HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA DECEMBER 31, 2016

ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Independent Auditor's Report	1 – 3
Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)	i - x
Statement of Net Position	4
Statement of Activities	5
Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds	6
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	7
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds	8
Reconciliation of the Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds – to the Statement of Activities	9
Statement of Net Position – Sewer Fund	10
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position – Sewer Fund	11
Statement of Cash Flows – Sewer Fund	12
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – General Fund	13
Notes to Financial Statements	14 – 33
Other Financial Information	34
Combining Balance Sheet – Non-Major Governmental Funds	35
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Non-Major Governmental Funds	36



Beaver Pittsburgh Peters Township

www.cottrillarbutina.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners Hopewell Township 1700 Clark Boulevard Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001-4298

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hopewell Township, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Our audit was limited because we did not audit the Policeman's Pension Trust Fund or the Non-Uniform Employee's Pension fund of Hopewell Township. The financial statements referred to above do not include the financial data of these Funds and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion on

them. In addition, management has not adopted GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. GASB Statement No. 68 requires that employers and non-employer contributing entities recognize a liability for defined benefit pension obligations (net pension liability) measured based on the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided through the pension plan to active and inactive employees that is attributed to those employees' past periods of service (total pension liability) less the amount of the pension plan's fiduciary net position. Because management has not adopted GASB Statement No. 68, any liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, revenues, expenditures, and footnotes related to the adoption of GASB Statement No. 68 for the Hopewell Township Single-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans are not reflected in these financial statements.

Opinions

In our opinion, except for the limitations discussed in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hopewell Township as of December 31, 2016 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.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages i through x and page 13 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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 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 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 Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Hopewell Township's basic financial statements. The combining and individual non-major fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual non-major fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves,

and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual non-major fund financial statements are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Cottrill, Arbutina and Assoc.

Beaver, PA 15009

August 14, 2017

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

Our discussion and analysis of Hopewell Township's financial performance provides an overview of the Township's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. Please read it in conjunction with the Township's financial statements, which begin on page 4.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Township's adjusted overall net position increased by \$1,615,001 (13.61%). The governmental net position increased by \$1,313,530 (17.08%) and the business-type net position increased by \$301,471 (7.23%).
- ➤ The General Fund (the primary operating fund), reflected on a current financial resource basis, reported an increase in fund balance of \$328,350 compared to a decrease of \$109,266 in 2015.
- ➤ The December 31, 2016 net outstanding debt of the Township was \$9,006,747. This represented a decrease of \$829,094 from the same date in 2015. The decrease was primarily the result of scheduled debt service payments.

USING THE ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (on pages 4 and 5) provide information about the activities of the Township as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Township's finances. Fund financial statements start on page 6. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Township's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the Township's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the Township acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

Reporting the Township as a Whole

Our analysis of Hopewell Township as a whole begins on page iii. One of the most important questions asked about the Township's finances is, "Is the Township as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the Township as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include *all* assets and liabilities using the *accrual basis of accounting*, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements on pages 4 and 5 report the Township's net position and changes in them. You can think of the Township's net position—the difference between assets and liabilities—as one way to measure the Township's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Township's net position is one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other nonfinancial factors, however, such

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

as changes in the Township's property tax base and the condition of the Township's roads, to assess the overall health of the Township. In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, we divide the Township into two kinds of activities:

- Governmental activities Most of the Township's basic services are reported here, including the police, fire, public works, and parks departments, and general administration. Property taxes, franchise fees, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.
- Business-type activities The Township charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of sewer services it provides.

Reporting the Township's Most Significant Funds

Our analysis of the Township's major funds begins on page viii. The fund financial statements begin on page 6 and provide detailed information about the most significant funds, not the Township as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law and by bond covenants. However, the Board of Commissioners may establish other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes (like a Sewer Capital Project or a General Capital Project Fund) or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money (like grants received from the PA Department of Transportation relating to liquid fuels). The Township's two kinds of funds—governmental and proprietary—use different accounting approaches.

- Governmental funds Most of the Township's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are unassigned, committed, assigned, or unspendable. These classifications of fund balance show the nature and extent of constraints placed on the Township's fund balances by law, creditors, the Board of Commissioners, and the Township's annually adopted budget. Unassigned fund balance is available for spending for any purpose. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Township's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Township's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds via reconciliations on pages 7 and 9.
 - Proprietary funds When the Township charges customers for the services it provides—whether to outside customers or to other units of the Township—these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. In fact, the Township's enterprise funds (a component of proprietary funds) are the same as the business-type activities we report in the government-wide statements but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for proprietary funds.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

The Township as Trustee

The Township is the trustee, or *fiduciary*, for its police pension plan and for its non-uniform pension plan. It is responsible for the assets of these pension plans that, because of trust arrangements, can be used only for plan beneficiaries. The Township's fiduciary activities for the Police Pension Fund and the Non-Uniform Employee Trust Fund are not included in the scope of this audit; therefore, these funds are not included in this report.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWNSHIP AS A WHOLE

The following table reflects the condensed Statement of Net Position compared to the prior year, both in a combined total as well as the net position and net expenses of governmental and business-type activities separately.

Table A-1
Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2016 and 2015
Net Position

	Government	al Activities	Business-Ty	pe Activities	Total		
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	
Current and other assets	\$ 5,376,897	\$ 4,024,760	\$ 1,456,439	\$ 1,028,738	\$ 6,833,336	\$ 5,053,498	
Capital assets	5,587,877	5,784,883	11,264,469	11,681,302	16,852,346	17,466,185	
Total assets	\$ 10,964,774	\$ 9,809,643	\$ 12,720,908	\$ 12,710,040	\$ 23,685,682	\$ 22,519,683	
Current and other liabilities	\$ 582,169	\$ 409,226	\$ 894,789	\$ 620,307	\$ 1,476,958	\$ 1,029,533	
Long-term liabilities	1,376,382	1,707,724	7,354,385	7,919,470	8,730,767	9,627,194	
Total liabilities	\$ 1,958,551	\$ 2,116,950	\$ 8,249,174	\$ 8,539,777	\$ 10,207,725	\$ 10,656,727	
Net position							
Net investment in							
capital assets	\$ 4,343,101	\$ 4,283,560	\$ 3,502,498	\$ 3,346,830	\$ 7,845,599	\$ 7,630,390	
Restricted for:							
Special revenue fund	418,240	207,581	0	0	418,240	207,581	
Unrestricted	4,244,882	3,201,552	969,236	823,433	5,214,118	4,024,985	
Total net position	\$ 9,006,223	\$ 7,692,693	\$ 4,471,734	\$ 4,170,263	\$ 13,477,957	\$ 11,862,956	
Total liabilities and							
net position	\$ 10,964,774	\$ 9,809,643	\$ 12,720,908	\$ 12,710,040	\$ 23,685,682	\$ 22,519,683	

At December 31, 2016, Hopewell Township's total assets were \$23,685,682. Of this amount, \$16,852,346 is accounted for by capital assets, which includes some items of infrastructure and construction in progress related to sewer projects. Total assets as of December 31, 2015 were \$22,519,683. The increase in total assets primarily represents increases in cash and cash equivalents earmarked for future capital projects.

As noted above, most of the Township's net position is invested in capital assets (buildings, land, infrastructure, and equipment). The remaining net position is comprised of restricted and unrestricted amounts. A restricted balance represents amounts generated for specific purpose

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

funds (State Liquid Fuels monies). A portion of the unrestricted balance includes amounts that have been earmarked by Township management for future capital projects.

The results of this year's operations as a whole are reported in the Statement of Activities on Page 5. All ordinary expenses are reported in the first column. Specific charges, grants, revenues, and subsidies that directly relate to specific expense categories are represented in the next three columns to determine the final amount of the Township's activities that are supported by other general revenues. The largest general revenues are the local taxes assessed to Township taxpayers.

Table A-2 takes the information from that Statement and rearranges it slightly so that you can see our total revenues and expenses compared to the prior year.

Table A-2
Fiscal Years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015
Changes in Net Position

	Governmental Activities			Business-type Activities			<u>Total</u>				
		<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>		<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>		2016		<u>2015</u>
REVENUES									· <u> </u>		
Program revenues:											
Charges for services	\$	943,232	\$ 246,059	\$	2,956,942	\$	2,846,356	\$	3,900,174	\$	3,092,415
Operating grants											
and contributions		724,770	611,212		39,372		43,129		764,142		654,341
Capital grants and contributions		0	0		0		0		0		0
General revenues:											
Property taxes		2,242,733	2,304,297		0		0		2,242,733		2,304,297
Other taxes		2,257,967	2,255,545		0		0		2,257,967		2,255,545
Other		283,436	 246,562		2,533		1,228		285,969		247,790
Total revenues	\$	6,452,138	\$ 5,663,675	\$	2,998,847	\$	2,890,713	\$	9,450,985	\$	8,554,388
EXPENSES											
General Government	\$	799,323	\$ 693,935	\$	0	\$	0	\$	799,323	\$	693,935
Public Safety		2,677,258	2,200,242		0		0		2,677,258		2,200,242
Public Works - Sanitation		22,933	20,734		0		0		22,933		20,734
Public Works - Highways		1,135,238	1,156,849		0		0		1,135,238		1,156,849
Culture-Recreation		330,766	343,434		0		0		330,766		343,434
Interest on Long-Term Debt		27,115	38,707		0		0		27,115		38,707
Unallocated Employee Benefits		276,347	610,994		0		0		276,347		610,994
Miscellaneous		9,929	5,893		0		0		9,929		5,893
Sewer System		0	 0		2,557,075		2,556,037		2,557,075		2,556,037
Total expenses	\$	5,278,909	\$ 5,070,788	\$	2,557,075	\$	2,556,037	\$	7,835,984	\$	7,626,825
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position											
Before Interfund Transfers	\$	1,173,229	\$ 592,887	\$	441,772	\$	334,676	\$	1,615,001	\$	927,563
Interfund Transfers		140,301	150,822		(140,301)	_	(150,822)		0		0
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	\$	1,313,530	\$ 743,709	\$	301,471	\$	183,854	\$	1,615,001	\$	927,563
Net Position-Beginning	_	7,692,693	6,948,984	_	4,170,263	_	3,986,409		11,862,956		10,935,393
Net Position-Ending	\$	9,006,223	\$ 7,692,693	\$	4,471,734	\$	4,170,263	\$	13,477,957	\$	11,862,956

