigned fund balance*).
- During the year, the City's general fund balance decreased by \$114,382 for an ending fund balance of \$716,996.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the general fund was \$707,178, or approximately \$1.5% of total general fund expenditures and transfers out.

# **Overview of the Financial Statements**

The discussion and analysis provided here is intended to serve as an introduction to the City's basic financial statements. The City's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also includes supplementary information intended to furnish additional detail to support the basic financial statements themselves.

**Government-wide Financial Statements**. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the City's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents financial information on all of the City's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the City's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., changes in the net pension liability and earned but unused vacation leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the City that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the City include general government, police and fire protection, streets, health and welfare, community and economic development, and recreation and culture. The business-type activities of the City include water, sewer, and refuse services.

The government-wide financial statements include not only the City itself (known as the primary government), but also a legally separate Tax Increment Finance Authority (the "TIFA") for which the City is financially accountable. Financial information for the TIFA is reported separately from the financial information presented for the primary government itself.

**Fund Financial Statements.** A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The City, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the City can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

*Governmental Funds*. *Governmental funds* are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*, as well as on *balances of spendable resources* available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in assessing a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The City maintains four individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the general and capital improvement funds. Information for the major and local street funds are aggregated and reported in the other governmental funds column as they are considered nonmajor funds of the City.

The City adopts an annual appropriated budget for the general fund and each special revenue fund. A budgetary comparison schedule for the general fund and each major special revenue fund has been provided to demonstrate compliance with these budgets.

**Proprietary Funds**. The City maintains two types of proprietary funds, enterprise funds and internal service funds. *Enterprise funds* are used to report the same functions presented as *business-type activities* in the government-wide financial statements. The City uses enterprise funds to account for its water, sewer, and refuse operations. *Internal service funds* are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the City's various functions.

The City uses an internal service fund to account for equipment costs by allocating the cost to the funds that are using the resources. Because these services predominantly benefit governmental rather than business-type functions, they have been included within the governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

# **Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statement because the resources of those funds are not available to support the City's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**. The notes provide additional information that is necessary to acquire a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Other Information**. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents *required supplementary information* concerning the City's budgetary comparison schedules and the City's pension plan schedules. Combining statements for the City's nonmajor governmental funds are included after the pension schedules and are presented as *other supplementary information*.

# **Government-wide Overall Financial Analysis**

As noted earlier, net position over time may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the City, assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$5,471,172 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

#### **City of Reading's Net Position**

City of Reading 5 feet 1 ostiton	Governm	ental Activiti	es	Business-ty	pe Activities	Total Primary Government			
ASSETS	2024	202	3	2024	2023	2024	202	3	
Current Assets							·		
Cash and Investments	\$ 1,065,520	\$ 1,22	26,145	\$ 88,892	\$ 130,302	\$ 1,154,412	\$ 1,35	56,447	
Accounts Receivable, net	830		1,652	110,843	106,698	111,673	10	08,350	
Due from Other Governmental Units	172,160	) (	53,020	-	-	172,160	5	53,020	
Inventory			-	40,878	41,987	40,878	4	41,987	
Total Current Assets	1,238,510	1,28	30,817	240,613	278,987	1,479,123	1,55	59,804	
Noncurrent Assets									
Capital Assets, net	2,291,253	2,0	4,560	4,708,923	4,887,779	7,000,176	6,90	02,339	
Investment in Joint Venture	137,160	14	7,954	-	-	137,166	14	47,954	
Restricted Cash			-	647,660	602,509	647,660	60	02,509	
Total Assets	3,666,929	3,44	3,331	5,597,196	5,769,275	9,264,125	9,21	12,606	
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES									
Pension Related	54,035		59,518	17,024	28,237	71,059	8	87,755	
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	54,035		59,518	17,024	28,237	71,059	8	87,755	
LIABILITIES									
Current Liabilities									
Accounts Payable	122,603		20,485	9,756	2,615	132,359	2	23,100	
Accrued Liabilities	5,893		4,341	2,043	2,110	7,936		6,451	
Accrued Interest			-	24,181	24,934	24,181	2	24,934	
Current Portion of Long-term Debt	60,000	) (	50,000	111,000	106,000	171,000	16	66,000	
Total Current Liabilities	188,490	; <u></u>	34,826	146,980	135,659	335,476	22	20,485	
Noncurrent Liabilities									
Long-term Debt			50,000	3,297,000	3,407,000	3,297,000	3,46	67,000	
Compensated Absences	18,784	. 1	2,183	5,867	6,382	24,651	1	18,565	
Net Pension Liability	156,600	13	37,634	49,337	65,297	205,937	20	02,931	
Total Liabilities	363,880	29	94,643	3,499,184	3,614,338	3,863,064	3,90	08,981	
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES									
Pension Related	72		964	227	457	948		1,421	
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	72		964	227	457	948		1,421	
NET POSITION									
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,231,253	1,89	94,560	1,402,409	1,458,134	3,633,662	3,35	52,694	
Restricted	140,939	25	58,112	647,660	602,509	788,599	86	60,621	
Unrestricted	984,17	1,05	54,570	64,740	122,074	1,048,911	1,17	76,644	
Total Net Position	\$ 3,356,363	\$ 3,20	7,242	\$ 2,114,809	\$ 2,182,717	\$ 5,471,172	\$ 5,38	89,959	

A significant portion of the City's net position (\$3,633,662, or 66.4%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings and improvements, machinery, equipment, vehicles, and infrastructure), less any related outstanding debt that was used to acquire those assets. The City uses these capital assets to provide a variety of services to its citizens. Accordingly, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the City's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources used to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of the City's net position (\$788,599, or 14.4%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$1,048,911, or 19.2%, is unrestricted and may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to its citizens and creditors.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the City is able to report positive balances in all reported categories of net position, both for the government as a whole, as well as for its separate governmental and business-type activities. The same situation held true for the prior fiscal year.

### Analysis of Significant Changes in Assets

Total assets of the City increased by \$51,519 from the prior year, primarily due to a \$97,837 net increase in capital assets. This growth resulted from \$404,770 in additions exceeding \$306,933 in depreciation. Additionally, accounts receivable rose by \$119,140, reflecting a grant receivable from the EGLE program, which supported the inventory and identification of lead service lines. Conversely, cash and investments decreased by \$202,035, largely because \$45,151 was moved to restricted cash to meet USDA bond requirements and a portion of cash was utilized to fund the increase in capital assets.

### Analysis of Significant Changes in Liabilities

Total liabilities decreased by \$45,917 compared to the prior year. Current liabilities grew by \$115,091, driven by a \$109,259 increase in accounts payable related to contractor payments for the lead service line replacement program. Noncurrent liabilities, however, decreased by \$160,908, primarily due to scheduled long-term debt principal repayments. Other changes, such as a \$6,086 increase in compensated absences and stable net pension liabilities, had a lesser impact on the overall reduction in liabilities.

The City's overall net position increased \$81,213 from the prior fiscal year. The reasons for this overall increase are discussed in the following sections for governmental activities and business-type activities.

	Governmental Activities				Business-ty	pe Ac	tivities	1	e rnme nt		
Revenue	 2024		2023		2024		2023		2024		2023
Program Revenues											
Charges for Services	\$ 81,806	\$	128,931	\$	805,570	\$	784,378	\$	887,376	\$	913,309
Operating Grants and Contributions	377,982		320,442		-		-		377,982		320,442
Capital Grants and Contributions	62,800		335,831		-		-		62,800		335,831
Total Program Revenues	 522,588		785,204		805,570		784,378		1,328,158		1,569,582
General Revenues and Transfers											
Property Taxes	362,478		327,500		-		-		362,478		327,500
Unrestricted State Sources	220,654		220,832		-		-		220,654		220,832
Interest and Investment Earnings	4,753		4,349		2,143		1,660		6,896		6,009
Transfers	122,915		61,227		(122,915)		(61,227)		-		-
Total General Revenues and Transfers	 710,800		613,908		(120,772)		(59,567)		590,028		554,341
Total Revenues	 1,233,388		1,399,112		684,798		724,811		1,918,186		2,123,923
Expenses											
General Government	330,692		358,636		-		-		330,692		358,636
Public Safety	252,762		252,416		-		-		252,762		252,416
Public Works	370,717		188,364		-		-		370,717		188,364
Community and Economic Development	58,620		28,338		-		-		58,620		28,338
Recreation and Culture	68,176		23,461		-		-		68,176		23,461
Interest on Long-term Debt	3,300		4,800		-		-		3,300		4,800
Sewer Operations	-		-		309,944		265,601		309,944		265,601
Water Operations	-		-		374,972		341,899		374,972		341,899
Refuse Operations	-		-		67,790		81,176		67,790		81,176
Total Expenses	 1,084,267		856,015		752,706		688,676		1,836,973		1,544,691
Change in Net Position	 149,121		543,097		(67,908)		36,135	-	81,213		579,232
Net Position at the Beginning of Period	3,207,242		2,664,145		2,182,717		2,146,582		5,389,959		4,810,727
Net Position at the End of Period	\$ 3,356,363	\$	3,207,242	\$	2,114,809	\$	2,182,717	\$	5,471,172	\$	5,389,959

#### City of Reading's Changes in Net Position

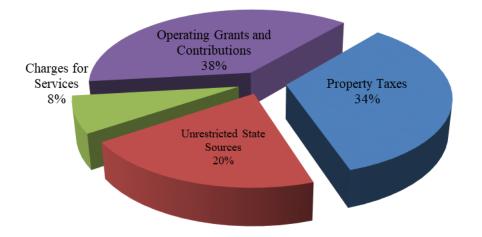
# Analysis of Significant Changes in Revenues

Total revenues for the City decreased by \$205,737 compared to the prior year. Program revenues saw a decline of \$241,424, primarily driven by a \$273,031 reduction in capital grants and contributions. This decrease reflects the one-time nature of grants received in 2023 for projects such as Michigan street improvements, sidewalks, and pavilion construction. Operating grants and contributions increased by \$57,540 due to the recognition of a \$107,900 EGLE grant for lead service line replacement. Meanwhile, general revenues rose by \$35,687, largely because of a \$20,086 increase in property taxes stemming from adjusted use marijuana taxes and a 2.5% increase in taxable values.

