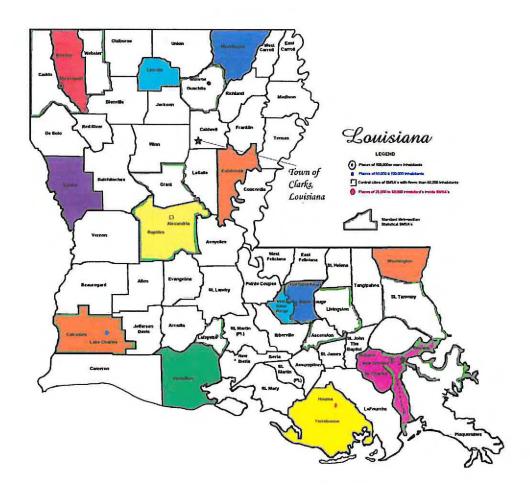
#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana

#### **Annual Financial Statements**

**JUNE 30, 2025** 



The Town of Clarks was incorporated under the Lawrason Act. The Town operates under the Mayor-Board of Alderman form of government. The Town provides the following significant services to its residents as provided by its charter: public safety (police and fire), highways and streets, sanitation, utilities (water and sewer services)/ and general administrative functions, including coordination of related services with Parish, State and Federal governing bodies.

#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana Table of Contents June 30, 2025

	Schedule No.	Page No.
Independent Accountant's Review Report		1-2
Management's Discussion and Analysis		3-9
Basic Financial Statements		
Statement of Net Position	Α	11
Statement of Activities	В	12
Balance Sheet, Governmental Funds	С	13
Reconciliation of The Government Funds Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Financial Statement of Net Position	D	14
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Funds	Е	15
Reconciliation of The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities	F	16
Statement of Net Position, Proprietary Funds	G	17
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position – Proprietary Funds	Н	18
Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Funds	I	19
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements		21-31
Required Supplemental Information		
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – General Fund	1	33
Supplemental Information		
Schedule of Compensation Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer		35
Collecting and Disbursing Schedule		36
Other Reports		
Management Letter Comments		38
Management's Summary of Prior Year Findings		39
Independent Accountant's Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures		40-43
Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire		44-47

John R. Vercher C.P.A. john@verchergroup.com

THE VERCHER GROUP

A Professional Corporation of

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

**MEMBERS** 

Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants

Association of Certified Fraud Examiners

Jonathan M. Vercher M.S., C.P.A. jonathan@verchergroup.com

David R. Vercher M.B.A., C.P.A., C.F.E. david@verchergroup.com

P.O. Box 1608
1737 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St. – Suite A
Jena, Louisiana 71342
Tel: (318) 992-6348

Fax: (318) 992-4374

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

The Honorable Jessica Morris, Mayor & Members of the Board Clarks, Louisiana

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the business-type activities of the Town of Clarks, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of the management of the Town of Clarks, Louisiana. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

#### Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with the Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

We are required to be independent of the Town of Clarks, Louisiana and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our review.

#### Accountant's Conclusion

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) and Budget to Actual Statement 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 the financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. The information is the representation of management. We have not audited or reviewed such required supplementary information, and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on it.

#### Supplemental Information

The supplementary information has not been subjected to the inquiry and analytical procedures applied in the review of the basic financial statements, but it has been compiled from information that is the representation of management. We have not audited or reviewed the supplementary information and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on such supplementary information.

#### Other Reporting Requirements

In accordance with the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide and the provisions of state law, we have issued a report dated September 30, 2025, on the results of our agreed-upon procedures on pages 40 through 43. Pages 44 through 47 present the Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire.

The Vercher Group

Jena, Louisiana September 30, 2025

#### **Town of Clarks**

PO Box 360 Clarks, Louisiana 71415 Tel: (318) 649-7218 Fax: (318) 649-7215

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

As management of the Town, we offer readers of the Town of Clarks' financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the Town's financial statements.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of the new reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments issued June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current year and the prior year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

#### Governmental Funds

- The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$915,579 (net position). This is a \$81,313 decrease from last year.
- The Town had total revenue of \$70,470, of which \$20,834 came from taxes. This is a \$6,840 increase from last year's revenues, mainly due to an increase in miscellaneous income in the amount of \$8,440.
- The Town had total expenditures of \$180,011, which is a \$22,166 decrease from last year, mainly due to a decrease in police expense in the amount of \$9,121 and a decrease in general government in the amount of \$14,935.