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

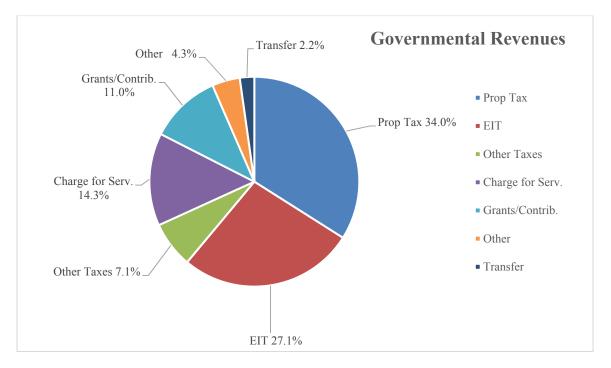
Revenue Sources:

Total government-wide revenues of \$9,450,987 were derived primarily from taxes and charges for sewer services. In 2016, Hopewell Township earned \$4,500,700 in taxes compared to \$4,559,842 in 2015. Tax revenues accounted for 48% and 53% of total revenues in 2016 and 2015, respectively. Of the taxes levied, the real estate tax and the earned income tax are the most significant. In 2016, real estate tax accounted for \$2,242,733 or 50% of the taxes levied for general government purposes compared to \$2,304,297 or 51% in 2015. The real estate tax is levied on the assessed value of real estate located in the Township. The assessed valuation of taxable property in the Township in 2016 was \$166,698,849 compared to \$166,405,399 in 2015.

In 2016, earned income tax accounted for \$1,787,527 or 40% of the taxes levied for general government purposes compared to \$1,767,015 or 39% in 2015. The earned income tax is a one-half percent (0.5%) tax levied on wages earned by residents of the Township. Local Services Tax (LST) revenue decreased approximately \$3,000 from 2015. In 2016, the annual amount is withheld at a rate of \$1 per week for 52 weeks, the same as that of the prior year.

Charges for Services in governmental activities are amounts received by the Township for services provided to others including Township zoning services, contracted police services, and recreation fees.

The following chart graphically depicts the government-wide sources of governmental activities revenue for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016:



MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

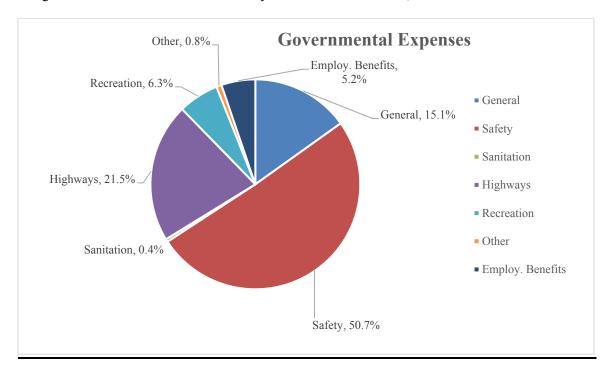
DECEMBER 31, 2016

Program Expenses:

Program expenses reflect the delivery of a wide range of services by the Township to its residents with the largest portion of the expenditures being for public safety (51%). Other significant areas of program expenses include public works-highways (22%), which represent the cost of road maintenance and repair, and general government (15%), representing the administrative costs and salary and benefits provided to Township administrative employees.

Total expenses for all governmental activity programs in 2016 were \$5,278,909, which represented an increase of \$208,121 over the \$5,070,788 recognized in 2015. The increase is due in large part to an increase in expenses regarding contracted services related to zoning.

The following chart graphically depicts the government-wide expenditures for various programs of governmental activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016:



Governmental Activities

The tables below present the expenses of both the Governmental Activities and the Business-type Activities of the Township.

Table A-3 shows the Township's major functions as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenues generated by the activities of the function). This table also shows the net costs offset by the other unrestricted grants, subsidies and contributions to show the remaining financial needs supported by local taxes and other miscellaneous revenues.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

Table A-3
Fiscal Years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015
Governmental Activities

Functions/Programs	Total Cost	of Services	Net Cost (Reve	enue) of Services		
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>		
General Government	\$ 799,323	\$ 693,935	\$ 288,284	\$ 693,876		
Public Safety	2,677,258	2,200,242	2,510,985	1,956,692		
Public Works - Sanitation	22,933	20,734	(491,572)	(174,150)		
Public Works - Highways	1,135,238	1,156,849	717,432	781,044		
Culture-Recreation	330,766	343,434	272,387	300,461		
Interest on Long-Term Debt	27,115	38,707	27,115	38,707		
Unallocated Employee Benefits	276,347	610,994	276,347	610,994		
Miscellaneous	9,929	5,893	9,929	5,893		
Total governmental activities	\$ 5,278,909	\$ 5,070,788	\$ 3,610,907	\$ 4,213,517		
Less:			0	0		
Unrestricted grants, subsidies			0	0		
Total needs from local taxes and						
other revenues			\$ 3,610,907	\$ 4,213,517		

Business-type Activities

Table A-4 reflects the activities of the Sewer System, the only Business-type activity of the Township.

Table A-4
Fiscal Years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015
Business-type Activities

Functions/Programs	<u>Total Cost</u> <u>2016</u>	of S	<u>2015</u>	N	et Cost (Revenue 2016	e) of	<u>Services</u> <u>2015</u>
Sewer System	\$ 2,557,075	\$	2,556,037	\$	(439,239)	\$	(333,448)
Less:							
Investment Earnings	0		0		(2,533)		(461)
Interfund Transfers	0		0		140,301		150,822
Miscellaneous Income	 0		0		0		(767)
Total Business-type Activities	\$ 2,557,075	\$	2,556,037	\$	(301,471)	\$	(183,854)

The cost of services for the sewer fund in 2016 increased by \$1,038 compared to 2015. The Township continues to concentrate on controlling costs where possible.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position for this proprietary fund (see page 11) will further detail the actual results of operations.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

THE TOWNSHIP FUNDS

At December 31, 2016, the Township's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$4,951,192, which is an increase of \$1,256,054 from 2015. Of the combined total fund balance, \$2,376,260 (48%) represents unassigned general fund balance, meaning that these funds are available to meet the current or future needs of the Township's general fund. Fund balance of \$41,638 is classified as non-spendable as it represents prepaid insurance expense. Fund balance of \$2,115,054 is committed by the Board of Supervisors to be used specifically for future capital projects, park projects, and sewer capital projects of the Township. Fund balance of \$418,240 is classified as restricted because it represents funds received through the State's liquid fuels fund to be used only to reimburse the Township for road-related expenditures.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

A schedule showing the Township's annual budget amounts compared with actual results is provided on Page 13. The Township's general fund actual revenues were \$230,984 (4.4%) more than budgeted amounts. Revenues were higher than expected due, in large part, to the Township receiving more revenue fees related to public zoning.

General fund expenditures and other financing sources (uses) were \$422,054 (7.8%) favorable to budget. Public safety's unfavorable actual-to-budget was mainly due to more than expected expenses related to code enforcement as well as higher than expected police salaries and equipment purchases. For Public Works-Highways, the variance is mostly due to lower than anticipated expenses for road improvements and materials and supplies.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At December 31, 2016, the Township had \$16,852,346 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, and furniture and equipment.

Table A-5
Capital assets - net of depreciation

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Land	\$ 1,621,037	\$ 1,621,038
Building and Improvements	1,137,539	1,239,646
Equipment and Vehicles	763,499	842,588
Infrastructure	13,308,901	13,741,543
Construction in Progress	 21,370	 21,370
Total	\$ 16,852,346	\$ 17,466,185

Debt

As of January 1, 2016, the Township had total outstanding bonds payable of \$9,467,604. During the year the Township made scheduled payments against bond principal of \$806,344 resulting in outstanding bonds payable of \$8,661,260 as of December 31, 2016.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

Other obligations include outstanding capital leases of \$208,003, accrued vacation pay and sick leave for specific employees of the Township of \$619,836 and accrued liabilities for other postemployment benefits of \$33,552.

More detailed information about our long-term liabilities is included in Notes 7 through 10 of the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

It is the Township's plan that future developments with housing plans, apartments, and senior living will offset the increases in costs that the Township may incur due to normal inflation. Management reserves the right to review possible future sewer rate and tax increases to offset future costs for the maintenance and improvement of roads and sewer plant operations.

The General Fund revenue budget for 2017 is \$5,457,523, which is only \$53,811 more than the revenue budget for 2016. This represents a 1% increase in budgeted revenues when compared to the previous year and is primarily due to the fact the Township anticipates a "leveling out" of earned income tax revenues from the previous year's budget. The General Fund expenditure budget for the year 2017 is \$6,543,194, which is \$814,794 higher than the budget in 2016, or a 14.2% increase in expenses compared to the previous year. This signals that the Board of Commissioners is putting a lot of emphasis in 2017 on road improvements and providing resident benefits to the taxpayers.

In addition to the General Fund, the Township has budgeted for 2017 \$3,465,050 in Sewer Fund revenues, which is \$572,800 more than the revenue budget for 2016. This represents a 20% increase when compared with the previous year. The Sewer Fund budgeted \$2,941,079 in expenditures in 2017, which is 0.8% increase when compared to previous year. This indicates no major itemized increases and continued fiscal awareness by the Board. In 2017, the Township has allocated \$50,140 out of its General Capital Reserve Fund for emergency projects, \$82,305 out of its Park Fund for 2017 park expansion and \$300,550 out of its State Fund for lighting and winter maintenance.