# Analysis of Significant Changes in Expenses

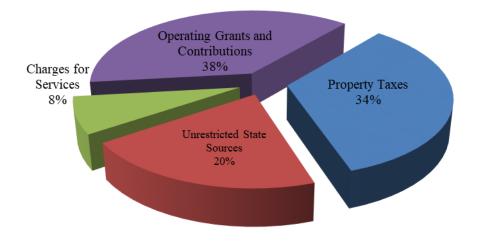
Total expenses increased by \$292,282 compared to the prior year. Public works expenses grew by \$182,353 due to increased activity in major street projects, local street projects, and other infrastructure maintenance within capital project funds. Sewer operations expenses rose by \$44,343, attributed to a \$54,000 increase in contracted services compared to the prior year.

The following chart summarizes the revenue sources for the governmental activities of the City for the most recent fiscal year-end:



# **Governmental Activities Revenues**

The following chart summarizes the expenses for the governmental activities of the City for the most recent fiscal year-end.



# **Governmental Activities Revenues**

# **Financial Analysis of Governmental Funds**

As noted earlier, the City uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

*Governmental Funds*. The focus of the City's *governmental funds* is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the City's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for discretionary use as they represent the portion of fund balance which has not yet been limited to use for a particular purpose by either an external party, the City itself, or a group or individual that has been delegated authority to assign resources for use for particular purposes by the City's Council.

At June 30, 2024, the City's governmental funds reported combined fund balances of \$1,083,741, a decrease of \$155,981 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 65.3% of this amount, or \$70,178, constitutes *unassigned fund balance*, which is available for spending at the government's discretion. The remainder of the fund balance is either *assigned* or *restricted* to indicate that it is 1) restricted for particular purposes (\$140,939, or 13.0%) or 2) assigned (\$235,624, or 21.7%).

The general fund is the chief operating fund of the City. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the general fund was \$707,178, while total fund balance decreased to \$716,996. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total general fund expenditures and transfers

out. Unassigned fund balance represents approximately 81.5% of total general fund expenditures and transfers out, while total fund balance also represents approximately 82.6% of that same amount.

The fund balance of the City's general fund decreased by \$114,382 during the current fiscal year. The most significant reason for the decrease was the \$304,800 transfer out, which exceeded the net revenue surplus of \$190,418. The City monitors the expenditures of the general fund closely to ensure that spending does not exceed its available resources.

The major streets fund, a major special revenue fund, decreased by \$90,694 during the current fiscal year, ending with a fund balance of \$91,835. The decrease was primarily due to \$208,356 in public works expenditures (including multiple street projects), which exceeded revenues of \$128,662. There was also an \$11,000 transfer out, further contributing to the reduction in fund balance.

The local streets fund, a major special revenue fund, decreased by \$24,906 during the current fiscal year, ending with a fund balance of \$39,286. The fund's expenditures of \$85,106 exceeded revenues of \$39,200, despite a \$21,000 transfer in, which helped mitigate the overall decrease.

The capital improvement fund, a major capital projects fund, increased by \$74,001 during the current fiscal year, ending with a fund balance of \$235,624. This increase was largely driven by revenues of \$415,399, including \$188,290 in intergovernmental revenues and \$227,023 in other revenues, along with transfers in from other funds of \$417,715, which exceeded total expenditures of \$759,113 for the year.

# **General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

*Original budget compared to final budget.* In reviewing the general fund's budgetary comparison schedule, there were notable changes between the original and final amended budgets. The final budget for taxes increased by \$46,704, reflecting updated property tax revenue projections during the fiscal year. Similarly, intergovernmental revenue projections rose by \$57,435 in the final budget, likely due to updated grant or state revenue sharing estimates. Additionally, transfers out were increased significantly, from \$168,000 in the original budget to \$306,000, indicating a reallocation of funds for other purposes.

*Final budget compared to actual results.* When comparing the final budget to actual results, the City's actual revenues exceeded the final budget by \$2,501. Taxes were slightly higher than anticipated, with actual collections exceeding the final budget by \$2,774. Expenditures were below the final budget by \$72,014, primarily due to lower-than-expected costs in police services (\$26,224 under budget), clerk/treasurer expenditures (\$7,773 under budget), and cemeteries (\$13,437 under budget). Overall, the City's general fund ended the year with a favorable variance of \$75,715 in net change in fund balance compared to the final budget. This positive outcome reflects effective fiscal management and cost containment efforts during the year.

# **Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

# Capital Assets

The City's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of June 30, 2024 amounted to \$7,000,176 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, machinery, equipment, vehicles, and water infrastructure. More detailed information about the City's capital assets can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

# Long-term Debt

As described in the notes to the financial statements, the City had \$3,468,000 of bonds payable at the end of the fiscal year. The City paid down \$165,000 of its outstanding bonds payable during the current fiscal year and is scheduled to pay down another \$171,000 in the upcoming fiscal year.

# **Economic Condition and Outlook**

Management anticipates that general fund revenues for the upcoming fiscal year will remain consistent with current levels. Expenditures are projected to align closely with both actual and budgeted figures from the current year. The City is committed to ongoing scrutiny of all budget line items to identify potential cost-saving measures. Throughout the year, the budget will be carefully monitored to determine if amendments are necessary. In 2025, the City plans to utilize current revenues to deliver essential services while maintaining financial reserves at levels comparable to previous years. The continuous costs associated with providing these essential services to residents will be diligently monitored to preserve the City's financial health.

The City recognizes the critical importance of its water and sewer services and is dedicated to setting rates that adequately cover current operating expenses, debt service obligations, and future maintenance and repair needs. This approach ensures the sustainability and reliability of these essential services for the community.

The City is acutely aware of the impact of inflation on operational costs, including wages and benefits for municipal employees. To address these challenges, management is exploring strategies to manage expenses effectively while striving to offer competitive compensation to attract and retain qualified personnel. This includes regular reviews of wage scales and benefit packages to ensure they remain fair and sustainable within the City's financial framework.

Property taxes continue to be a vital revenue source for the City. Management anticipates a modest increase in taxable property values, which is expected to help offset rising operational costs. According to recent analyses, Michigan homeowners are projected to see an increase in their property tax bills, with taxable values estimated to rise by 3.3% in 2025. This anticipated growth will assist the City in maintaining essential services without imposing significant additional burdens on taxpayers.

The Michigan/East/Lynn/Strong Street Watermain and Street Renovation/Reconstruction Project (MELS Project) is a significant initiative undertaken by the City to enhance infrastructure and

comply with state mandates. This project is supported by a combination of funding sources, including \$950,000 in capital improvement bonds, \$1,611,000 in USDA revenue bonds, a \$250,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation, a \$1,750,000 grant from Michigan Economic Development Corporation, and a \$257,200 match from the City, resulting in a total project cost of \$4,765,700. The largest component of the project involves a contract with Mead Brothers Construction for the replacement of watermains, service lines, and curb stops, as well as compliance with Michigan's new Lead and Copper Rules. Additional improvements include curb and gutter installations, street milling, paving, edge drains, and new sidewalks throughout the project area.

These trends underscore the importance of prudent financial management and strategic planning to navigate the evolving economic landscape effectively. By closely monitoring these factors and implementing thoughtful financial strategies, the City aims to continue providing essential services to its residents while maintaining fiscal responsibility and resilience in the face of economic challenges.

# **Contacting the City**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the City's finances to its citizens, customers, investors, and creditors and to demonstrate the City's accountability for the resources it receives. Questions regarding any information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

City of Reading 113 S. Main Street Reading, MI 49274 **Basic Financial Statements** 

### City of Reading Statement of Net Position June 30, 2024

		Primary Government	t	
	Governmental	Business-type	<u>.</u>	Component Unit -
	Activities	Activities	Total	TIFA
ASSETS				
Current Assets	*	*		
Cash and Investments	\$ 1,065,520		\$ 1,154,412	\$ 319,986
Accounts Receivable, net	830	· · · · · ·	111,673	2,105
Due from Other Governmental Units	172,160		172,160	
Inventory		40,878	40,878	
Total Current Assets	1,238,510	240,613	1,479,123	322,091
Noncurrent Assets				
Capital Assets not being Depreciated	148,758		169,308	
Capital Assets being Depreciated, net	2,142,495	4,688,373	6,830,868	18,675
Investment in Joint Venture	137,166		137,166	
Assets Held For Resale				428,216
Restricted Cash, Bond Reserve		258,560	258,560	
Restricted Cash, RRI		389,100	389,100	
Total Assets	3,666,929	5,597,196	9,264,125	768,982
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Pension Related Deferred Outflow	54,035		71,059	
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	54,035	17,024	71,059	
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	122,603	9,756	132,359	233
Accrued Liabilities	5,893	2,043	7,936	
Accrued Interest		24,181	24,181	
Current Portion of Long-term Debt	60,000	111,000	171,000	
Total Current Liabilities	188,496	146,980	335,476	233
Noncurrent Liabilities				
Long-term Debt		3,297,000	3,297,000	
Compensated Absences	18,784	5,867	24,651	
Net Pension Liability	156,600		205,937	
Total Liabilities	363,880	3,499,184	3,863,064	233
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Pension Related Deferred Inflow	721	227	948	
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	721	227	948	
NET POSITION				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,231,253	1,402,409	3,633,662	18,675
Restricted for:				
Streets	131,121		131,121	
Bond Reserve		258,560	258,560	
RRI		389,100	389,100	
Cemetery	8,117		8,117	
Police	1,701		1,701	
Unrestricted	984,171	64,740	1,048,911	750,074
Total Net Position	\$ 3,356,363	\$ 2,114,809	\$ 5,471,172	\$ 768,749