#### Enterprise Funds

- The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$628,199 (net position). This is a \$2,042 increase from last year.
- The Town had total revenue of \$346,668. This is an \$87,048 increase from last year, mainly due to an increase in miscellaneous revenue in the amount of \$64,028 and an increase in water sales in the amount of \$23,004.
- The Town had total expenses of \$279,304, including depreciation expense in the amount of \$57,640, which is a non-cash transaction. This is an \$9,057 increase from last year.

See independent accountant's review report.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements consist of two components: 1) fund financial statements, and 2) notes to the basic financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves. The Town is a special-purpose entity engaged only in governmental activities. Accordingly, only fund financial statements are presented as the basic financial statements.

#### FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

#### USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

The Town's annual report consists of financial statements that show information about the Town's funds, enterprise funds and governmental funds.

#### REPORTING THE TOWN'S MOST SIGNIFICANT FUNDS

The Town's financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds. The Town may establish other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using grants and other money. The Town's enterprise fund uses the following accounting approach:

All of the Town's services are reported in an enterprise fund. They are reported using the full accrual method of accounting in which all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of these funds are included on the balance sheet. The focus of proprietary funds is on income measurement, which, together with the maintenance of equity, is an important financial indication.

#### Comparative Statement of Net Position Governmental Funds

The following table represents a Comparative Statement of Net Position as of June 30, 2025:

		2024	2025	% Change
Current Assets	_			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$	67,678 \$	21,589	-68.1
Receivables (Net)	92.00	1,845	3,741	265.4
Total Current Assets		69,523	25,330	-63.6
Non-Current Assets				
Restricted Assets		2,967	2,973	0.2
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation		926,850	889,756	-4.0
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		929,817	892,729	-4.0
Total Assets		999,340	918,059	-8.2
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable		2,488	2,480	-0.4
Total Current Liabilities		2,488	2,480	-0.4
Total Liabilities		2,488	2,480	-0.4
Net Position				
Net Investment in Capital Assets		926,850	889,756	-4.0
Restricted		2,967	2,973	0.2
Unrestricted		67,075	22,850	-66.0
Total Net Position	\$	996,892 \$	915,579	-8.2

#### **Comparative Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds**

The following table reflects the Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances for the year ended June 30, 2025:

	202	24	2025	% Change
Revenues				
Fees & Charges	\$ 12	,409 \$	12,017	-3.2
Taxes	25	,299	20,834	-17.7
Fire Income	15	,039	16,278	8.3
Rental Fees	4	,787	7,050	47.3
Miscellaneous	5	,792	14,232	145.8
Total Revenues	63	,326	70,411	11.2
Expenditures				
General Government	116	,016	101,081	-12.9
Public Safety:				
Police Expense	28	3,764	19,643	-31.7
Fire Expense	30	),114	20,798	-31.0
Street		990	2,995	202.6
Capital Outlay	26	5,293	35,494	35.0
Total Expenditures	202	2,177	180,011	-11.0
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(138	3,851)	(109,600)	21.1
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Interest Income		304	59	-80.6
Transfers	3	1,962	65,322	104.4
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	32	2,266	65,381	102.7
Net Change in Fund Balance	(106	,585)	(44,219)	58.6
Fund Balances - Beginning	170	5,627	70,042	-60.4
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 70	0,042	25,823	-63.2

## **Comparative Statement of Net Position Enterprise Funds**

The following table represents a Comparative Statement of Net Position as of June 30, 2025:

	2024	2025	% Change
Assets			
Cash & Investments	\$ 55,879 \$	65,459	17.2
Restricted Cash	31,689	54,186	71.0
Receivables (Net)	22,390	23,217	3.7
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	553,560	548,250	-1.0
Total Assets	 663,518	691,112	4.2
Liabilities and Net Position			
Accounts, Salaries, & Other Payables	7,124	8,727	22.5
Customer Deposits	30,237	54,186	79.2
Total Liabilities	 37,361	62,913	68.4
Net Position			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	553,560	548,250	-1.0
Unrestricted	72,597	79,949	10.2
Total Net Position	\$ 626,157 \$	628,199	0.4

## Comparative Changes in Net Position Enterprise Funds

The following table reflects the Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position for the year ended June 30, 2025:

residential the year ended value so, 2020.		2024	2025	% Change
Operating Revenues				
Charges for Services	\$	244,077	\$ 267,081	9.5
Miscellaneous Revenue		14,683	78,711	436.1
Total Operating Revenues		258,760	345,792	33.7
Operating Expenses				
Cost of Sales & Services		212,607	221,664	4.3
Depreciation		57,640	57,640	0.0
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>		270,247	279,304	3.4
Operating Income (Loss)		(11,487)	66,488	678.9
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Interest Income		860	876	1.9
Transfers In (Out)	0.000	(31,962)	(65,322)	-104.4
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>		(31,102)	(64,446)	-107.2
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position		(42,589)	2,042	104.8
Beginning Net Position		668,746	626,157	-6.4
<b>Ending Net Position</b>	\$	626,157	\$628,199	0.4