The Hopewell Township Board of Commissioners and the Management Team continued to promote Hopewell Township and pursue new development during 2017. The cost of doing business within Hopewell Township posed a challenge for the Board of Commissioners throughout 2016. The Board of Commissioners meticulously scrutinizes each budget line item, and every effort is made to minimize expenses, increase efficiency, and continue to maintain the same level of excellent public service. The Hopewell Township Board of Commissioners developed a Strategic Marketing Plan in 2015, which the Management Team continues to abide by. A joint effort between the Hopewell Township Board of Commissioners and the Management Team enables the current tax rate of 14 mills and the current residential sanitary sewer rate to be maintained. During 2017, the Hopewell Township Board of Commissioners and Management Team will continue to work together to take advantage of Hopewell Township's assets and maximize personnel productivity most efficiently. The goal of "working smart, but working economically efficient" will be the theme going forth.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

DECEMBER 31, 2016

The Administration goal for 2017 is to continue to pursue cost-saving measures in both the General Fund and the Sewer Fund in an effort to keep taxes uniform and avoid the need for a property tax increase. The Hopewell Township Marketing Strategic Plan emphasizes partnering with local, state, and federal agencies and private development groups to pursue development along the Interstate 376 corridor, solicit new businesses for the Hopewell Industrial Park, as well as developing projects and applying for grant funds to continue improvements to the "hidden treasure" that is Hopewell Community Park. During 2015-2016, Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Clairmont Manor development have been constructed. The Clairmont Manor development will contain 110 new single-family residential homes. The Kane at Gray's Landing project includes 222 luxury apartments and a clubhouse/pool located at the site of the former Kane Road Drive-In. Esmark Realty, LLC has received approval to build a Medical Building upon property within the Hopewell Industrial Park along State Route 151. PGT Trucking has submitted a Land Development Plan to construct a National Truck Training Center with parking lot, impervious practice/maneuvering areas for the Truck Driving School, truck parking, a supporting Hotel with parking lot, connecting roadways, utilities, and storm water management facilities upon 68 acres within the Hopewell Industrial Park. Hopewell Township submitted a DCNR Grant Application for construction of an Amphitheater and related amenities at Hopewell Community Park. The Hopewell Township Board of Commissioners and Management personnel are in the process of pursuing a Hotel development, a Senior Living facility, and additional luxury/upscale housing options.

The Board of Commissioners believes that Hopewell Township is at an important crossroads with regard to commercial development, residential housing expansion, and business growth. Continued efforts to pursue attainable and realistic development options will place Hopewell Township is in a great position to achieve the goals set forth in the Strategic Marketing Plan. If Hopewell Township's pursuit of new residential, business, and commercial development is successful, Hopewell Township will be able to provide economic security for its residents. As the tax base grows due to the addition of new residential, business, and commercial development, the tax rate and the sanitary sewer rate should remain stable. Consequently, new jobs will be created and new residents and employees will patronize local businesses during 2017 and in many years to come.

CONTACTING THE TOWNSHIP FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Our financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the Township's finances and to show the Board's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or wish to request additional financial information, please contact Norm Kraus, Township Manager at Hopewell Township, 1700 Clark Boulevard, Aliquippa, PA 15001-4298. Information can also be obtained from the following website: www.hopewelltwp.com.

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2016

	overnmental <u>Activities</u>	ısiness-type <u>Activities</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 4,753,940	\$ 795,187	\$ 5,549,127
Accounts Receivable	75,042	645,066	720,108
Taxes Receivable	504,800	0	504,800
Internal Balances	1,477	(1,477)	0
Other Current Assets	 41,638	 17,663	 59,301
Total Current Assets	\$ 5,376,897	\$ 1,456,439	\$ 6,833,336
Noncurrent Assets			
Land	\$ 1,530,899	\$ 90,138	\$ 1,621,037
Building & Building Improvements (net of depreciation)	654,140	483,399	1,137,539
Equipment and Vehicles (net of depreciation)	589,968	173,531	763,499
Infrastructure (net of depreciation)	2,812,870	10,496,031	13,308,901
Construction in Progress	 0	 21,370	 21,370
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$ 5,587,877	\$ 11,264,469	\$ 16,852,346
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 10,964,774	\$ 12,720,908	\$ 23,685,682
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$ 116,068	\$ 282,460	\$ 398,528
Accrued Salaries and Benefits	50,614	12,185	62,799
Payroll Deductions & Withholdings	14,450	323	14,773
Other Current Liabilities	43,053	28,437	71,490
Bonds Payable	289,128	552,300	841,428
Leases Payable	 68,856	 19,084	 87,940
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 582,169	\$ 894,789	\$ 1,476,958
Noncurrent Liabilities			
Bonds Payable	\$ 756,462	\$ 7,063,370	\$ 7,819,832
Add: Premium on Bonds	50,760	86,724	137,484
Leases Payable	79,570	40,493	120,063
Other Post Employment Benefit Liability	28,319	5,233	33,552
Accumulated Compensated Absences	 461,271	 158,565	 619,836
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	\$ 1,376,382	\$ 7,354,385	\$ 8,730,767
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 1,958,551	\$ 8,249,174	\$ 10,207,725
NET POSITION			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 4,343,101	\$ 3,502,498	\$ 7,845,599
Restricted for:			
Special Revenue Fund	418,240	0	418,240
Unrestricted	 4,244,882	 969,236	 5,214,118
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 9,006,223	\$ 4,471,734	\$ 13,477,957
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	\$ 10,964,774	\$ 12,720,908	\$ 23,685,682

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	Program Revenues				Ne	t (Expense) Revenue a Changes in Net Asset	
Functions/Programs	Charges for Expenses Services		Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
Primary Government:							
Governmental Activities:							
General Government	\$ 799,323	\$ 303,73	· ·	\$ 0	\$ (288,284)		\$ (288,284)
Public Safety	2,677,258	65,10		0	(2,510,985		(2,510,985)
Public Works - Sanitation	22,933	514,50		0	491,572		491,572
Public Works - Highways	1,135,238	1,50	· ·	0	(717,432)	,	(717,432)
Culture - Recreation	330,766	58,37		0	(272,387)		(272,387)
Interest	27,115		0 0	0	(27,115)	,	(27,115)
Unallocated Employee Benefits and Insurance	276,347		0 0	0	(276,347)	,	(276,347)
Miscellaneous	9,929		0 0	0	(9,929)	0	(9,929)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 5,278,909	\$ 943,23	2 \$ 724,770	\$ 0	\$ (3,610,907) \$ 0	\$ (3,610,907)
Business-type Activities:							
Sewer/Wastewater	\$ 2,557,075	\$ 2,956,94	2 \$ 39,372	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 439,239	\$ 439,239
Total Business-type Activities	\$ 2,557,075	\$ 2,956,94	<u>\$</u> 39,372	<u>\$</u> 0	<u>\$</u> 0	\$ 439,239	\$ 439,239
Total Primary Government	\$ 7,835,984	\$ 3,900,17	<u>\$ 764,142</u>	<u>\$</u> 0	\$ (3,610,907)	\$ 439,239	\$ (3,171,668)
	General Revenues: Taxes:						
	Property taxes, lev	iad for conoral nu	rnogog not		\$ 2,242,733	\$ 0	\$ 2,242,733
	Other taxes levied				2,257,967	0	2,242,733
	Licenses and perm	0 1 1	ses, net		162,625	0	162,625
	Fines and forfeits	iits			25,335	0	25,335
	Interest, rents and	rovalties			11,383	2,533	13,916
	Refunds of prior y	•	anuac)		83,979	2,333	83,979
	Interfund transfers		ilucs)		140,301	(140,301)	03,979
	Miscellaneous inco				140,301	(140,301)	114
	Total general rever	nues, special iten	ıs, extraordinary item	s and transfers	\$ 4,924,437	<u>\$ (137,768)</u>	\$ 4,786,669
	Change in Net Posi	ition			\$ 1,313,530	\$ 301,471	\$ 1,615,001
	Net Position—Begi	inning of Year			7,692,693	4,170,263	11,862,956
	Net Position—End	of Year			\$ 9,006,223	<u>\$ 4,471,734</u>	\$ 13,477,957

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

DECEMBER 31, 2016

ASSETS		<u>General</u>		Non-Major overnmental Funds	Go	Total overnmental <u>Funds</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	2,205,545	\$	2,548,395	\$	4,753,940
Accounts Receivable	Ψ	75,042	Ψ	2,340,373	Ψ	75,042
Taxes Receivable		504,800		0		504,800
Due from other funds		1,477		0		1,477
Prepaid Expenses		41,638		0		41,638
Total Assets	\$	2,828,502	\$	2,548,395	\$	5,376,897
Total 71550t5	Ψ	2,020,302	Ψ	2,540,575	Ψ	3,370,077
LIABILITIES						
<u>Liabilities</u>						
Accounts Payable	\$	100,967	\$	15,101	\$	116,068
Accrued Salaries & Benefits		50,614		0		50,614
Payroll Deductions & Withholdings		14,450		0		14,450
Other Current Liabilities		43,053		0		43,053
Total Liabilities	\$	209,084	\$	15,101	\$	224,185
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	\$	201,520	\$	0	\$	201,520
1 ,						
FUND BALANCES:						
Nonspendable - Prepaid Expenses	\$	41,638	\$	0	\$	41,638
Restricted - State Fund		0		418,240		418,240
Committed Fund Balance - Capital Projects		0		889,713		889,713
Committed Fund Balance - Park Projects		0		82,329		82,329
Committed Fund Balance - Sewer Projects		0		1,143,012		1,143,012
Unassigned Fund Balance		2,376,260		0		2,376,260
Total Fund Balances	\$	2,417,898	\$	2,533,294	\$	4,951,192
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS						
OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$	2,828,502	\$	2,548,395	\$	5,376,897

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2016

TOTAL FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	9	4,951,192
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of net position are different from amounts reported for <i>governmental funds</i> in the balance sheet because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources		
and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds.		
Add: Capital Assets		8,685,909
Deduct: Accumulated Depreciation		(3,098,032)
Because some taxes that have been levied are not collected until several months or later after the Township's year-end, they are not considered "available" revenues in the governmental funds. Therefore, in the governmental funds, these amounts are classified as deferred inflows of resources Add: Unavailable Revenue-Property Taxes		201,520
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period, and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the governmental funds. Long-term liabilities at year end consist of:		ŕ
Deduct: Bonds Payable, net of discount/premium	\$ (1,096,350)	
Deduct: Lease Purchase Obligations	(148,426)	
Deduct: Compensated absences	(461,271)	
Deduct: Other Post Employment Benefits	(28,319)	(1,734,366)