#### City of Reading Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

			_		I	Program Revenues		~				(Expense) Reven				
				<b>C1</b>		Operating		Capital Grants		<u> </u>	Pri	mary Governmer	it			<b>a</b> .
Functions/Programs		Expenses		Charges for Services		Grants and Contributions		and Contributions		Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total		Component Unit - TIFA
Primary Government		Expenses	-	Services		Contributions	-	Contributions		Acuvities	-	Acuvities	_	Total	-	Unit · III A
Governmental Activities:																
General Government	\$	330,692	\$	79,554	\$	84,097	\$		\$	(167,041)	¢		\$	(167,041)	\$	
Public Safety	φ	252,762	φ	1,932	φ	1,000	φ		φ	(249,830)	φ		φ	(249,830)	φ	
Public Works		370,717				292,885		62,800		(15,032)				(15,032)		
				320										,		
Community and Economic Development		58,620								(58,300)				(58,300)		
Recreation and Culture		68,176								(68,176)				(68,176)		
Interest on Long-term Debt		3,300								(3,300)				(3,300)		
Total Governmental Activities		1,084,267		81,806		377,982		62,800		(561,679)				(561,679)		
Business-type Activities:																
Sewer		309,944		335,435								25,491		25,491		
Water		374,972		389,248								14,276		14,276		
Refuse (Nonmajor)		67,790		80,887								13,097		13,097		
Total Business-type Activities		752,706		805,570								52,864		52,864		
Total Primary Government	\$	1,836,973	\$	887,376	\$	377,982	\$	62,800		(561,679)		52,864		(508,815)		
Component Unit									-	· · · ·						
Tax Increment Finance Authority	\$	158,077	\$	2,280	\$	215	\$									(155,582)
Total Component Unit	\$	158,077	\$	2,280	\$	215	\$									(155,582)
1							_									<u> </u>
			(	General Purpose	Rev	venues and Transf	ers:									
				Revenues												
				Taxes						362,478				362,478		130,714

Revenues					
Taxes	362,478		362,478		130,714
Interest and Investment Earnings	4,753	2,143	6,896		1,039
Unrestricted State Aid	220,654		220,654		
Transfers	122,915	(122,915)			
Total General Revenues and Transfers	710,800	(120,772)	590,028		131,753
Change in Net Position	149,121	(67,908)	81,213	-	(23,829)
Net Position at Beginning of Period	3,207,242	2,182,717	5,389,959		792,578
Net Position at End of Period	\$ 3,356,363	\$ 2,114,809	\$ 5,471,172	\$	768,749

# City of Reading Balance Sheet Governmental Funds June 30, 2024

			Special 2	Revenue	2	Capi	tal Projects		
		F	ormerly	F	ormerly				Total
		Nonm	ajor Fund -	Nonm	najor Fund -	(	Capital	Go	vernmental
	General	Maj	jor Streets	Loc	al Streets	Imp	provement		Funds
ASSETS									
Cash and Investments	\$ 686,016	\$	71,489	\$	33,165	\$	247,454	\$	1,038,124
Accounts Receivable, net	830								830
Due from Other Governmental Units	37,422		20,572		6,266		107,900		172,160
Total Assets	\$ 724,268	\$	92,061	\$	39,431	\$	355,354	\$	1,211,114
LIABILITIES									
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,884	\$		\$		\$	119,730	\$	121,614
Accrued Liabilities	 5,388		226		145				5,759
Total Liabilities	7,272		226		145		119,730		127,373
FUND BALANCE									
Restricted	9,818		91,835		39,286				140,939
Assigned							235,624		235,624
Unassigned	 707,178								707,178
Total Fund Balance	 716,996		91,835		39,286		235,624		1,083,741
Total Liabilitie and Fund Balance	\$ 724,268	\$	92,061	\$	39,431	\$	355,354	\$	1,211,114

# City of Reading Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position June 30, 2024

Total Fund Balance - Governmental Funds	\$	1,083,741
Net position of internal service funds that are treated as proprietary in the fund level statements as treated as governmental in the entity-wide statements.	re	66,397
Compensated absences are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		(18,345)
General government capital assets of \$3,115,179, net of accumulated depreciations of \$864,489, are not financial resources and, accordingly, are not reported in the funds.		2,250,690
Investments in joint ventures are not financial resources and, accordingly, are not reported in the funds.		137,166
Net pension liability and related deferred amounts are not due and payable in the current period a do not represent current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	nd	(103,286)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		(60,000)
Total Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$	3,356,363

#### City of Reading Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

		Special	Revenue	<b>Capital Projects</b>		
	General	Formerly Nonmajor Fund - Major Streets	Formerly Nonmajor Fund - Local Streets	Capital Improvement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues						
Taxes	\$ 362,478	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 362,478
Intergovernmental	305,751	128,315	39,080	188,290		661,436
Licenses and Permits	59,291					59,291
Charges for Services	12,738					12,738
Fines and Forfeits	452					452
Interest and Rents	9,812	347	120	86		10,365
Other Revenues	3,325			227,023		230,348
Total Revenues	 753,847	128,662	39,200	415,399		1,337,108
Expenditures						
General Government	269,935			25,404		295,339
Public Safety	217,449					217,449
Public Works		208,356	85,106	235,347		528,809
Community and Economic Development	58,620					58,620
Recreation and Culture	17,425			30,293		47,718
Capital Outlay				404,769		404,769
Debt Service, Principal				60,000		60,000
Debt Service, Interest				3,300		3,300
Total Expenditures	 563,429	208,356	85,106	759,113		1,616,004
Excess of Revenues Over						
(Under) Expenditures	190,418	(79,694)	(45,906)	(343,714)		(278,896)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Transfers In			21,000	417,715		438,715
Transfers Out	(304,800)	(11,000)				(315,800)
Net Other Financing Sources (Uses)	 (304,800)	(11,000)	21,000	417,715		122,915
Net Change in Fund Balance	 (114,382)	(90,694)	(24,906)	74,001		(155,981)
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period (as previously presented)	831,378			161,623	246,721	1,239,722
Change within financial reporting entity (nonmajor to major fund)		182,529	64,192		(246,721)	
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period (as adjusted)	 831,378	182,529	64,192	161,623		1,239,722
Fund Balance at End of Period	\$ 716,996	\$ 91,835	\$ 39,286	\$ 235,624	\$	\$ 1,083,741

# City of Reading Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance with Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$	(155,981)
Changes in net position of internal service funds that are treated as enterprise fund changes in net position in the fund level statements are treated as governmental fund changes in net position in the entity-wide statements.		(6,076)
Changes to compensated absences do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the funds.		(6,957)
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; however, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This the amount by which capital outlay of \$404,769 exceeds depreciation expense of \$111,640.		293,129
Changes in certain assets and liabilities on the government-wide statements, such as the equity interest in joint ventures, do not require or provide resources and, accordingly, are excluded from the fund statements. This represents the decrease in the equity interest in joint ventures.		(10,788)
The statement of activities reports changes to net pension liability and pension-related deferrals a pension expense; however, the expenditures recorded on the governmental funds equals actual pension contributions.	S	(24,206)
Current year long-term debt principal payments on bonds payable are expenditures in the fund financial statements but are reductions in long-term debt in the government-wide financial statements.		60,000
Changes in Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$	149,121

#### City of Reading Statement of Net Position Proprietary Funds June 30, 2024

			Busine	ess-type Activiti	es - Ente	rprise Funds				
	S	Sewer		Water	-	Refuse nmajor)	Tota	al Enterprise Funds	Activit	ernmental ies Internal ice Fund
ASSETS										
Current Assets										
Cash and Investments	\$	65,421	\$	2,235	\$	21,236	\$	88,892	\$	27,396
Accounts Receivable, net		46,069		52,785		11,989		110,843		
Inventory				40,878				40,878		
Total Current Assets		111,490		95,898		33,225		240,613		27,396
Noncurrent Assets										
Capital Assets not being Depreciated		20,500		50				20,550		
Capital Assets being Depreciated, net		1,780,014		2,908,359				4,688,373		40,563
Restricted Cash, Bond Reserve		131,910		126,650				258,560		
Restricted Cash, RRI		147,600		241,500				389,100		
Total Assets		2,191,514		3,372,457		33,225		5,597,196		67,959
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES										
Pension Related Deferred Outflow		7,604		7,652		1,768		17,024		
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		7,604		7,652		1,768		17,024		
LIABILITIES										
Current Liabilities										
Accounts Payable		69		535		9,152		9,756		989
Accrued Liabilities		940		922		181		2,043		134
Accrued Interest		13,076		11,105				24,181		
Current Portion of Long-term Debt		50,000		61,000				111,000		
Total Current Liabilities		64,085		73,562		9,333		146,980		1,123
Noncurrent Liabilities										
Long-term Debt		1,852,000		1,445,000				3,297,000		
Compensated Absences		2,746		2,746		375		5,867		439
Net Pension Liability		22,038		22,175		5,124		49,337		
Total Liabilities		1,940,869		1,543,483		14,832		3,499,184		1,562
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES										
Pension Related Deferred Inflow		101		102		24		227		
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		101		102		24		227		
NET POSITION										
Net Investment in Capital Assets				1,402,409				1,402,409		40,563
Restricted for:										
Bond Reserve		131,910		126,650				258,560		
RRI		147,600		241,500				389,100		
Unrestricted		(21,362)		65,965		20,137		64,740		25,834
Total Net Position	\$	258,148	\$	1,836,524	\$	20,137	\$	2,114,809	\$	66,397