#### CAPITAL ASSETS

#### Capital Assets - Governmental Fund

At June 30, 2025, the Town had \$889,756 invested in capital assets, including the following:

#### Capital Assets at Year-End

		2024	0 00	2025
Land*	\$	1,700	\$	1,700
Buildings		61,000		61,000
Vehicles & Equipment		516,277		551,771
Improvements		1,232,818		1,232,818
Total Fixed Assets	*****	1,811,795		1,847,289
Accumulated Depreciation		(884,945)		(957,533)
Total Fixed Assets (Net)	\$	926,850	\$_	889,756

<sup>\*</sup> Land in the amount of \$1,700 is not being depreciated.

#### Capital Assets - Enterprise Fund

At June 30, 2025, the Town had \$548,250 invested in capital assets, including the following:

#### Capital Assets at Year-End

	2024	2025
Land*	\$ 1,500 \$	1,500
Water System & Improvements	2,039,853	2,092,183
Sewer System & Improvements	1,484,988	1,484,988
Equipment	181,998	181,998
Total Fixed Assets	3,708,339	3,760,669
Accumulated Depreciation	(3,154,779)	(3,212,419)
Total Fixed Assets (Net)	\$ 553,560	548,250

<sup>\*</sup>Land in the amount of \$1,500 is not being depreciated.

#### CONTACTING THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL MANGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact Mayor Jessica Morris, phone number (318) 649-7218.

**Basic Financial Statements** 

#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana Statement of Net Position June 30, 2025

#### PRIMARY GOVERNMENT

	ERNMENTAL CTIVITIES		BUSINESS- TYPE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 21,589	\$	65,459	\$ 87,048
Receivables	3,741		23,217	26,958
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	 25,330		88,676	 114,006
Non-Current Assets				
Restricted Assets	2,973		54,186	57,159
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	889,756		548,250	1,438,006
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	 892,729	· -	602,436	 1,495,165
TOTAL ASSETS	 918,059	, =	691,112	1,609,171
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	2,480		8,269	10,749
Accrued Payroll/Payroll Taxes Payable	-0-		458	458
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	 2,480		8,727	 11,207
Non-Current Liabilities				
Customer Deposits	-0-		54,186	54,186
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	 -0-		54,186	 54,186
TOTAL LIABILITIES	 2,480		62,913	 65,393
NET POSITION				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	889,756		548,250	1,438,006
Restricted	2,973		-0-	2,973
Unrestricted	22,850		79,949	102,799
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 915,579	\$	628,199	\$ 1,543,778

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's review report.

#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

### NET REVENUES (EXPENSES) & CHANGES OF PRIMARY

		PROGRAM REVENUES			1000	GOVERN	MEN	T						
	-	Сн	IARGES FOR		CAPITAL GRANTS &		OPERATING GRANTS &	•	NET Expenses)	OVERNMENTAL		BUSINESS- TYPE		
	 EXPENSES	5	SERVICES	Co	NTRIBUTIONS	C	ONTRIBUTIONS		REVENUE	ACTIVITIES	A	CTIVITIES		TOTAL
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES							2						•	(50.450)
General Government	\$ (85,185)	\$	12,017	\$	-0-	\$	-0-	\$	(73,168)	\$ (73,168)			\$	(73,168)
Public Safety:			_				•		(10 (12)	(10.642)				(10 (42)
Police	(19,643)		-0-		-0-		-0-		(19,643)	(19,643)				(19,643)
Fire	(58,263)		-0-		-0-		-0-		(58,263)	(58,263)				(58,263)
Street	(68,246)		-0-		-0-		-0-		(68,246)	(68,246)			-	(68,246)
TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL									(010 000)	(010 000)				(210.220)
ACTIVITIES	(231,337)		12,017		-0-		-0-		(219,320)	(219,320)			-	(219,320)
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES														
Water & Sewer	(279,304)		267,081		-0-		-0-		(12,223)		S	(12,223)		(12,223)
TOTAL BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES	(279,304)	-	267,081	•	-0-	•	-0-	•	(12,223)			(12,223)	_	(12,223)
TOTAL BUSINESS-THE ACTIVITIES	(27),30-1)		207,001			•							-	
TOTAL PRIMARY GOVERNMENT	\$ (510,641)	s _	279,098	\$.	-0-	\$	-0-	\$	(231,543)				-	(231,543)
					GENERAL I	REV	ENUES							
					Taxes:									
					Ad Valo	rem	n Tax			5,938		<b>-</b> 0-		5,938
					Sales Ta	ax				3,097		-0-		3,097
					Franchi	se T	ax			11,799		-0-		11,799
					Miscellane	ous				51,851		79,587		131,438
					Transfers					65,322		(65,322)	-	-0-
					TOTAL GE	NER	AL REVENUES &	TI	RANSFERS	138,007		14,265	-	152,272
					CHANGE IN	NE	T POSITION			(81,313)		2,042		(79,271)
					NET POSIT	ION	-BEGINNING			996,892	\$	626,157	\$	1,623,049
					NET POSIT	ION	-ENDING			\$ 915,579	\$	628,199	\$_	1,543,778