\$ 9,006,223

TOTAL NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

			Other		Totals
		N	on-Major	Go	vernmental
	General		<u>Funds</u>		<u>Funds</u>
REVENUES					
Taxes/Special Assessments	\$ 4,527,469	\$	0	\$	4,527,469
Licenses and Permits	162,625		0		162,625
Fines and Forfeits	25,335		0		25,335
Interest and Rents	5,737		5,646		11,383
Intergovernmental	323,445		401,325		724,770
Charges for Services	428,727		514,505		943,232
Miscellaneous Revenue	114		0		114
Contributions	 0		0		0
Total Revenues	\$ 5,473,452	\$	921,476	\$	6,394,928
EXPENDITURES					
General Government	\$ 784,839	\$	580	\$	785,419
Public Safety	2,770,089		0		2,770,089
Public Works - Sanitation	22,933		0		22,933
Public Works - Highways	747,080		193,192		940,272
Culture - Recreation	331,642		0		331,642
Debt Service:	22.452		0		22.452
Interest charged	33,473		0		33,473
Principal Retirement	264,127		0		264,127
Unallocated Employee Benefits and Insurance	275,964		0		275,964
Miscellaneous	 9,929	_	0		9,929
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,240,076	\$	193,772	\$	5,433,848
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	\$ 233,376	\$	727,704	\$	961,080
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Proceeds from Fixed Asset Disposal	\$ 0	\$	0	\$	0
Transfers In	146,520		200,000		346,520
Transfers Out	(206,219)		0		(206,219)
Proceeds of General Long Term Debt	70,694		0		70,694
Refunds of Prior Year Expenditures/(Receipts)	 83,979		0		83,979
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 94,974	\$	200,000	\$	294,974
Net change in fund balances	\$ 328,350	\$	927,704	\$	1,256,054
Fund Balances, beginning of year	 2,089,548	_	1,605,590		3,695,138
Fund Balances, end of year	\$ 2,417,898	\$	2,533,294	\$	4,951,192

RECONCILIATION OF THE COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NET CHANCE	IN FUND RALANCES	- COVERNMENTAL	FUNDS

\$ 1,256,054

Amounts reported for *governmental activities* in the statement of activities are different from amounts reported for *governmental funds* in the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount depreciation expense exceeds capital outlays in the period.

Capital Outlay	\$ 78,694	
Less: Depreciation Expense	 (275,700)	(197,006)

The governmental funds report the proceeds from the issuance of debt and the repayments of principal as revenues and expenditures. However, in the government-wide statements, these transactions increase or decrease long-term debt obligations, including capital leases.

Principal Payments on Bonds Payable	\$ 263,744	
Principal Payments on Capital Lease Obligations	57,139	
Less: Proceeds from Capital Lease Payable	 (70,694)	250,189

Interest expense includes the amortization of debt discounts in the governmentwide financial statements, whereas in the governmental fund financial statements, interest expense is reported as it is paid.

Change in Unamortized Debt Discount 6,358

In the statement of activities, certain operating expenses-compensated absences and other post employment benefits-are measured by the amounts earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial resources used (essentially, the amounts actually paid). During this year, the total amount of these liabilities decreased by this amount.

Change in Compensated Absence Obligation and OPEB 24,703

Because some real estate taxes will not be collected until several months or later after the Township's year-end, they are not considered "available" revenues in the governmental funds. Deferred tax revenues decreased by this amount during this year.

Change in Deferred Revenue (26,768)

CHANGE IN NET POSITON OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

\$ 1,313,530

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - SEWER FUND

DECEMBER 31, 2016

	<u>s</u>	ewer Fund
ASSETS		
Current Assets Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	795,187
Accounts Receivable	Ψ	645,066
Due from Other Funds		0
Prepaid Expense		17,663
Total Current Assets	\$	1,457,916
Noncurrent Assets		
Land	\$	90,138
Building & Building Improvements (net of depreciation)		483,399
Equipment and Vehicles (net of depreciation) Infrastructure (net of depreciation)		173,531 10,496,031
Construction in Progress		21,370
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$	11,264,469
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	12,722,385
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>v</u>	12,722,363
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$	282,460
Accrued Salaries and Benefits		12,185
Payroll Deductions & Withholdings		323
Due to Other Funds		1,477
Escrow Payable Bonds Payable		28,437 552,300
Lease Payable		19,084
Total Current Liabilities	\$	896,266
Noncurrent Liabilities		
Bonds Payable	\$	7,063,370
Add: Premium on Bonds	*	86,724
Lease Payable		40,493
Other Post Employment Benefit Liability		5,233
Accumulated Compensated Absences/Retirement Incentives		158,565
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	\$	7,354,385
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	8,250,651
NET POSITION		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$	3,502,498
Unrestricted		969,236
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$	4,471,734
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	\$	12,722,385

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION SEWER FUND

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	<u>Se</u>	wer Fund
Operating Revenues		
Charge for Services, Net	\$	2,956,942
Total Operating Revenues	\$	2,956,942
Operating Expenses		
Wastewater and Sewer Expense	\$	1,899,638
Depreciation Expense		416,832
Miscellaneous		0
Refund of Prior Year Revenue		0
Total Operating Expenses	\$	2,316,470
Operating Income	\$	640,472
Non-operating Revenues and (Expenses)		
Shared Revenue - State Sources	\$	39,372
Interest Income		2,533
Interest on Long-term Debt		(240,605)
Total Non-operating Revenues and (Expenses)	\$	(198,700)
Income Before Operating Transfers	\$	441,772
Operating Transfers (Out)		(140,301)
Change in Net Position	\$	301,471
Net Position beginning of year		4,170,263
Net Position end of year	\$	4,471,734

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - SEWER FUND

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Receipts from Customers	\$	2,890,116
Payments to Suppliers		(743,042)
Payments to Employees		(863,322)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	1,283,752
Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities:		
Transfers In (Out), net	\$	(140,301)
State Shared Revenue		39,372
Escrow Deposits Received, net of Disbursements		29
Net Cash Used in Noncapital Financing Activities	\$	(100,900)
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:		
Principal Paid on Bonds, Notes and Leases	\$	(561,638)
Interest Paid on Bonds and Notes		(251,468)
Interest and Miscellaneous Income		2,531
Net Cash Used in Capital and Related Financing Activities	\$	(810,575)
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	372,277
Cash and Cash Equivalents, beginning of year		422,910
Cash and Cash Equivalents, end of year	\$	795,187
Operating Income	\$	640,472
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income	 	,
to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation	\$	416,832
(Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable		(66,826)
(Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses		(4,665)
(Increase) Decrease in Due From Other Funds		15,671
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses		260,569
Increase (Decrease) in Due to Other Funds		399
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Payroll		4,184
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Compensated Absences		16,072
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Other Post-employment Benefits		1,044
Total Adjustments	\$	643,280
Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	1,283,752

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

REVENUES		<u>Budget</u>		<u>Actual</u>		Variance Positive Negative)
Taxes/Special Assessments	\$	4,557,957	Ф	4,527,469	\$	(30,488)
Licenses and Permits	Ф	146,300	Ф	162,625	Ф	16,325
Fines and Forfeits		29,700		25,335		(4,365)
Interest and Rents		5,050		5,737		687
Intergovernmental		297,914		323,445		25,531
Charges for Services		205,547		428,727		223,180
Miscellaneous Revenue		0		114		114
Total Revenues	\$		•		\$	230,984
Total Revenues	Ф	5,242,468	Ф	5,473,452	Ф	230,984
EXPENDITURES						
General Government	\$	722,249	\$	784,839	\$	(62,590)
Public Safety		2,489,441		2,770,089		(280,648)
Public Works - Sanitation		24,900		22,933		1,967
Public Works - Highways		1,289,650		747,080		542,570
Culture - Recreation		369,963		331,642		38,321
Interest		33,507		33,473		34
Debt Service		264,128		264,127		1
Unallocated Employee Benefits and Insurance		294,062		275,964		18,098
Miscellaneous		0		9,929		(9,929)
Total Expenditures	\$	5,487,900	\$	5,240,076	\$	247,824
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	\$	(245,432)	\$	233,376	\$	478,808
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Proceeds of General Fixed Asset Disposal	\$	6,000	\$	0	\$	(6,000)
Transfers In		144,844		146,520		1,676
Transfers Out		(240,500)		(206,219)		34,281
Proceeds of General Long Term Debt		0		70,694		70,694
Refunds of Prior Year Expenditures/(Receipts)		10,400		83,979		73,579
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$	(79,256)	\$	94,974	\$	174,230
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources						
Over/(Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	\$	(324,688)	\$	328,350	\$	653,038
Fund Balances - Unreserved - beginning of year			_	2,089,548		
Fund Balances - Unreserved - end of year			\$	2,417,898		

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Reporting Entity

The Township of Hopewell is a First Class Township that was established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Township operates under a Board of Commissioners and provides services under the Township code in areas such as, public safety, streets, sanitation, and recreation to over 13,000 residents within a 17 square-mile radius.

Hopewell Township's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statement and Interpretations). Governments are also required to follow the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued on or before November 30, 1989, (when applicable) that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. Although the Township has the option to apply FASB pronouncements issued after that date to its business-type activities, the Township has chosen not to do so. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the Township, are discussed below.

B. Basic Financial Statements – Government-Wide Statements

The Township's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the Township as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the Township's major funds). Both the government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business type. The Township's police, parks, public works, recreation, and general administrative services are classified as governmental activities. The Township's water and sewer are classified as business-type activities.

The basic financial statements do not include component units because the Township did not have any component units that met the criteria for being discretely presented nor blended.

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position, both the governmental and business-type activities columns (a) are presented on a consolidated basis by column, (b) and are reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The Township's net position is reported in three parts: invested in capital assets, net of related debt; restricted net position; and unrestricted net position. The Township first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The government-wide Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the Township's functions and business-type activities. The functions are also supported by general government revenues. The Statement of Activities reduces gross expenses (including depreciation) by related program revenues, operating, and capital grants. Program revenues must be directly associated with the function (general government, public safety, public works-sanitation and highway, recreation, etc.) or a business-type activity. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants while the capital grants column reports capital-specific grants.