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these Financial Statements

# City of Reading Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position Proprietary Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

		Busi	iness-type Activiti	ies -	Enterprise Funds				
	 Sewer		Water		Refuse (Nonmajor)	Tot	al Enterprise Funds	Activ	vernmental ities Internal rvice Fund
Operating Revenues									
Charges for Services	\$ 335,435	\$	388,856	\$	80,707	\$	804,998	\$	56,908
Other Revenues	 		392		180		572		373
Total Operating Revenues	 335,435		389,248		80,887		805,570		57,281
Operating Expenses									
Salaries and Benefits	66,513		78,628		10,858		155,999		9,712
General Operations and Maintenance	98,183		116,141		56,932		271,256		37,596
Depreciation	66,131		112,725				178,856		16,437
Total Operating Expenses	 230,827		307,494		67,790		606,111		63,745
<b>Operating Income</b> (Loss)	104,608		81,754		13,097		199,459		(6,464)
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)									
Interest and Investment Earnings	959		1,155		29		2,143		388
Interest Expense	(79,117)		(67,478)				(146,595)		
Net Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	 (78,158)		(66,323)		29		(144,452)		388
Income Before Contributions and Transfers	 26,450		15,431		13,126		55,007		(6,076)
Transfers Out	(25,668)		(97,247)				(122,915)		
Change In Net Position	782		(81,816)		13,126		(67,908)		(6,076)
Net Position at Beginning of Period	257,366		1,918,340		7,011		2,182,717		72,473
Net Position at End of Period	\$ 258,148	\$	1,836,524	\$	20,137	\$	2,114,809	\$	66,397

# City of Reading Statement of Cash Flows Proprietary Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds						Governmental			
	Sewer		Water		Refuse (Nonmajor)		Total Enterprise Funds		Activities Internal Service Fund	
Cash Flows from Operating Activities										
Cash Received from Charges for Services	\$	331,638	\$	389,233	\$	80,554	\$	801,425	\$	57,281
Cash Received from Interfund Services Provided		-		-		-		-		-
Cash Paid to Employees for Services and Fringe Benefits		(67,369)		(80,975)		(13,214)		(161,558)		(10,123)
Cash Paid to Suppliers for Good and Services		(99,877)		(115,349)		(47,780)		(263,006)		(37,956)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		164,392		192,909		19,560		376,861		9,202
Cash Flows from Non-capital Financing Activities										
Transfers Out		(25,668)		(97,247)		-		(122,915)		-
Net Cash Used by Non-capital Financing Activities		(25,668)		(97,247)		-		(122,915)		-
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities										
Principal Payments on Long-term Debt		(48,000)		(57,000)		-		(105,000)		-
Interest Payments on Long-term Debt		(79,447)		(67,901)		-		(147,348)		-
Net Cash Used by Capital and Related Financing Activities		(127,447)		(124,901)		-		(252,348)		-
Cash Flows from Investing Activities										
Interest and Investment Earnings		959		1,155		29		2,143		388
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities		959		1,155		29		2,143		388
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Investments		12,236		(28,084)		19,589		3,741		9,590
Cash and Investments - Beginning of Year		332,695		398,469		1,647		732,811		17,806
Cash and Investments - End of Year	\$	344,931	\$	370,385	\$	21,236	\$	736,552	\$	27,396
Summary of Cash from Statement of Net Position										
Cash and Investments	\$	65,421	\$	2,235	\$	21,236	\$	88,892	\$	27,396
Restricted Cash, Bond Reserve		131,910		126,650		_		258,560		-
Restricted Cash, RRI		147,600		241,500		-		389,100		-
Total Cash and Investments	\$	344,931	\$	370,385	\$	21,236	\$	736,552	\$	27,396
							_			

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these Financial Statements

# City of Reading Statement of Cash Flows Proprietary Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds						Governmental			
	Sewer		Water		Refuse (Nonmajor)		Total Enterprise Funds		Activities Internal Service Fund	
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to</b>										
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities										
Operating Income (Loss)	\$	104,608	\$	81,754	\$	13,097	\$	199,459	\$	(6,464)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income (Loss) to										
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities										
Depreciation Expense		66,131		112,725		-		178,856		16,437
Changes in Assets, Deferred Outflows/Inflows, and Liab	oilities									
Accounts Receivable, net		(3,797)		(15)		(333)		(4,145)		-
Inventories		-		1,109		-		1,109		-
Accounts Payable		(1,694)		(317)		9,152		7,141		(360)
Accrued Liabilities		20		(19)		(68)		(67)		(54)
Compensated Absences		48		(436)		(127)		(515)		(357)
Net Pension Liability and Related Deferred Items		(924)		(1,892)	_	(2,161)		(4,977)		-
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	164,392	\$	192,909	\$	19,560	\$	376,861	\$	9,202

# City of Reading Statement of Fiduciary Net Position Fiduciary Fund June 30, 2024

	Custodial Fund
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -
Total Assets	-
LIABILITIES	
Undistributed Collections	-
Total Liabilities	
NET POSITION	
Restricted for Individuals, Organizations,	
and Agencies	\$ -

# City of Reading Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position Fiduciary Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	<b>Custodial Fund</b>		
Additions			
Taxes Collected for Other Governments	\$	626,922	
Total Additions		626,922	
Deductions			
Payments of Property Taxes to Other Governments		626,922	
Total Deductions		626,922	
Change in Net Position		-	
Net Position at Beginning of Period		-	
Net Position at End of Period	\$	-	

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

# Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the City of Reading, Michigan (the "City" or "government") conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by the City:

# **Reporting Entity**

The accompanying financial statements present the City and its component units, entities for which the City is considered to be financially accountable. Each discretely presented component unit is reported in a separate column in the government-wide financial statements to emphasize that it is legally separate from the City (see discussion below for description).

# **Discretely Presented Component Units**

The City's *Tax Increment Financing Authority* (the "TIFA") is organized and incorporated as authorized by the Tax Increment Authority Act, P.A. of 1980. The TIFA is a component unit of the City and is governed by a separate board appointed by the City Council. The TIFA was created to promote economic growth in the City.

### Joint Venture

The City is a participant in a joint venture agreement with the Township of Reading for the operation of the *Reading Community Fire Department* (the "Department"). In accordance with the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board No. 14, the joint venture results from the ongoing financial responsibility of the Department's operations agreed to by the municipalities pursuant to a joint resolution adopted in February, 2008. The Township and City each appoint two members of the five-member Fire Board which oversees the operations. The fifth member is appointed by the other four members. The Township and City each have a 50% ownership in the venture. Separate financial statements for the Department may be obtained by contacting the City offices.

The City has reported \$10,788 (50%) of the decrease in net position of the Department in its statement of activities. The City's investment in the joint venture is reported in the statement of net position was \$137,165.

### **Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. For the most part, the effect of inter-fund activity has been removed from these financial statements. *Governmental activities*, normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenue, are reported separately from *business-type activities*, which rely to a

## Notes to the Financial Statements

significant extent on fees and charges for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

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

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

# Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*, as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements, except for custodial funds which do not have a measurement focus. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement* focus and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period or within one year for expenditure-driven grants. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service and compensated absences expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, sales taxes, franchise taxes, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the City.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

The City reports the following major governmental funds:

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

The *capital improvement fund* accounts for the City's financial resources accumulated and payments made for capital projects as well as principal and interest payment on long-term debt of governmental funds.

The *major streets fund* accounts for the receipt and expenditure of revenues from the State of Michigan under Public Act 51 of 1951, as amended, which are restricted for the maintenance and improvement of major streets within the City. Revenues are primarily derived from state-shared fuel taxes and other allocations from the Michigan Transportation Fund. Eligible expenditures include snow removal, repairs, and improvements to the City's designated major streets.

The *local streets fund* accounts for the receipt and expenditure of revenues from the State of Michigan under Public Act 51 of 1951, as amended, which are restricted for the maintenance and improvement of local streets within the City. Revenues are primarily derived from state-shared fuel taxes and other allocations from the Michigan Transportation Fund. Eligible expenditures include maintenance, repairs, and improvements to the City's designated local streets.

The City reports the following major proprietary funds:

The *water fund* accounts for the activities of the City's water distribution and treatment system.

The *sewer fund* accounts for the activities of the City's sewage collection system.

The *refuse fund* accounts for the activities of the City's operation and maintenance of the City's trash collection system.

Additionally, the government reports the following fund types:

*Special revenue funds* are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specific purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

*Internal service funds* account for the financing of goods or services provided by the City to other departments or funds on a cost reimbursement basis.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

*Custodial funds* are custodial in nature and do not present results of operations or have a measurement focus. Custodial funds are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. These funds are used to account for asset that the government holds for others in a custodial capacity (such as taxes collected for other governments).

Proprietary funds distinguish *operating* revenues and expenses from *non-operating* items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the enterprise funds are charges for services. Operating expenses for the enterprise funds include depreciation on capital assets, labor, supplies and contracted services. All revenues and expenses are not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

# Assets, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, Liabilities, and Equity

### **Deposits and Investments**

The City's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Investments are stated at fair value at the balance sheet date. Investments are exposed to various risks, such as significant external events, interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the fair value of investments will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statement of net position.

State statutes and City policy authorize the City to invest in:

- Bonds, securities, other obligations, and repurchase agreements of the United States, or an agency or instrumentality of the United States.
- Certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts, or depository receipts of a qualified financial institution.
- Commercial paper rated at the time of purchase within the two highest classifications established by not less than two standard rating services and that matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase.
- In United States government or federal agency obligation repurchase agreements.
- Bankers' acceptances of United States banks.
- Obligations of this State or any of its political subdivisions that at the time of purchase are rated at least investment grade by no less than one standard rating service.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

- Mutual funds registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 with the authority to purchase only investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by the City.
- Investment pools through an interlocal agreement under the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967, as amended.
- Investment pools organized under the Surplus Fund Investment Pool Act, 1982, as amended or under the Local Government Investment Pool Act, 1985, as amended.

# **Restricted** Cash

Certain resources of the water and sewer funds are classified as restricted cash on the statement of net position because they are restricted for the funding of certain reserves by applicable bond covenants. The bond reserve account is used to report resources set aside for debt service. The replacement (or "RRI") account is used to report resources set aside to fund asset renewals and replacements.

### Receivables and Payables

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year and all other outstanding balances between funds are referred to as "due to/from other funds" (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans). Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances."

All trade receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectibles, as applicable. All amounts deemed to be uncollectible are charged against the allowance for doubtful accounts in the period that determination is made.

### Due from Other Governmental Units

Due from other governmental units consists of amounts due from the State of Michigan or other governments for various payments and grants.

### Inventories

Inventories are valued at cost. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out method. Inventories consist of water system supplies.

## Investment in Land and Infrastructure Development

Investment in land represents land developed by the Tax Increment Finance Authority for residential housing and industrial expansion. The Authority anticipates selling the land to developers.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

# Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., streets and sidewalks and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the city as assets with an estimated useful life in excess of one year and an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition cost.

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

	Years
Buildings and Improvements	20-50
Furniture and Equipment	5-15
System Infrastructure	20-50
Vehicles	4-10

# Long-term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. Bond issuance costs are expensed when incurred.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued 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, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

### Compensated Absences

It is the City's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned unused vacation and sick pay benefits. All vacation and personal leave pay is accrued when incurred in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in governmental funds only for employee terminations as of year-end.

## **Unearned Revenues**

Unearned revenues are those where asset recognition criteria have been met but for which revenue

Notes to the Financial Statements

recognition criteria have not been met.

#### Pension

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to the pension, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) of Michigan and additions to/deductions from MERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by MERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

#### Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets and liabilities, the statement of net position and balance sheet will, when applicable, report separate sections for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. *Deferred outflows of resources*, a separate financial statement element, represents a consumption of net position or fund balance, respectively, that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. *Deferred inflows of resources*, a separate financial statement element, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance, respectively, that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. *Deferred inflows of resources*, a separate financial statement element, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance, respectively, that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

The City has several items that qualify for reporting in these categories and are reported in the statement of net position. These items correspond to the City's net pension liability and are related to the net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments, differences between expected and actual experience, changes of assumptions, and contributions subsequent to the measurement date.

#### Net Position Flow Assumption

Sometimes the government will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted – net position and unrestricted – net position in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied.

It is the government's policy to consider restricted – net position to have been depleted before unrestricted – net position is applied.

#### Fund Balance Flow Assumptions

Sometimes the government will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

the governmental fund financial statements a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the government's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

#### Fund Balance Policies

Fund balance of governmental funds is reported in various categories based on the nature of any limitations requiring the use of resources for specific purposes. Governmental funds report *nonspendable fund balance* for amounts that cannot be spent because they are either: a) not in spendable form or b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. *Restricted fund balance* is reported when externally imposed constraints are placed on the use of resources by grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments. The government itself can establish limitations on the use of resources through either a commitment (committed fund balance) or an assignment (assigned fund balance).

The *committed fund balance* classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority. The City Council is the highest level of decision-making authority for the government that can, by adoption of a resolution prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the resolution remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another resolution) to remove or revise the limitation.

Amounts in the *assigned fund balance* classification are intended to be used by the government for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as committed. The City Council, or its designee, is authorized to assign fund balance. The City Council may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget. Unlike commitments, assignments generally only exist temporarily. In other words, an additional action does not normally have to be taken for the removal of an assignment. Conversely, as discussed above, an additional action is essential to either remove or revise a commitment.

*Unassigned fund balance* is the residual classification for the City's general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications and is therefore available to be spent as determined by the City Council. The general fund is the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit.

#### Property Tax Revenue Recognition

The City property tax is levied on July 1 on the taxable valuation of property located in the City as of the preceding December 31. The billings are due on or before August 31; as of March 2 of

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

the succeeding year, unpaid real property taxes are sold to and collected by Hillsdale County. The County remits all of the City's uncollected delinquent real property tax to the City by June 30. Uncollected personal property taxes are not accrued because the date of collection is uncertain.

It is the City's policy to recognize revenues in the current year when they are levied and made available for the financing of City operations. The City considers property taxes levied on July 1 to be revenues of the current period. The 2023 taxable valuation of the City totaled \$19,040,162 on which ad valorem taxes levied consisted of 12.4063 mills for the City for operating purposes. These amounts are recognized in the general fund and TIFA as tax revenue.

#### Use of Estimates

The process of preparing financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the use of estimates and assumptions regarding certain types of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses. Such estimates primarily relate to unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements. Accordingly, upon settlement, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

#### **Restricted Net Position**

Restrictions of net position shown in the government-wide financial statements indicate that restrictions imposed by the funding source or some other outside source which preclude their use for unrestricted purposes.

#### Note 2 - Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

#### **Budgetary Information**

Budgets presented in the financial statements were prepared on the same basis as the accounting basis used to reflect actual results. The general fund and special revenue funds are subject to legal budgetary accounting controls and all are budgeted annually. The City follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- The City Manager submits to the City Council a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1.
- Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
- The budget is legally enacted through passage of a resolution.
- Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all funds.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

- Adoption and amendments of all budgets used by the City are governed by Public Act 621, which was followed for the year ended June 30, 2024. Expenditures may not exceed appropriations. The appropriations resolutions are based on the projected expenditures budget of the department heads of the City. Any amendments to the original budget must meet the requirements of Public Act 621. Any revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the City Council.
- Budgets for expenditures are adopted at the department level for the general fund and the functional level for all special revenue funds.

#### **Budgetary Compliance**

P.A. 621 of 1978, as amended, provides that a local unit shall not incur expenditures in excess of the amount budgeted. Budgetary control is exercised at the activity level in the general fund and the function level in other funds.

The City had no expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated during the year ended June 30, 2024.

#### Note 3 - Cash and Investments

Following is a reconciliation of deposit balances as of June 30, 2024:

	Primary overnment	omponent nit - TIFA	Totals
Statement of Net Position			
Cash and Investments	\$ 1,154,412	\$ 319,986	\$ 1,474,398
Restricted Cash, Bond Reserve	258,560	-	258,560
Restricted Cash, RRI	389,100	-	389,100
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position			
Cash and Investments	 -	 -	 -
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 1,802,072	\$ 319,986	\$ 2,122,058

#### **Deposits and Investments**

Checking and Savings Accounts	\$ 2,117,937
Certificates of Deposit (mature within one to five years)	 4,121
<b>Total Deposits and Investments</b>	\$ 2,122,058

*Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits.* Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the City's deposits might not be returned. State law does not require, and the City does not have a policy for deposit custodial credit risk. As of year-end, \$1,105,685 of the City's bank balance of \$2,223,486 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

Due to the dollar amounts of cash deposits and the limits of FDIC insurance, the City believes it is impractical to insure all bank deposits. As a result, the City evaluates each financial institution with which it deposits City funds and assesses the level of risk of each institution; only those institutions with an acceptable estimated risk level are used as depositories.

#### Fair Value Measurement

The City is required to disclose amounts within a framework established for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described as follows:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

Level 2: Prices determined using other significant observable inputs. Observable inputs are inputs that other market participants may use in pricing a security. These may include prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk and others.

Level 3: Prices determined using significant unobservable inputs. In situations where quoted prices or observable inputs are unavailable or deemed less relevant, unobservable inputs may be used. Unobservable inputs reflect the City' s own assumptions about the factors market participants would use in pricing an investment and would be based on the best information available.

As of June 30, 2024, the Tax Increment Finance Authority (discretely presented component unit) had investment in land and infrastructure development (not reported above) in the amount of \$428,216 with a Level 3 fair value measurement.

A summary of restricted cash follows:

	June	June 30, 2023				
	-			Actual Balance		
\$	131,000	\$	131,910	\$	131,159	
	147,600		147,600		124,500	
	126,650		126,650		126,650	
	241,500		241,500		220,200	
\$	646,750	\$	647,660	\$	602,509	
	]	Required Balance     \$ 131,000     147,600     126,650     241,500	Required     Balance   H     \$ 131,000   \$     147,600   \$     126,650   241,500	Balance   Balance     \$ 131,000   \$ 131,910     147,600   \$ 131,910     126,650   126,650     241,500   241,500	Required   Actual   E     Balance   Balance   Balance   E     \$ 131,000   \$ 131,910   \$     147,600   147,600   \$     126,650   126,650   241,500	

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

## Note 4 - Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for governmental activities during the year was as follows:

	Beginning			Ending
Governmental Activities	Balance	Additions	Transfers	Balance
Capital Assets not being Depreciated				
Land	\$ 66,174	\$ 55,684	\$-	\$ 121,858
Construction in Progress	319,820	26,900	(319,820)	26,900
Subtotal	385,994	82,584	(319,820)	148,758
Capital Assets being Depreciated				
Buildings and Improvements	445,584	136,968	-	582,552
Infrastructure	1,632,942	138,070	319,820	2,090,832
Machinery and Equipment	820,796	47,148		867,944
Subtotal	2,899,322	322,186	319,820	3,541,328
Less Accumulated Depreciation				
Buildings and Improvements	217,086	20,629	-	237,715
Infrastructure	377,011	61,814	-	438,825
Machinery and Equipment	676,659	45,634	-	722,293
Subtotal	1,270,756	128,077	-	1,398,833
Capital Assets being Depreciated, Net	1,628,566	194,109	-	2,142,495
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 2,014,560	\$ 276,693	\$ (319,820)	\$ 2,291,253