The net costs (by function or business-type activity) are normally covered by general revenue (property taxes, intergovernmental revenues, interest income, etc.).

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

This government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the Township as an entity and the change in the Township's net position resulting from the current year's activities.

C. Basic Financial Statements – Fund Financial Statements

The financial transactions of the Township are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises assets, liabilities, deferred inflows and outflows of resources, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures/expenses.

The emphasis in fund financial statements is on the major funds in either the governmental or business-type activity categories. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Non-Major funds are summarized into a single column. GASB No. 34 sets forth minimum criteria (percentage of the assets, liabilities, revenues or expenditures/expenses of either fund category, or the governmental and enterprise combined) for the determination of major funds.

1. Governmental Funds

The focus of the governmental funds' measurement (in the fund statements) is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. The Township reports the following major and non-major governmental funds types:

- a. The General Fund is the Township's primary operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.
- b. The Parks Capital Projects Fund is a Capital Projects Fund that accounts for the accumulation of resources to be used for construction and improvement of the parks within the Township.
- c. The Sewer Capital Projects Fund is a Capital Projects Fund that accounts for the accumulation of resources to be used for construction and improvement of the Township's sewer system.
- d. The General Capital Projects Fund is a Capital Projects Fund that accounts for the accumulation of resources to be used for construction and improvements within areas of the Township other than the sewer system and the parks.
- e. The State Fund is a Special Revenue Fund that accounts for proceeds of state aid for liquid fuels that are legally restricted to expenditures for road related purposes.

The activities reported in these funds are reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

2. Proprietary Fund

The focus of proprietary fund measurement is upon determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows. The generally accepted accounting principles applicable are similar to those applicable to a business in the private sector. There

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

are two types of proprietary funds, enterprise and internal service. The Township has only one proprietary fund.

An enterprise fund is used to account for operations for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or services and the activity is financed with debt that is solely secured by a pledge of the net revenues from operations.

a. The Sewer Fund is an enterprise fund. The majority of the revenues in the Sewer Fund are the result of sewer fees charged to external users/customers. The activities reported in this fund are reported as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements.

3. Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary Funds are used to report assets held in trustee or agency capacity for others and, therefore, are not available to support the Township's programs. The reporting focus is on net position and changes in net position, which are reported using accounting principles similar to proprietary funds.

The Township's Financial Statements do not include the Police Pension Trust Fund or the Non-Uniform Employee's Pension Trust Fund as fiduciary funds because these funds were not within the scope of this audit. These are agency funds that are used to account for net position held in a purely custodial capacity for specific other persons or organizations or governments. The audit was limited because it did not include the Police Pension Trust Fund or the Non-Uniform Employee's Pension Trust Fund of Hopewell Township.

D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

1. Accrual

Both governmental and business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary fund financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Property taxes are reported in the period for which levied. Other non-exchange revenues, including intergovernmental revenues and grants, are reported when all eligibility requirements have been met. Fees and charges and other exchange revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

2. Modified Accrual

The governmental funds financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., both measurable and available. "Available" means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after year end. Property tax revenues are recognized in the period for which levied provided they are also available.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

Intergovernmental revenues and grants are recognized when all eligibility requirements are met and the revenues are available. Expenditures are recognized when the related liability is incurred. Exceptions to this general rule include principal and interest on general obligation long-term debt and employee sick leave, which are recognized when due and payable.

E. Budgetary Process

The Township passed an appropriated General Fund budget for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016 with revenues and other financing sources totaling \$5,403,712 and expenditures and other financing sources totaling \$5,728,400.

The Township is required by state law to adopt an annual budget. The budget is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting, which is consistent with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").

Although the codes contain somewhat different requirements for boroughs, townships, and cities, the following are common elements.

- 1) Projections of revenue estimates and proposed expenditures must be made either by the secretary, department heads, or committees of the governing body.
- 2) The minimum financial obligation of the municipality for the following year must be determined by the chief administrative officer of each municipal pension plan and submitted to the governing body by September 30.
- 3) A public meeting of the governing body is held at which the budget for all funds of the municipality is discussed and the proposed budget is prepared.
- 4) After the proposed budget is prepared, it must be advertised. The advertisement should include a statement of where the budget is available for public inspection for a period of at least 20 days, except for townships, which is at least 10 days.
- 5) The governing body must officially adopt a balanced budget before December 31 of the year proceeding the budget year.

All budget appropriations lapse at year-end unless the Township chooses to utilize encumbrance accounting. Encumbrances (e.g., purchase orders and contracts) outstanding at year end are reported as reservations of fund balances and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be re-appropriated and honored during the subsequent year. The Township has not chosen to utilize encumbrance accounting.

NOTE 2 – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS

A. Cash and Investments

The Township has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 2 – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS – CONTINUED

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 31, the Township's general policy is to report money market investments and short-term participating interest-earning investment contracts at amortized cost and to report nonparticipating interest-earning investment contracts using a cost-based measure. However, if the fair value of an investment is significantly affected by the impairment of the credit standing of the issuer or by other factors, it is reported at fair value. All other investments are reported at fair value unless a legal contract exists that guarantees a higher value. The term "short-term" refers to investments, which have a remaining term of one year or less at the time of purchase. The term "nonparticipating" means that the investment's value does not vary with market interest rate changes.

B. Inventories

The inventories of the Township were not material to the financial statements taken as a whole as of December 31, 2016. Therefore, they are not reported.

C. Receivables

All receivables are reported net of estimated uncollectible amounts.

D. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those assets not specifically related to activities reported in the proprietary funds. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements. Capital assets utilized by the enterprise funds are reported both in the business-type activities column of the government-wide statement of net position and in the respective funds.

Capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of; 1) \$10,000 or more for machinery and equipment, 2) \$15,000 or more for buildings and improvements, 3) \$15,000 or more for Infrastructure and land improvements, and 4) land at any amount are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements, and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. The Township reports all major general infrastructure assets constructed or acquired in fiscal years ending after January 1, 2004, or that received major renovations, restoration, or improvements during that period.

All reported capital assets except land and construction in progress are depreciated. The value of land includes all land under Township roads. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 2 – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS – CONTINUED

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
Description	Estimated Lives	Estimated Lives
Infrastructure	20-50 years	N/A
Buildings and Improvements	10-40 years	N/A
Furniture and Equipment	3-15 years	3-15 years

E. Property Tax Calendar and Revenues

The Township is responsible for levying and collecting property taxes. Taxes are levied on January 1 based on assessed values at the County as of November 15 of the preceding year. Property tax payments are collected during discount, face, and penalty periods (see Note 5 for detailed schedule). Taxes are considered delinquent after their due date (end of face period) and the Board of Commissioners authorizes liens on properties for non-payment as deemed necessary.

F. Compensated Absences

The Township accrues accumulated unpaid sick leave and associated employee-related costs when earned (or estimated to be earned) by the employee. The noncurrent portion (the amount estimated to be used in subsequent fiscal years) for governmental funds is reported only as a general long-term obligation in the government-wide statement of net position and represents a reconciling item between the fund and government-wide presentations.

G. Deferred Inflows

The Township reported deferred inflows at December 31, 2016, which consisted of unavailable revenue that was made up of \$201,520 of real estate taxes that did not meet the criteria for revenue recognition in the governmental funds financial statements.

H. Defining Operating Revenues and Expenses

The Township's proprietary funds distinguish between operating and non-operating revenues and expenses. Operating revenues and expenses of the Township's proprietary fund consist of charges for services (including tap fees and system development charges) and the costs of providing those services, including depreciation and excluding interest costs. All other revenues and expenses are reported as non-operating.

I. Government-wide and Proprietary Fund Net Position

Government-wide and proprietary fund net position is divided into three components:

Net investment in capital assets – consist of the historical cost of capital assets less
accumulated depreciation and less any debt that remains outstanding that was used to finance
those assets.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 2 – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS – CONTINUED

- Restricted net position consists of net position that is restricted by the Township's creditors (for example, through debt covenants), by the state enabling legislation (through restriction on shared revenues), by grantors (both federal and state), and by other contributors (including those that might donate to the Township).
- Unrestricted all other net positions are reported in this category.

J.. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

K. Subsequent Events

The Township evaluated its December 31, 2016 financial statements for subsequent events through the date of the Independent Auditor's Report, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The Township is not aware of additional subsequent events that would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

L. Governmental Fund Balances

- The Township reports two major types of fund balances, non-spendable and spendable. Non-spendable fund balances are balances that cannot be spent because they are not expected to be converted to cash or they are legally or contractually required to remain intact. Examples of this classification are prepaid items and inventories.
- In addition to the non-spendable fund balance, the Township uses a hierarchy of spendable fund balances based on a hierarchy of spending constraints.
- Restricted Fund balances that are constrained by external parties, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation.
- Committed Fund balances that contain self-imposed constraints of the government from its highest level of decision making authority, the Board of Commissioners, action to commit funds.
- Assigned Fund balances that contain self-imposed constraints of the government to be used for a particular purpose. As of December 31, 2016, the Board of Commissioners has not given authorization to other personnel to assign portions of the fund balance.
- Unassigned Fund balance of the general fund that is not constrained for any particular purpose.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 2 – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS – CONTINUED

M. Use of Restricted Resources

When an expense is incurred that can be paid using either restricted or unrestricted resources (net position), the Township's policy is to first apply the expense toward restricted resources and then toward unrestricted resources. In governmental funds, the Township's policy is to first apply the expenditures toward restricted fund balances and then to other, less-restrictive classifications-committed and then assigned fund balances before using unassigned fund balances.

N. Inter-fund Activity

On the balance sheet of fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term inter-fund loans are classified as "due to/from other funds." These amounts are offset against each other in the governmental and business-type activities columns of the statement of net position, except for amounts due to/from other funds, which are not presented in the statement of net position.

O. Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior year amounts presented in the footnotes and management's discussion and analysis in order to conform to the current year financial statement presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on net position or the change in net position.