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions of the City as follows:

## **Governmental Activities**

General Government	\$ 24,325
Public Safety	6,795
Public Works	60,062
Recreation and Culture	20,458
Depreciation Charged to Internal Service Funds	 16,437
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 128,077

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

Capital asset activity for business-type activities during the year was as follows:

Business-type Activities	Beginning Balance Additions		Red	uctions	Ending Balance		
Capital Assets not being Depreciated							
Land	\$ 20,550	\$	-	\$	-	\$	20,550
Capital Assets being Depreciated							
Water and Sewer Distribution System	8,828,684		-		-	:	8,828,684
Machinery and Equipment	 109,167		-	_	-		109,167
Subtotal	8,937,851		-		-		8,937,851
Less Accumulated Depreciation							
Water and Sewer Distribution System	3,974,685		176,524		-	4	4,151,209
Machinery and Equipment	95,937		2,332		-		98,269
Subtotal	 3,891,765		178,856		-	4	4,249,478
Capital Assets being Depreciated, Net	 5,046,086		178,856		-	4	4,688,373
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 5,066,636	\$	178,856	\$	-	\$ 4	4,708,923

Depreciation expense of was charged to business-type functions as follows:

Business-type Activities	
Sewer	\$ 66,131
Water	 112,725
Total Business-type Activities	\$ 178,856

Capital asset activity for component unit activities during the year was as follows:

	Be	ginning					I	Ending
Tax Increment Finance Authority	Balance		Additions		Reductions		B	alance
Capital Assets being Depreciated								
Equipment	\$	35,015	\$	-	\$	-	\$	35,015
Less Accumulated Depreciation								
Equipment		14,005	_	2,335		-		16,340
Capital Assets, Net	\$	21,010	\$	2,335	\$	-	\$	18,675

Depreciation expense of \$2,335 was charged to community and economic development.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### **Note 5 - Interfund Transfers**

The following transfers occurred between funds of the City for the year ended June 30, 2024:

Transfer In	Transfer Out	Amount
Capital Improvement	Sewer	\$ 25,668
Capital Improvement	Water	97,247
Capital Improvement	General	294,800
Local Streets	General	10,000
Local Streets	Major Streets	11,000

Transfers are used to: 1) move revenues from the fund that is required to collect them to the fund that is required or allowed to expend them; 2) move receipts restricted to or allowed for debt service from the funds collecting the receipts to the debt service fund as debt service payments become due; and 3) use unrestricted revenues collected to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

#### **Note 6 - Long-term Obligations**

The City had the following long-term debt outstanding as of year-end:

#### **Governmental activities**

*General obligation capital improvement bonds* – From June 2016 of \$550,000. The bonds are due in annual installments ranging from \$50,000 to \$60,000. Interest is paid bi-annually on May 1 and November 1 of each year at a rate ranging from .75% to 2.8%. The final payment is due May 1, 2025. The outstanding balance at June 30, 2024 was \$60,000.

	В	eginning					I	Ending	Du	e Within
Governmental Activities	Balance		Balance Addition		Deletions		Balance		One Year	
2015 General Obligation Capital Improvement Bonds	\$	120,000	\$	-	\$	(60,000)	\$	60,000	\$	60,000
Compensated Absences		12,183		6,601		-		18,784		-
Total Governmental Activities	\$	132,183	\$	6,601	\$	(60,000)	\$	78,784	\$	60,000

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### **Business-type activities**

The City had the following debt issuances within its business-type activities at year-end:

2008 water system revenue bonds, bearing interest at 4.375%. Principal payments due annually in amounts from \$12,000 to \$70,000, maturing in 2047:	\$ 911,000
2006 sewer system revenue bonds, bearing interest at 4.375%. Principal payments due annually in amounts from \$6,000 to \$29,000, maturing in 2047:	429,000
2006 sewer system revenue bonds, bearing interest at 4.25%. Principal payments due annually in amounts from \$22,000 to \$98,000, maturing in 2047:	1,473,000
1995 water system revenue bonds, bearing interest at 4.50%. Principal payments due annually in amounts from \$20,000 to \$61,000, maturing in 2036:	595,000
Total	\$ 3,408,000

The following is a summary of the long-term debt activity for the year:

	Beginning				Ending	Due Within
Business-type Activities	Balance	Additions		Deletions	Balance	One Year
Direct Placement Debt						
2008 Water Revenue Bonds (91-08)	\$ 932,000	\$	-	\$ (21,000)	\$ 911,000	\$ 23,000
1995 Water Revenue Bonds (91-05)	631,000		-	(36,000)	595,000	38,000
2006 Sewer Revenue Bonds (92-07)	1,510,000		-	(37,000)	1,473,000	39,000
2006 Sewer Revenue Bonds (92-10)	440,000		-	(11,000)	429,000	11,000
Total Direct Placement Debt	3,513,000		-	(105,000)	3,408,000	111,000
Compensated Absences	6,382	-		(515)	5,867	-
Total Business-type Activities	\$ 3,519,382	\$		\$ (105,515)	\$ 3,413,867	\$ 111,000

Compensated absences in governmental activities are generally liquidated by the general fund whereas in business-type activities, they are liquidated by the water, sewer, and refuse funds.

Annual debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

	Governmental activities						<b>Business-type activities</b>					
Principal	P	rincipal	In	terest		Total	I	Principal		Interest		Total
2025	\$	60,000	\$	1,680	\$	63,300	\$	111,000	\$	144,313	\$	255,313
2026		-		-		-		116,000		139,392		255,392
2027		-		-		-		121,000		134,273		255,273
2028		-		-		-		127,000		128,916		255,916
2029		-		-		-		133,000		123,317		256,317
2030-2034		-		-		-		753,000		533,519		1,286,519
2035-2039		-		-		-		732,000		354,845		1,086,845
2040-2044		-		-		-		752,000		204,461		956,461
2045-2048		-		-		-		563,000		39,098		602,098
Totals:	\$	60,000	\$	1,680	\$	63,300	\$	3,408,000	\$	1,802,134	\$	5,210,134

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### Plan Description

The employer's defined benefit pension plan provides certain retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The employer participates in the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) of Michigan. MERS is an agent multiple-employer, statewide public employee pension plan established by the Michigan Legislature under Public Act 135 of 1945 and administered by a nine-member Retirement Board. MERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. This report may be obtained accessing the MERS website at <u>www.mersofmich.com</u>.

Retirement benefits for employees are calculated as follows:

				Unreduced	Reduced	
		Final Average	Normal	Benefit	Benefit	
	Benefit	Compensation	Retirement	(Age/Years of	(Age/Years of	Vesting
Division	Multiplier	(Years)	Age	Service)	Service)	(Years)
General	1.30%	5	60	-	50/25 or 55/15	10

#### Employees Covered by Benefit Terms

At the December 31, 2023 valuation date, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive Plan Members or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	6
Inactive Plan Members Entitled To But Not Yet Receiving Benefits	2
Active Plan Members	5
Total Employees Covered By MERS	13

#### **Contributions**

The employer is required to contribute amounts at least equal to the actuarially determined rate, as established by the MERS Retirement Board. The actuarially determined rate is the estimated amount necessary to finance the cost of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. The employer may establish contribution rates to be paid by its covered employees.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the City had the following contribution amounts:

	Employee	Employer
Division	Contributions	Contributions
General	0.00%	10.21%

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability reported at June 30, 2024 was determined using a measure of the total pension liability and the pension net position as of December 31, 2023. The December 31, 2023 total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation performed as of December 31, 2023.

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability in the December 31, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increases	3.00% in the long-term
Investment Rate of Return	6.93%, net of investment and administrative expense including inflation

Although no specific price inflation assumptions are needed for the valuation, the 2.50% long-term wage inflation assumption would be consistent with a price inflation of 3%-4%.

Mortality rates used were based on a version of Pub-2010 and fully generational MP-2019.

The actuarial assumptions used in valuation were based on the results of the most recent actuarial experience study of 2014-2018.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a model method in which the best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment and administrative expenses and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

		Target Allocation	Long-term Expected
	Target	Gross Rate of	Gross Rate of
Asset Class	Allocation	Return	Return
Global equity	60.00%	6.93%	4.15%
Global fixed income	20.00%	4.44%	0.89%
Private investments	20.00%	9.44%	1.89%
Totals	100.00%		6.93%

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability in the current year and prior year was 7.18%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that employer and employee contributions will be made at the rates agreed upon for employees and the actuarially determined rates for employers. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to pay all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Changes in the net pension liability during the measurement year were as follows:

	Increase (Decrease)						
	Tot	al Pension	F	lan Net	Ne	t Pension	
	Ι	Liability	]	Position	Ι	Liability	
Balance at December 31, 2022		668,920	\$	465,989	\$	202,931	
Changes for the Year:							
Service Cost		14,555		-		14,555	
Interest on Total Pension Liability		47,734		-		47,734	
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience		18,992		-		18,992	
Changes of Assumptions		5,888		-		5,888	
Employer Contributions		-		33,799		(33,799)	
Net Investment Income		-		51,455		(51,455)	
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds		(35,582)		(35,582)		-	
Administrative Expenses		-		(1,091)		1,091	
Net Changes		51,587		48,581		3,006	
Balance at December 31, 2023	\$	720,507	\$	514,570	\$	205,937	
			А	llocated to:			
	Governmental Activities \$					156,600	
		Busi	ness-ty	pe Activities		49,337	
				Total	\$	205,937	

#### Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the City, calculated using the discount rate of 7.18%, as well as what the City's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.18%) or one percentage point higher (8.18%) than the current rate.

	Current						
	1% Decrease (6.18%)			count Rate 7.18%)	1% Increase (8.18%)		
	(0.1070)		(7.1070)			0.10/0)	
Net Pension Liability of the City	\$	298,587	\$	205,937	\$	128,281	

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

Note: The current discount rate shown for GASB 68 purposes is higher than the MERS assumed rate of return. This is because for GASB purposes, the discount rate must be gross of administrative expenses, whereas for funding purposes, it is net of administrative expenses.

#### Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

For the year ended June 30, 2024 the City recognized pension expense of \$55,666.

The City reported deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Source		esources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Net Differences Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	\$	25,234	\$	-
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience		21,718		948
Changes of Assumptions		10,875		-
Employer Contributions to the Plan Subsequent to the Measurement Date*		13,232		-
Totals	\$	71,059	\$	948
Allocated to:				
Governmental Activities	\$	54,035	\$	721
Business-type Activities	_	17,024	_	227
Total	\$	71,059	\$	948

\*The amount reported as deferred outflows of resources resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction in the net pension liability for the year ending June 30, 2025.

Amounts reported as deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Years Ending		
June 30,	A	mount
2025	\$	24,165
2026		14,779
2027		21,490
2028		(3,555)

#### Assumption and Method Changes in 2023

Effective February 17, 2022, the MERS Retirement Board adopted a dedicated gains policy that automatically lowers the assumed rate of investment return by using excess asset gains to mitigate large increases in required contributions to the Plan. Full details of this dedicated gains policy are

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

available in the Actuarial Policy found on the MERS website. Some goals of the dedicated gains policy are to:

- Provide a systematic approach to lower the assumed rate of investment return between experience studies; and
- Use excess gains to cover both the increase in normal cost and any increase in UAL payment the first contribution year after application (i.e., minimize the first-year impact (i.e., increase) in employer contributions).

The dedicated gains policy was implemented with the December 31, 2021 annual actuarial valuation and was reflected in the computed employer contribution amounts beginning in fiscal year 2023.

Investment performance measured for the one-year period ending December 31, 2023 resulted in current year excess gains for use in lowering the assumed rate of investment return. As a result, the assumed rate of investment return was lowered from 7.00% to 6.93%. The December 31, 2023 valuation liabilities were developed using this new, lower assumption. Additionally, as a result of recognizing excess market gains, the valuation assets used to fund these liabilities are 1.4% higher than if there were no dedicated gains policy. The combined impact of these changes will minimize the first-year impact on employer contributions and may result in an increase or a decrease in employer contributions.

There were no other assumption or method changes in 2023.

#### Note 8 - Risk Management

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors and omissions, and employee injuries (workers' compensation). The risks of loss arising from general liability, property and casualty, and workers' compensation are managed through purchased commercial insurance.

The City continues to carry commercial insurance for all other risk of loss, including employee health and accident insurance. Settled claims relating to the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. There was no reduction in coverage obtained through commercial insurance during the past year.

#### Note 9 - Tax Abatement Disclosure

#### Industrial Facilities Exemption (IFT)

The City has entered into property tax abatement agreements with local businesses under the Plant Rehabilitation and Industrial Development Districts Act, (known as the Industrial Facilities Exemption) PA 198 of 1974, as amended. The IFT on a new plant and non-industrial property,

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

such as some high-tech personal property, is computed at 50% of the property tax bill for new property. For rehabilitation properties, the taxable values can be frozen. There are no provisions to recapture taxes; however, the abatement may be eliminated if taxes are not paid timely.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the City's property tax revenue for general operations was reduced by \$8,520.

#### Note 10 - Contingencies

The City participates in a number of state and federally assisted programs. These programs are subject to program compliance audits. Accordingly, the City's compliance with applicable grant requirements will be established at some future date. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by granting agencies cannot be determined at this time although the City expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

As the case with other entities, the City faces exposure from potential claims and legal proceedings involving environmental matters. No such claims or proceeds have been asserted as of year-end.

#### Note 11 - Subsequent Events

The City has evaluated subsequent events through December 30, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and notes the following:

On May 14, 2024, the City approved the issuance of general obligation bonds of up to \$950,000 to support the MELS (Michigan / East / Lynn / Strong Street Watermain and Street Renovation / Reconstruction) Project. This project aims to improve water infrastructure and comply with the State of Michigan's updated Lead and Copper Rules.

On June 11, 2024, the City awarded a construction contract for the MELS Project to Mead Brothers Excavating. The contract, totaling \$4,097,533, includes the replacement of water mains and service lines, extending from the main to the curb stop and, where necessary, into residences. Additional improvements include new curb and gutter installations, street milling and paving, edge drains, and sidewalks throughout the project area.

On August 13, 2024, the City adopted Ordinance 2024-03 authorizing the issuance of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) revenue bonds totaling \$1,611,000. These bonds, which have a 40-year repayment period at an interest rate not exceeding 2.375%, will finance water system improvements as part of the MELS Project. Repayments will be funded through monthly water utility revenues.

The total project cost of \$4,765,700 is supported by multiple funding sources, including \$950,000 in general obligation bonds, \$1,611,000 in USDA revenue bonds, a \$1,750,000 Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) grant, a \$250,000 Michigan Department of

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

Transportation (MDOT) grant, and a \$257,200 match from the City. The project reflects the City's commitment to modernizing its infrastructure and ensuring compliance with state regulations.

#### Note 12 - Change Within the Financial Reporting Entity

The financial statements classify individual governmental and enterprise funds as major funds when they meet the following criteria, in accordance with GASB 34:

- 1. Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses are at least 10% of the corresponding total for all governmental or enterprise funds, as applicable; and
- 2. The same element is at least 5% of the total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

Additionally, the City may designate funds as major if management believes the fund is of significant importance to financial statement users.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the major and local streets funds now meet these criteria and are presented as major funds in the financial statements. The major and local street funds were the only nonmajor funds reported in the June 30, 2023 financial statements. Accordingly, combining statements and schedules aren't reported as of or for the year ended June 30, 2024. The reclassification had no impact on the total fund balance or net position of the City's governmental activities or the overall financial statements. The following schedule summarizes the change:

Governmental Fund						s			
	Ν	Nonmajor							
Description	St	Loc	al Streets	Governmental					
6/30/23, as previously reported	\$	-	\$	-	\$	246,721			
Change from nonmajor to major fund	182,529		64,192		(246,721				
6/30/23, as adjusted	\$	182,529	\$	64,192	\$	-			

**Required Supplementary Information** 

#### City of Reading Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance-Budget and Actual General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

		Budgete	d Amo	ounts				Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
		Original		Final		Actual		Final to Actual
Revenues	¢	212 000	<i>•</i>		٠	2 (2 17)	<i>•</i>	a == (
Taxes	\$	313,000	\$	359,704	\$	362,478	\$	2,774
Intergovernmental		248,618		306,053		305,751		(302)
Licenses and Permits		60,800		59,291		59,291		
Charges for Services		16,150		11,838		12,738		900
Fines and Forfeits				452		452		
Interest and Rents		6,300		8,668		9,812		1,144
Other Income		7,000		5,340		3,325		(2,015)
Total Revenues		651,868		751,346		753,847		2,501
Expenditures								
General Government								
General Government		32,504		34,868		32,888		1,980
City Manager		56,486		57,037		54,571		2,466
Elections		11,000		8,691		5,011		3,680
Audit Fees		8,200		8,650		8,650		
Legal Fees		13,500		9,050		8,485		565
Clerk / Treasurer		61,073		46,331		38,558		7,773
Assessor / Tax Bills		13,591		16,717		16,046		671
Building and Grounds		70,484		77,912		72,200		5,712
Cemeteries		36,447		46,863		33,526		13,337
Total General Government		303,285		306,119		269,935		36,184
Public Safety								
Police		206,048		208,673		182,449		26,224
Fire Protection		35,000		35,000		35,000		
Total Public Safety		241,048		243,673		217,449		26,224
Community and Economic Development		<u> </u>				<u> </u>	_	·
Planning / Zoning		50,606		33,005		29,331		3,674
Economic Development		31,146		31,646		29,289		2,357
Total Community and Economic Development		81,752		64,651		58,620		6,031
Parks and Recreation		9,000		21,000		17,425		3,575
Total Expenditures		635,085		635,443		563,429		72,014
Other Financing Uses		,		,				,_,
Transfers Out		168,000		306,000		304,800		1,200
Total Expenditures and Other		,		,				-,••
Financing Uses		803,085		941,443		868,229		73,214
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues		,		,,				,
Over Expenditures and Other Uses		(151,217)		(190,097)		(114,382)		75,715
Net Change in Fund Balance		(151,217)		(190,097)		(114,382)		75,715
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period		831,378		831,378		831,378		
Fund Balance at End of Period	\$	680,161	\$	641,281	\$	716,996	\$	75,715
······································				,		,	_	

#### City of Reading Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance-Budget and Actual Formerly Nonmajor Fund - Major Streets For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	_	Budgete	d Amo	ounts			Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	
		Original		Final		Actual		Final to Actual
Revenues								
Intergovernmental	\$	122,043	\$	122,043	\$	128,315	\$	6,272
Interest and Rents				400		347		(53)
Total Revenues		122,043		122,443		128,662		6,219
Expenditures								
Public Works		90,118		216,585		208,356		8,229
Total Expenditures		90,118		216,585		208,356		8,229
Other Financing Uses								
Transfers Out		11,000		11,000		11,000		
Total Expenditures and Other								
Financing Uses		101,118		227,585		219,356		8,229
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues							_	
Over Expenditures and Other Uses		20,925		(105,142)		(90,694)		14,448
Net Change in Fund Balance		20,925		(105,142)		(90,694)		14,448
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period		182,529		182,529		182,529		
Fund Balance at End of Period	\$	203,454	\$	77,387	\$	91,835	\$	14,448