NOTE 3 – CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS

Pennsylvania statutes provide for investment of governmental funds into certain authorized investment types, including U.S. Treasury bills, other short-term U.S. and Pennsylvania government obligations, and insured or collateralized time deposits and certificates of deposit. The statutes do not prescribe regulations related to demand deposits; however, they do allow the pooling of governmental funds for investment purposes.

The deposit and investment policy of the Township adheres to state statutes and prudent business practice. Deposits of the governmental funds, which are maintained in demand deposits or highly liquid money market funds, are captioned as "Cash and Cash Equivalents" in the combined balance sheet. Investments in certificate of deposits that exceed the three-month time frame are reported in the investment category using short and long-term classifications as appropriate. There were no deposit or investment transactions noted during the year that were in violation of either the state statutes or the policy of the Township.

A. Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the government's deposits may not be returned to it. Bank balances up to \$250,000 per bank are insured by the FDIC. Pennsylvania statutes require banks to pledge collateral for Township deposits in excess of \$250,000. The Township does not have a policy for custodial credit risk. As of December 31, 2016, \$5,002,085 of the Township's bank balance of \$5,244,692 was exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 3 – CASH /INVESTMENTS – CONTINUED

Uninsured and Uncollateralized	\$ 0
Uninsured and collateralized with securities held by financial institution	
in the Township's name	\$ 0
Uninsured and collateralized with securities held by financial institution	
but not in the Township's name	\$ 5,002,085

B. Other Deposits

As of December 31, 2016, the Township had other deposits in the Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT), which was established as a common law trust, organized under laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Shares of the fund are offered to certain Pennsylvania school districts, intermediate units, area vocational-technical schools, and municipalities. The purpose of the fund is to enable such governmental units to pool their available funds for investments. The fund has the characteristics of an open-end mutual fund and is not subject to credit risk classification. PLGIT is governed by an elected board of trustees who are responsible for the overall management of the fund. The trustees are elected from the several classes of local governments participating in the fund.

The fund is audited annually by independent auditors. The fund operates in a manner consistent with the SEC's Rule 2(a) 7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. The fund uses amortized cost to report net assets to compute share prices. The fund maintains a net asset value of \$1 per share. Accordingly, the fair values of the deposits in PLGIT are the same as the value of PLGIT shares.

As of December 31, 2016, the Township had the following other deposits:

<u>Type</u>		air Value
PA Local Government Investment Trust	\$	448,967
Total	\$	448,967

C. Credit Risk- Other Deposits

As of December 31, 2016, the Township's other deposits were rated as:

Type	Standard & Poor's
PA Local Government Investment Trust	AAA

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 3 – CASH /INVESTMENTS – CONTINUED

D. Reconciliation to Financial Statements

Uninsured, Collateralized Amount Above	\$ 5,002,085
Insured Amount	250,000
Petty Cash	550
Other Deposits Above	 448,967
Carrying Amount - Bank Balances	\$ 5,701,602
Less: Outstanding Items	 (152,475)
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,549,127

NOTE 4 – ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

The Accounts Receivable balances represents the following earned prior to December 31, 2016 and due to Hopewell Township at December 31, 2016:

	General Fund		Se	wer Fund
General	\$	66,849	\$	0
Unbilled Waste Collection Services		0		445,564
Billed Waste Collection Services		0		243,177
Other		8,193		0
Account Receivable Gross	\$	75,042	\$	688,741
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts		0		(43,675)
Accounts Receivable, Net	\$	75,042	\$	645,066

NOTE 5 – PROPERTY TAXES

Based upon assessed valuations provided by the County, the municipal tax collector bills and collects property taxes on behalf of the Township. The schedule for property taxes levied for 2016 is as follows:

March - tax notices mailed
March-April - 2% discount period
May-June - face payment period
July until Dec. 31st - 10% penalty period

January 1 of year following mailing date - lien date

The Township tax rate for all purposes in 2016 was 14 mills (\$14 per \$1,000 assessed valuation). Collections on the 2016 Tax Duplicate amounted to \$2,201,743.

As of December 31, 2016, property taxes receivable by the Township includes uncollected taxes assessed as of January 1, 2016 or earlier. It is estimated that a certain collectable percentage (as determined by the delinquent tax collector) of all assessed taxes (including delinquencies plus accrued interest and penalties) will be collected; therefore, property taxes receivable reflect this estimate. Delinquent property tax receivable is recognized as revenue in the government-wide

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 5 – PROPERTY TAXES – CONTINUED

financial statements. Only the portion of property taxes receivable that meets the revenue recognition criteria is reported as revenue in the fund financial statements.

NOTE 6 – CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2016 is as follows:

	Beginning			Ending
	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	Balance
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,530,899	\$ 0	$\frac{\$}{\$} \qquad \frac{0}{0}$	\$ 1,530,899
Total Capital assets, not being depreciated	\$ 1,530,899	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,530,899
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Building and Building Improvements	\$ 1,827,391	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,827,391
Machinery and Equipment	1,815,625	112,950	17,000	1,911,575
Infrastructure	3,416,044	0	0	3,416,044
Total capital assets, being depreciated	\$ 7,059,060	\$ 112,950	\$ 17,000	\$ 7,155,010
Governmental activities:				
Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Building and Building Improvements	\$ 1,090,831	\$ 82,420	\$ 0	\$ 1,173,251
Machinery and Equipment	1,191,880	146,727	17,000	1,321,607
Infrastructure	522,365	80,809	0	603,174
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 2,805,076	\$ 309,956	\$ 17,000	\$ 3,098,032
Capital assets, being depreciated, net	\$ 4,253,984	\$ (197,006)	\$ 0	\$ 4,056,978
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ 5,784,883	\$ (197,006)	\$ 0	\$ 5,587,877

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 6 - CAPITAL ASSETS - CONTINUED

	Beginning <u>Balance</u>			<u>Increases</u>		<u>Decreases</u>		Ending Balance
Business-type activities:								
Capital assets, not being depreciated:								
Land	\$	90,138	\$	0	\$	0	\$	90,138
Construction in Progress		21,370	_	0	Φ.	0		21,370
Total Capital assets, not being depreciated	\$	111,508	\$	0	\$	0	\$	111,508
Capital assets, being depreciated:								
Building and Building Improvements	\$	2,588,357	\$	0	\$	0	\$	2,588,357
Machinery and Equipment		825,982		0		34,256		791,726
Infrastructure		17,591,614		0		0		17,591,614
Total capital assets, being depreciated	\$	21,005,953	\$	0	\$	34,256	\$	20,971,697
Business-type activities:								
Accumulated Depreciation for:								
Building and Building Improvements	\$	2,084,575	\$	20,383	\$	0	\$	2,104,958
Machinery and Equipment		607,835		44,616		34,256		618,195
Infrastructure		6,743,750		351,833	_	0		7,095,583
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$	9,436,160	\$	416,832	\$	34,256	\$	9,818,736
Capital assets, being depreciated, net	\$	11,569,793	\$	(416,832)	\$	0	\$	11,152,961
Business-type activities capital assets, net	\$	11,681,301	\$	(416,832)	\$	0	\$	11,264,469

Depreciation expense was charged to functions of the Township as follows:

Governmental Activities:	
General Government	\$ 13,904
Public Safety	37,840
Highways and Streets	216,832
Parks and Recreation	 7,124
Total Depreciation expense, Governmental Activities:	\$ 275,700
Business-Type Activities:	
Sewer	\$ 416,832
Total Depreciation expense, Business-Type Activities:	\$ 416,832
Total Depreciation expense, Governmental and Business-Type Activities:	\$ 692,532

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 7 – LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term liability for the year ended December 31, 2016 is as follows:

	1	Beginning							Ending	Dι	ue Within
		Balance	<u>I</u>	Refunded	Α	dditions	R	eductions	Balance	<u>O</u>	ne Year
Governmental activities:											
Bonds Payable	\$	1,309,334	\$	0	\$	0	\$	(263,744)	\$ 1,045,590	\$	289,128
Premium (Discount) on Bonds		57,118		0		0	_	(6,358)	 50,760		0
Total Bonds Payable, net	\$	1,366,452	\$	0	\$	0	\$	(270,102)	\$ 1,096,350	\$	289,128
Obligations under capital leases		134,871		0	_	70,694		(57,139)	 148,426		68,856
Total governmental activity long- term liabilities	\$	1,501,323	\$	0	\$	70,694	<u>\$</u>	(327,241)	\$ 1,244,776	\$	357,984
Business-type activities:											
Bonds Payable	\$	8,158,270	\$	0	\$	0	\$	(542,600)	\$ 7,615,670	\$	552,300
Premium (Discount) on Bonds		97,587		0		0	_	(10,863)	 86,724		0
Total Bonds Payable, net	\$	8,255,857	\$	0	\$	0	\$	(553,463)	\$ 7,702,394	\$	552,300
Obligations under capital leases		78,661		0	_	0		(19,084)	59,577		19,084
Total business-type activity long-											
term liabilities	\$	8,334,518	\$	0	\$	0	\$	(572,547)	\$ 7,761,971	\$	571,384

NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE

A. General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2011

During 2011, the Township issued \$1,131,433, of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series A 2011, bearing interest rates from 2.3% to 2.5%. The bond proceeds were used to redeem the Township's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2004, to pay the costs of issuing the 2011 Bonds and to pay off the 2011 General Obligation Note. Total payments of \$38,900 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$34,127 for principal and \$4,773 for interest. Future estimated principal and interest payments for the 2011 Series A bonds are as follows:

Year	<u>P</u>	rincipal	<u>I</u> 1	nterest	<u>Total</u>		
2017	\$	34,128	\$	3,928	\$ 38,056		
2018		34,128		3,063	37,191		
2019		34,128		2,198	36,326		
2020		34,128		1,337	35,465		
2021		34,078		468	34,546		
	\$	170,590	\$	10,994	\$ 181,584		

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE – CONTINUED

B. General Obligation Bonds, Series B of 2011 (Proprietary Fund)

During 2011, the Township issued \$4,881,570, of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series B 2011 bearing interest rate of 3.35%. The bond proceeds were used to redeem the Township's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2006, and to pay the costs of issuing the 2011 bonds. Total payments of \$228,308 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$72,600 for principal and \$155,708 for interest. Future estimated principal and interest payments for the 2011 Series B bonds are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	Principal	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>		
2017	\$ 72,300	\$ 152,928	\$ 225,228		
2018	78,300	150,379	228,679		
2019	83,700	147,636	231,336		
2020	83,100	145,201	228,301		
2021	87,600	141,909	229,509		
2022-2026	2,494,596	533,408	3,028,004		
2027-2029	1,636,074	67,501	1,703,575		
	\$ 4,535,670	\$ 1,338,962	\$ 5,874,632		