#### City of Reading Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance-Budget and Actual Formerly Nonmajor Fund - Local Streets For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	_	Budgete	d Amo	ounts		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)		
		Original		Final	Actual	Final to Actual		
Revenues	_							
Intergovernmental	\$	36,971	\$	36,971	\$ 39,080	\$ 2,109		
Interest and Rents				140	120	(20)		
Total Revenues		36,971		37,111	 39,200	2,089		
Other Financing Sources								
Transfers In		21,000		21,000	21,000			
Total Revenues and Other								
Financing Sources		57,971		58,111	 60,200	 2,089		
Expenditures								
Public Works		50,047		89,268	85,106	4,162		
Total Expenditures		50,047		89,268	 85,106	4,162		
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and								
Other Sources Over Expenditures		7,924		(31,157)	(24,906)	6,251		
Net Change in Fund Balance		7,924		(31,157)	(24,906)	6,251		
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period		64,192		64,192	64,192			
Fund Balance at End of Period	\$	72,116	\$	33,035	\$ 39,286	\$ 6,251		

#### City of Reading Required Supplementary Information Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios Last Ten Calendar Years

		2023	2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017		2016		2015		2014	
Total Pension Liability																				
Service Cost	\$	14,555	\$	13,644	\$	11,778	\$	12,764	\$	9,701	\$	7,942	\$	9,021	\$	8,298	\$	5,309	\$	6,414
Interest on Total Pension Liability		47,734		46,088		42,090		37,945		36,759		35,557		33,994		33,057		27,814		25,635
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience		18,992		(1,895)		29,894		2,672		(2,138)		(12,510)		(6,239)		210		26,027		-
Changes of Assumptions **		5,888		-		25,834		22,728		12,667		-		-		-		13,845		-
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds		(35,582)		(35,590)		(21,703)		(20,449)		(17,006)		(16,693)		(16,693)		(16,693)		(5,175)		(5,005)
Other Changes		-		2		(1)		-		-				-		(1,001)				
Net Change in Pension Liability		51,587		22,249		87,892		55,660		39,983		14,296		20,083		23,871		67,820		27,044
Total Pension Liability - Beginning		668,920		646,671		558,779		503,119		463,136		448,840		428,757		404,887		337,067		310,023
Total Pension Liability - Ending (a)	\$	720,507	\$	668,920	\$	646,671	\$	558,779	\$	503,119	\$	463,136	\$	448,840	\$	428,758	\$	404,887	\$	337,067
Plan Fiduciary Net Position																				
Contributions - Employer	\$	33,799	s	20,085	\$	21,007	\$	18,435	\$	13,388	\$	13,297	\$	11,248	\$	7,739	\$	6,253	\$	6,182
Net Investment Income (Loss)	+	51,455	+	(55,707)	+	67,050	+	54,604	+	51,040	Ŧ	(15,580)	Ŧ	46,750	-	36,925	+	(5,069)	Ŧ	19.773
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds		(35,582)		(35,590)		(21,703)		(20,449)		(17,006)		(16,693)		(16,693)		(16,693)		(5,175)		(5,005)
Administrative Expenses		(1,091)		(982)		(771)		(851)		(880)		(768)		(740)		(728)		(732)		(728)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position		48,581		(72,194)		65,583		51,739		46,542		(19,744)		40,565		27,243		(4,723)		20,222
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning		465,989		538,183		472,600		420,861		374,319		394,063		353,498		326,255		330,978		310,756
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	\$	514,570	\$	465,989	\$	538,183	\$	472,600	\$	420,861	\$	374,319	\$	394,063	\$	353,498	\$	326,255	\$	330,978
	¢	205 027		202.021	¢	100,400	¢	06 170	¢	02.259		88,817	\$	54,777	¢	75.260	¢	70 (22		C 000
Net Pension Liability - Ending (a) - (b)	\$	205,937	\$	202,931	\$	108,488	\$	86,179	\$	82,258	\$	88,817	\$	54,777	\$	75,260	\$	78,632	3	6,089
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total Pension Liability		71.42%		69.66%		83.22%		84.58%		83.65%		80.82%		87.80%		82.45%		80.58%		98.19%
Covered Payroll	\$	251,811	\$	238,523	\$	232,772	\$	268,718	\$	214,154	\$	172,652	\$	196,533	\$	189,455	\$	121,496	\$	146,770
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll		81.78%		85.08%		46.61%		32.07%		38.41%		51.44%		27.87%		39.72%		64.72%		4.15%

#### Notes to Schedule:

\*\*The following were significant changes to economic and demographic assumptions:

2015 valuation - The investment rate of return assumption was reduced from 8.25% to 8.0%, the wage inflation assumption was reduced from 4.50% to 3.75%, inflation rates changed from 3.0-4.0% to 3.25%, and the mortality assumption was updated to be based on the RP-2014 tables.

2019 valuation - The investment rate of return assumption was reduced from 8.00% to 7.60%, the wage inflation assumption was reduced from 3.75% to 3.00%.

2020 valuation - Mortality rates were changed to the recently issued Pub-2010 mortality general rates as published by the Society of Actuaries along with a change to sex-distinct assumptions.

2021 valuation - The investment rate of return assumption was reduced from 7.60% to 7.25%.

2023 valuation - The investment rate of return assumption was reduced from 7.25% to 7.18%.

#### City of Reading Required Supplementary Information Schedule of Contributions Last Ten Fiscal Years

		2024		2023		2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017		2016		2015
Actuarially Determined Contribution Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contribution Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ \$	26,436 36,436 (10,000)	\$ \$	21,170 21,170	\$ \$	20,880 20,880	\$ \$	19,791 19,791 -	\$ \$	13,399 13,399 -	\$ \$	12,678 12,678	\$ \$	11,248 11,248	\$ \$	7,739 7,739	\$ \$	6,254 6,949 (695)	\$ \$	5,996 6,182 (186)
Covered Payroll	\$	258,927	\$	244,745	\$	255,252	\$	271,475	\$	214,154	\$	172,652	\$	196,533	\$	189,455	\$	121,496	\$	105,193
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll		14.07%		8.65%		8.18%		7.29%		6.26%		7.34%		5.72%		4.08%		5.72%		5.88%

Notes

#### Valuation Date

Actuarially determined contribution amounts are calculated as of December 31 each year, which is 18 months prior to the beginning of the fiscal year in which the contributions are required.

#### Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry-age Normal
Amortization Method	Level Percentage of Payroll, Open
Remaining Amortization Period	15 Years
Asset Valuation Method	5 Years; Smoothed
Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increases	3.00% in the Long-term
Investment Rate of Return	6.93%, Net of Investment Expense, including Inflation
Retirement Age	Experience-based tables of rates that are specific to the type of eligibility condition
Mortality	Pub-2010 and fully generational MP-2019

# GABRIDGE & CQ

#### 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

December 30, 2024

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council City of Reading, Michigan

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Reading, Michigan (the "City"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 30, 2024.

#### Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, as items 2024-001 through 2024-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### The City's Responses to Findings

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The City's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

#### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.

Best regards,

Gabridge a Company

Gabridge & Company, PLC Grand Rapids, MI

Schedule of Findings and Responses

#### 2024-001 - Preparation of Governmental Financial Statements (repeat finding)

- Finding Type: Material weakness in internal controls over financial reporting.
- Criteria: All governmental units in Michigan are required to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This is the responsibility of the management. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires internal controls over both: 1) recording, processing, and summarizing accounting data (i.e. maintaining internal accounting records), and 2) reporting government-wide and fund financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements (i.e. external financial reporting).
- Condition: The City has historically relied on the independent external auditors to assist in the preparation of the financial statements and footnotes as part of its external financial reporting process. Accordingly, the City's ability to prepare financial statements is based, in part, on its reliance on its external auditors.
- Cause: This condition is caused by the City's decision that it is more cost effective to outsource the preparation of its annual financial statements to the auditors than to incur the added time and expense of outsourcing to another accounting firm, or obtaining the necessary training to perform this task.
- Effect: The result of this condition is that the City lacks internal controls over preparation of the financial statements and notes, and instead relies, in part on its external auditors for assistance with this task.

#### View of Responsible

Officials: The City will continue to evaluate the cost vs. benefit of establishing internal controls over the preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP. In addition, the City will carefully review the draft financial statements and notes prior to approving them and accept responsibility for their content and presentation.

#### 2024-002 - Lack of Segregation of Duties (repeat finding)

- Finding Type: Material weakness in internal controls over financial reporting.
- Criteria: The City's internal control system over accounting functions should include segregation of duties between the general ledger function, the accounts payable and payroll function, and the bank reconciliation function within the business office.

## Schedule of Findings and Responses

Condition:	Currently one individual serves as the City Manager, City Treasurer, and City Clerk. As such, she is performing and/or has access to all of the accounting functions.
Cause:	The City has limited staff, therefore, procedures have not been designed to properly segregate duties.
Effect:	The risk of error in the financial statements and/or misappropriation of assets are increased due to lack of segregation of duties.
View of Responsible Officials:	The City will continue to monitor the status of job functions and segregate to the extent possible.

# GABRIDGE & CQ

December 30, 2024

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council City of Reading, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of City of Reading (the "City") for the year ended June 30, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated January 30, 2024. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

#### Significant Audit Matters

#### Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the City are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2024. We noted no transactions entered into by the City during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting 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 and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the City's financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the useful lives of depreciable capital assets is based on the length of time it is believed that those assets will provide some economic benefit in the future.
- Management's estimate of the accrued compensated absences is based on current hourly rates and policies regarding payment of sick and vacation banks.
- The assumptions used in the actuarial valuations of the pension are based on historical trends and industry standards.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

#### Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 30, 2024.

#### Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the City's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Other Audit Findings or Issues

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.

#### **Other Matters**

We applied certain limited procedures to management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and the pension schedules, which are 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.

#### Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the City Council and management of the City and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Labridge a Company

Gabridge & Company, PLC Grand Rapids, MI