C. General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2014

During 2014, the Township issued \$1,105,000, of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series A 2014, bearing interest rates from 2.0% to 4.0%. The bond proceeds were used to redeem the Township's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2009, to pay the costs of issuing the 2014 Bonds and to pay off the 2009 General Obligation Bonds. Total payments of \$258,700 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$230,000 for principal and \$28,700 for interest. Future estimated principal and interest payments for the 2014 Series A bonds are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>P</u>	rincipal	<u>I</u>	nterest	<u>Total</u>		
2017	\$	255,000	\$	21,425	\$	276,425	
2018		260,000		12,400		272,400	
2019		270,000		4,500		274,500	
2020		90,000		900		90,900	
	\$	875,000	\$	39,225	\$	914,225	

D. General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2014 (Proprietary Fund)

During 2014, the Township issued \$4,225,000, of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series B 2014, bearing interest rates from 0.14% to 4.0%. The bond proceeds were used to redeem the Township's General Obligation Note, Series of 2001, to pay the costs of issuing the 2014 Bonds and to pay off the 2001 General Obligation Note. Total payments of \$553,082 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$470,000 for principal and \$83,082 for interest. Future estimated principal and interest payments for the 2014 Series B bonds are as follows:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE – CONTINUED

<u>Year</u>	Principal	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>		
2017	\$ 480,000	\$ 68,806	\$ 548,806		
2018	500,000	54,206	554,206		
2019	510,000	40,456	550,456		
2020	525,000	28,856	553,856		
2021	530,000	18,306	548,306		
2022-2024	535,000	10,553	545,553		
	\$ 3,080,000	\$ 221,183	\$ 3,301,183		

NOTE 9 – LEASES PAYABLE

A. Governmental Activity Leases

During 2014, the Township entered into a \$110,340 capital lease agreement for the acquisition of a 2014 Caterpillar Wheel Loader for the Road Department. The lease includes an interest rate of 2.25% and requires five annual payments; payments include \$23,580 for the first four years and a final payment of \$23,581 beginning in 2015. Total payments of \$23,580 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$21,572 for principal and \$2,008 for interest. Future principal and interest payments are as follows:

Year	<u>P</u>	<u>rincipal</u>	<u>I</u> ı	<u>nterest</u>	Total		
2017	\$	22,057	\$	1,523	\$	23,580	
2018		22,553		1,027		23,580	
2019		23,061		520	_	23,581	
	\$	67,671	\$	3,070	\$	70,741	

During 2015, the Township entered into a \$69,743 capital lease agreement for the acquisition of a two police vehicles. The lease includes an interest rate of 2.25% and requires three annual payments of \$24,114. Total payments of \$24,114 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$22,392 for principal and \$1,722 for interest. Future principal and interest payments are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>P</u> 1	<u>rincipal</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>terest</u>	<u>Total</u>		
2017	\$	23,237	\$	877	\$	24,114	
	\$	23,237	\$	877	\$	24,114	

The Township entered into a \$33,419 capital lease agreement for the acquisition of a 2017 Ford Interceptor for the Police Department. The lease includes an interest rate of 3.30% and requires

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 9 – LEASES PAYABLE – CONTINUED

three annual payments of \$11,873 beginning in 2017. No payments were due in the year ended December 31, 2016. Future principal and interest payments are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>ear</u> <u>Principal</u>		;	<u>Interest</u>	Total		
2017	\$	11,873	\$	0	\$	11,873	
2018		10,422		1,451		11,873	
2019		11,124		749		11,873	
	\$	33,419	\$	2,200	\$	35,619	

During 2016, the Township entered into a \$37,275 capital lease agreement for the acquisition of a 2016 Ford Interceptor for the Police Department. The lease includes an interest rate of 3.00% and requires three annual payments of \$13,176 beginning in 2016. Total payments of \$13,176 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$13,176 for principal and \$0 for interest. Future principal and interest payments are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	P	rincipal	<u>]</u>	<u>Interest</u>	Total
2017		11,689		1,487	13,176
2018		12,410		766	 13,176
	\$	24,099	\$	2,253	\$ 26,352

B. Business-type Activity Leases

During 2014, the Township entered into a \$97,279 capital lease agreement for the acquisition of a 2014 Caterpillar Backhoe Loader for the Sewer Department. The lease includes an interest rate of 2.25% and requires five annual payments; payments include \$20,852 for the first four years and a final payment of \$21,327 beginning in 2015. Total payments of \$20,852 were made in the year ended December 31, 2016, including \$19,084 for principal and \$1,768 for interest. Future principal and interest payments are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	Principal	<u>Interest</u>	Total
2017	19,084	1,768	20,852
2018	19,952	900	20,852
2019	20,541	786	21,327
	\$ 59,577	\$ 3,454	\$ 63,031

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 10 – COMPENSATED ABSENCES / OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences:

Township employees accumulate unused sick leave based upon the applicable contract the employee falls under. Union clerical employees can accumulate up to a maximum of 120 days and are paid at a rate of \$50 per day at retirement. School guards can accumulate up to a maximum of 75 days and are paid out between \$12 and \$15 per day based upon the accumulated total. Police officers can accumulate up to a maximum of 120 days and are paid out a rate of \$100 per day at retirement, while public works employees can accumulate up to a maximum of 120 days and are paid out at a rate of \$50 per day at retirement. Earned vacation time is generally required to be used within the year of accrual, with few exceptions being made, and only then per Board approval. The liability for compensated absences is conservatively calculated based on the number of days accrued and the employee's current daily pay rate. As of December 31, 2016, the liability for accrued sick leave is \$619,836 including \$158,565 applicable to employees of the proprietary fund and \$461,271 applicable to other employees.

B. Other Post-Employment Benefits:

The Township provides termination benefits to all employees who qualify to retire. All such employees receive life insurance coverage of \$5,000 or \$15,000, depending on employee category, when they begin retirement. Upon retirement, monthly premiums for this life insurance coverage are paid by the Township for the remainder of the retiree's life. The Township has estimated its liability for future life insurance premium payments based on its current roster of full-time employees, their anticipated date of retirement at age 62, and the current premium rates in effect. An average life expectancy for all individuals was assumed to be 80 years. The present value of these future payments was calculated using a discount rate of 3%. In addition to the life insurance, police officers are entitled to a termination benefit of \$2,500 when they begin retirement. The Township has established a liability for these payments based on its current roster of eligible police officers. The present value of these future payments was calculated using a discount rate of 3%. The general fund liability for these future benefits to be paid to the retirees is estimated to be \$28,319 while the Sewer Fund liability is estimated to be \$5,233 at December 31, 2016.

NOTE 11 – PENSION PLANS

Hopewell Township's non-uniform pension plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan. The plan participates in the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS), which is an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system. The Auditor General for Pennsylvania is responsible for periodically auditing this fund. Financial statements are available from the Township for the year ended December 31, 2016.

The Hopewell Township Police Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan established on September 12, 1955 and amended and restated by ordinance no. 98-104 on July 28, 1998. The plan provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to the Township's regular full-time police officers and their beneficiaries and is governed by the Board of Township Commissioners who is responsible for the management of plan assets. The Board of Township

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 11 – PENSION PLANS – CONTINUED

Commissioners has delegated the authority to manage certain plan assets to Wachovia Securities. Financial information on this plan is available from the Township.

In accordance with Pennsylvania Act 205, which established a statutorily mandated actuarial funding standard called the "Minimum Municipal Obligation" (MMO), the Township made contributions to these plans of \$157,861 and \$224,192, respectively, in 2016. As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of these pension plans (fiduciary funds) are not included in the Township's financial statements and no liability is reflected for actuarially accrued pension liabilities that exceed the value of plan assets.

NOTE 12 – INTER-FUND TRANSACTIONS

A. Inter-fund Receivables/Payables

All inter-fund balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) inter-fund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, and (3) payments between funds are made.

<u>Due From</u>	<u>Due To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>					
			To reimburse the General Fund for payments					
Proprietary	General	\$ 1,477	made on behalf of the Proprietary Fund.					

B. Transfers

Transfers are indicative of funding for capital projects and re-allocations of special and other revenues. The following schedule briefly summarizes the Township's transfer activity:

Transfer From	Transfer To	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>							
General	Non-Major Fund	\$ 200,000	To transfer funds to the Capital Fund for future capital expenditures.							
Proprietary	General	\$ 146,520	To reimburse the General Fund for payments made on behalf of the Sewer Fund.							
General	Proprietary	\$ 6,219	To reimburse the Proprietary Fund for payments made on behalf of the General Fund.							

NOTE 13 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, errors and omissions, natural disasters, and loss or damage of assets. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims for these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage for the recent years. There were no significant reductions in the level of insurance coverage compared to the coverage in the prior year.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 13 – RISK MANAGEMENT – CONTINUED

A. General Liability Risk Management:

The Township participates as a member of the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (PIRMA) to address risks associated with comprehensive liability and property coverage. PIRMA differs from traditional insurance programs in the fact that PIRMA is owned by its members and serves only its members' interests. This governmental entity pool consists of approximately 600 members and provides claims handling for property and casualty claims, helps obtain stable costs for coverage specific to Pennsylvania governmental entities, and develops comprehensive, customized loss control services. The Township signed an intergovernmental contract where the funding requirement for each member of the pool is equal to the estimated cash outflow of the pool related to the Township on an annual basis.

There were no significant reductions in the level of insurance coverage compared to the coverage in the prior year.

Additional information regarding the pool can be found on PIRMA's website, www.pirma.org. PIRMA has an annual audit done in accordance with GASB pronouncements as well as Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements as applicable.

B. Dental and Vision Risk Management:

For its dental and vision insurance, the Township participates as a member of the Municipal Employers Insurance Trust (MEIT). MEIT was formed in 1968 for the purpose of providing certain benefits for eligible employers (any municipality, municipal authority, association of municipal employees of any city, town, or township of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) and those employers who may later become eligible. MEIT acts as an agent for the eligible employers by collecting the insurance premiums and remitting the premiums to the various insurance providers. The Township pays a monthly premium to MEIT for its medical, dental and vision insurance.

The trust agreement provides that MEIT will be self-sustaining through employer contributions sufficient to pay all insurance premiums from commercial insurance carriers and all administrative costs of MEIT.

The Township may withdraw from MEIT by giving 30 days' notice. The trust was established solely for the purpose of administering, holding, and maintaining insurance policies and other agreements related to the provision of benefits. Therefore, the Township has no right, title, or interest in the Trust Fund, and it has no right to the return of any monies paid into the Trust Fund.

C. Health Risk Management:

For its health insurance, the Township participates as a member of the Teamsters No. 261 Employers Welfare Fund (Welfare Fund). The Welfare Fund was formed in 1950 for the purposes of providing certain benefits for eligible employers (who are parties to collective bargaining

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

NOTE 13 – RISK MANAGEMENT – CONTINUED

agreements with any union) and is an exempt organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(9). The Welfare Fund acts as an agent for the eligible employers by collecting the insurance premiums and remitting the premiums to the various insurance providers. The Township pays premiums to the Welfare Fund for its medical insurance in accordance with collective bargaining agreements between the employers and Teamsters Local Union No. 261. The Insurance companies are paid to administer the plan.

The trust agreement provides that the Welfare Fund will be self-sustaining through employer and retiree contributions sufficient to pay all insurance premiums from commercial insurance carriers and all administrative costs of the Welfare Fund.

The Township may withdraw from the Welfare Fund by giving 30 days' notice. The trust was established solely for the purpose of administering, holding, and maintaining insurance policies and other agreements related to the provision of benefits. Therefore, the Township has no right, title or interest in the Trust Fund, and it has no right to the return of any monies paid into the Trust Fund.

D. Workers Compensation Risk Management:

For its workers' compensation insurance coverage, the Township participates in the Municipal Risk Management Workers' Compensation Pooled Trust, a public entity risk pool operated for the benefit of 202 cities, municipalities, townships, and municipal authorities. Trust underwriting and rate-setting policies are established after consultation with an independent actuary and certain approvals of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry as mandated by Act 44 of 1933 (Act 44). All Trust participants may be subject to a supplemental assessment/dividend based on the overall experience of the participants, pursuant to Act 44. Each participant of the Trust agrees to jointly and severally assume and discharge the liabilities arising under the Workers' Compensation Act and Occupational Disease Act of each and every participant in the Trust. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage for the past three years. The Trust purchases excess insurance coverage with statutory limits. The retention for this coverage is \$500,000 per occurrence. There were no significant changes in the levels of insurance coverage compared to the prior year. Political subdivisions joining the Trust must remain members for a minimum of four years. A member may withdraw from the Trust after that time by giving ninety days' notice, subject to approval by the Trust actuary under specified circumstances related to the continued fiscal stability of the pool. At the time of withdrawal, the participant is responsible for their share of assessments but has no claim on any assets of the Trust. Estimates of any additional assessments are unknown.

NOTE 14 – RELATED PARTIES

In the ordinary course of business, the Township has and expects to continue to have transactions with individuals who may be related to its employees or elected officials. In the opinion of management, such transactions were on substantially the same terms as those prevailing at the time of comparable transactions with other persons and did not involve more than a normal risk of collectability or present any other unfavorable features to the Township.

OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

DECEMBER 31, 2016

	Parks Capital Projects Fund			Sewer Capital Projects Fund		eneral Capital rojects Fund		State Fund	Total Non-Major Governmental Funds	
ASSETS Cash and Cash Equivalents Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	82,329 82,329	\$ \$	1,143,012 1,143,012	<u>\$</u>	889,713 889,713	<u>\$</u>	433,341 433,341	\$ \$	2,548,395 2,548,395
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY Liabilities:										
Accounts Payable	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	15,101	\$	15,101
Due to other funds	4	0	•	0	•	0	_	0	4	0
Total Liabilities	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	15,101	\$	15,101
Fund Balances:										
Committed	\$	82,329	\$	1,143,012	\$	889,713	\$	0	\$	2,115,054
Restricted		0		0		0		418,240		418,240
Total Fund Balance	\$	82,329	\$	1,143,012	\$	889,713	\$	418,240	\$	2,533,294
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	82,329	\$	1,143,012	\$	889,713	\$	433,341	\$	2,548,395

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENT FUNDS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	Parks Capital Projects Fund		Sewer Capital Projects Fund		General Capital Projects Fund		State State Fund		Total Non-Major Governmental Funds	
REVENUES							_			
Intergovernmental	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	401,325	\$	401,325
Charges for Service		0		514,505		0		0		514,505
Interest, Rents and Royalties		190		0		2,350		3,106		5,646
Total Revenues	\$	190	\$	514,505	\$	2,350	\$	404,431	\$	921,476
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>										
General Government	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	580	\$	580
Public Works-Highways		0		0		0		193,192		193,192
Total Expenditures	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	\$	193,772	\$	193,772
Excess (deficiency) of revenues										
over expenditures	\$	190	\$	514,505	\$	2,350	\$	210,659	\$	727,704
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)										
Transfers In	\$	0	\$	0	\$	200,000	\$	0	\$	200,000
Transfers (Out)		0		0		0		0		0
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$	0	\$	0	\$	200,000	\$	0	\$	200,000
Net change in Fund balances	\$	190	\$	514,505	\$	202,350	\$	210,659	\$	927,704
Fund Balances, beginning of year		82,139		628,507		687,363		207,581		1,605,590
Fund Balances, end of year	\$	82,329	\$	1,143,012	\$	889,713	\$	418,240	\$	2,533,294







Board of Commissioners Hopewell Township 1700 Clark Boulevard Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001-4298

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hopewell Township for the year ended December 31, 2016. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance) 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 December 16, 2014. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Hopewell Township 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 2016. We noted no transactions entered into by Hopewell Township 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 Township's financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the amount of taxes receivable, which is based on real
 estate taxes billed but not collected as of December 31, 2016 and historical levels
 of delinquent earned income taxes collected after year end. We evaluated the key
 factors and assumptions used to develop the estimated taxes receivable in
 determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a
 whole.
- Management's estimate of depreciation was based upon estimated useful lives

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements were:

The disclosure of cash and investments in Note 3 to the financial statements The disclosure of capital assets in Note 6 to the financial statements The disclosure of long-term debt in Note 7 to the financial statements

525 Third Street Beaver, Pennsylvania 15009 Phone: (724) 683-3400 Fax: (724) 683-3401

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 August 14, 2017.

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 Hopewell Township'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 Hopewell Township'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 (MD&A) and budgetary comparison information, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplement the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on individual non-major fund financial statements, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain

inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Commissioners and management of Hopewell Township and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Cottrill, Arbutina and Assoc.

Very truly yours,

Beaver, PA 15009

August 14, 2017







Board of Commissioners Hopewell Township 1700 Clark Boulevard Aliquippa, Pennsylvania 15001-4298

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hopewell Township as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered Hopewell Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and other deficiencies that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

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. We consider the following deficiencies in internal control to be material weaknesses:

2016-1 Segregation of Duties

The small size of the Township's office staff limits the extent of separation of duties. If the Township determines that it is not cost beneficial to hire additional staff, we want to make sure that the Township understands the risks that come with having a small staff. In addition, even if the Township determines that it is not cost beneficial to hire additional staff, we strongly recommend the Township evaluate the current segregation of duties and make the most use out of current employees to achieve the best segregation of duties with such a limited staff. The basic premise in an ideal accounting office is that no one employee should have access to both physical assets and the related accounting records or to all phases of a transaction.

Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements

One individual is responsible for, or has access to, opening the mail, collecting cash receipts, preparation of deposits and recording items in the accounting system.

Payroll

One person is responsible for entering all payroll information in the accounting system, reconciling payroll records, and making changes in the payroll system. There is no indication of review by management.

2016-2 Preparation of Financial Statements

The Township's annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Township relies on Cottrill, Arbutina & Associates, P.C., as its auditors, to prepare its annual financial statements in order to conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We realize that additional staffing costs would be needed to acquire the internal expertise to perform this function, which could significantly outweigh the benefits derived. We, as your auditors, can propose adjustments and assist the Township in assembling or drafting of the financial statements; however, we cannot establish or maintain the Township's controls over preventing or detecting material misstatements in the preparation of financial statements. We proposed and you approved 29 various adjusting journal entries to properly report on the modified accrual basis of accounting and 12 journal entries to convert Township books from modified accrual to full accrual in order to properly report in accordance with GASB 34. All of these journal entries were presented to the Township along with the letter of representation, in which you took responsibility and approved each of these entries.

2016-3 Service Organization Control Report

The American Institute of CPAs released a series of reporting options call SERVICE ORGANIZATION CONTROL REPORTS (SOC) that enable CPAs to provide assurance on internal controls over subject matter other than financial reporting while filling the marketplace's need to demonstrate reliability and mitigation of risk. We noted during the audit that the Township was unable to obtain a SOC report from the Muni-link. According to the Township, Muni-link does not currently have procedures performed that would generate a SOC report that could be issued to the Township. We recommend that the Township encourage Muni-link to obtain a SOC report for future periods.

SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

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. We consider the following deficiencies in internal control to be significant deficiencies:

2016-4 Parks and Recreation Revenues

The parks and recreation department hosts several events throughout the year. During some of the events, items are sold such as water, 50/50 tickets, and wrist bands. However, no reconciliation is performed between the items sold and the cash received. We recommend that Township set up procedures where items sold are tracked and reconciled with the cash received. Individuals involved in the reconciliation process should sign and date the reconciliation showing their preparation or review of the process. Once a reconciliation has been performed, the cash received should be reconciled with the bank statement to ensure all receipts are properly deposited into the Township's bank account.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, Township Commissioners, and others within the organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Cottrill, Arbutina and Assoc.

Beaver, PA 15009

August 14, 2017