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's review report.

#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana Balance Sheet, Governmental Funds June 30, 2025

		GENERAL FUND
ASSETS		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$	21,589
Restricted Cash		2,973
Receivables		3,741
TOTAL ASSETS		28,303
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable		2,480
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,480
FUND BALANCES		
Unassigned		22,850
Restricted		2,973
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u> </u>	25,823
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	\$	28,303

#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana Reconciliation of the Government Funds Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Financial Statement of Net Position June 30, 2025

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of	of Net Position are diff	erent because:	
Fund Balance, Total Governmental Funds (Statement C)		\$	25,823
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			889,756
Long-term liabilities including bonds payable are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	Long-Term Debt	-0-	-0-
Net Position of Governmental Activities (Statement A)		\$	915,579

# Town of Clarks, Louisiana Statement of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

		GENERAL FUND
REVENUES		
Fees & Charges	\$	12,017
Taxes:		
Ad Valorem Tax		5,938
Sales Tax		3,097
Franchise Tax		11,799
Fire Income		16,278
Rental Fees		7,050
Miscellaneous	***	14,232
TOTAL REVENUES		70,411
EXPENDITURES		
General Government		101,081
Public Safety:		
Police		19,643
Fire		20,798
Street		2,995
Capital Outlay	1- <u>21</u> 10-2	35,494
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		180,011
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER)		
EXPENDITURES		(109,600)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		
Transfers In/(Out)		65,322
Interest Income		59
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		65,381
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE		(44,219)
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING		70,042
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$	25,823

# Town of Clarks, Louisiana Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, & Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds To the Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because: (44,219)Net Change in Fund Balances, Total Governmental Funds, Statement E Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. Capital Outlay 35,494 Depreciation Expense (72,588)(37,094)The issuance of short-term and long-term debt (bonds, leases, etc.) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of issuance costs premiums, discounts, and similar items when is issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items. -0-Principal Paid Loan Proceeds -0--0-Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Changes in Net Position of Governmental Activities, Statement B (81,313)

#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana Statement of Net Position, Proprietary Funds June 30, 2025

BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES-ENTERPRIS	E FUND	)
(MAJOR ENTERPRISE FUND)		
		TERPRISE
		FUND
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$	65,459
Receivables		23,217
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		88,676
Non-Current Assets		
Restricted Assets		54,186
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)		548,250
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		602,436
TOTAL ASSETS		691,112
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Account Payable		8,269
Accrued Payroll		458
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		8,727
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Customer Deposits		54,186
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		54,186
TOTAL LIABILITIES		62,913
NET POSITION		
Net Investment in Capital Assets		548,250
Unrestricted		79,949
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$	628,199

## Town of Clarks, Louisiana Statement of Revenues, Expenses & Changes in Net Position Proprietary Fund June 30, 2025

	Enterprise Fund			
OPERATING REVENUES				
Charges for Services	\$	267,081		
Other Income		78,711		
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES		345,792		
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Cost of Sales & Services		221,664		
Depreciation		57,640		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		279,304		
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)		66,488		
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Interest Income		876		
Transfers In (Out)		(65,322)		
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		(64,446)		
CHANGE IN NET POSITION		2,042		
TOTAL NET POSITION - BEGINNING		626,157		
TOTAL NET POSITION - ENDING	\$	628,199		

#### Town of Clarks, Louisiana Statement of Cash Flows Proprietary Fund June 30, 2025

BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES-ENTERPRISE FUND		
(MAJOR ENTERPRISE FUND)		
	EN	TERPRISE
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	-	FUND
Receipts from Customers & Users	\$	237,873
Payments to Suppliers & Employees	Φ	(141,350)
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		96,523
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Transfers from (to) Other Funds		(65,322)
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(65,322)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest and Dividends Received		876
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	*****	876
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS		32,077
CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		87,568
CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR		119,645
RECONCILIATION TO BALANCE SHEET		
Cash and Cash Equivalents		65,459
Restricted Cash		54,186
TOTAL CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$	119,645
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating Income (Loss)	\$	66,488
Depreciation Expense		57,640
(Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable		(5,259)
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payables		1,622
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Payroll		(19)
Increase (Decrease) in Customer Deposits	Leave the same of	(23,949)
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS		30,035
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$	96,523

#### Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### (1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Town of Clarks was incorporated under the provisions of the Lawrason Act. The Town operates under the Mayor-Board of Alderman form of government. The Town provides the following significant services to its residents as provided by its charter: public safety (police and fire), highways and streets, utilities (water and sewer services) and general administrative functions, including coordination of related services with parish, state and federal governing bodies.

The accounting and reporting policies of the Town of Clarks conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:517 and to the guides set forth in the Louisiana Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide, and to the industry audit guide, Audits of State and Local Governmental Units.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

#### A. GOVERNMENT-WIDE & FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Changes in Net Position) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

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

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and proprietary funds. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

#### B. MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, & FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

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

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

The municipality reports the following major governmental funds:

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

The municipality reports the following major proprietary fund:

- Water Activities
- Sewer Activities

GASB Statement No. 65 establishes accounting and financial reporting standards that reclassify, as deferred outflows or deferred inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities and recognizes, as outflows of resources or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities.

As a general rule the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. Exceptions to this general rule are payments-in-lieu of taxes and other charges between the government's enterprise operations. Elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the various functions concerned.

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

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

#### C. EQUITY CLASSIFICATIONS

In the government-wide financial statements, equity is classified as Net Position and displayed in three components as applicable. The components are as follows:

<u>Net Investment in Capital Assets</u> - Capital assets including restricted capital assets, when applicable, net of accumulated depreciation.

<u>Restricted Net Position</u> - Net position with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

<u>Unrestricted Net Position</u> - All other net positions that does not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets".

When an expense is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available, management applies restricted resources first. The policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. The decision is typically made by management at the incurrence of the expense.

In the Fund Financial Statements, governmental fund equity is classified as a fund balance. The Town has implemented GASB Statement 54 "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions." This Statement provides more clearly defined fund balance categories to make the nature and extent of the constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

- a. Nonspendable fund balance amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) or are required to be maintained intact;
- b. Restricted fund balance amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;
- c. Committed fund balance amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest-level action to remove or change the constraint;

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

- d. Assigned fund balance amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;
- e. Unassigned fund balance amounts that are available for any purpose; positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

#### D. FIXED ASSETS & LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

For the year ended June 30, 2025, no interest costs were capitalized for construction of fixed assets. The Town of Clarks has a capitalization policy of \$1,500.

Depreciation of all exhaustible fixed assets is charged as an expense against its operations. Accumulated depreciation is reported on the proprietary fund balance sheet and governmental fund statement of activities. Depreciation has been provided over the estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

	Life in Years
Water/Sewer System	40
Equipment	5-10
Auto	6-7

#### E. CASH & INVESTMENTS

For purposes of the Statement of Net Position, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, saving accounts, and certificates of deposit of the Town. For the purpose of the proprietary fund Statement of Cash Flows, "Cash and Cash Equivalents" include all demand and savings accounts, and certificates of deposit under 90 days.

All cash and investments (CD's over 90 days) are reported at cost and are on deposit as follows at federally insured banks:

It is the Town's policy for deposits to be 100% secured by collateral at market or par, whichever is lower, less the amount of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance. The Town's deposits are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the Town at fiscal year-end. The categories are described as follows:

- Category 1 Insured or collateralized with securities held by the Town or by its agent in the Town's name.
- Category 2 Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the Town's name.
- Category 3 Uncollateralized.

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

At June 30, 2025, the Town of Clarks' bank balance was \$149,548. Amounts on deposit are secured by the following pledges:

Description	M	arket Value		
FDIC (Category 1)	\$	149,548		
Securities (Category 2)		-0-		
Total	\$	149,548		

Deposits were fully secured as of June 30, 2025.

#### Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the government will not be able to recover its deposits. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent.

These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the Entity that the fiscal agent bank has failed to pay deposit funds upon demand. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1224 states that securities held by a third party shall be deemed to be held in the Entity's name.

#### F. RECEIVABLES & PAYABLES

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

#### G. INVENTORIES

Immaterial amounts of inventory are maintained for general fund and enterprise fund operations and, accordingly, these supplies are expensed as purchased.

#### H. SALES TAXES

The Town receives a pro-rata share of a one-fourth of one percent parish wide (excluding the Town of Columbia) sales tax approved by the voters in Caldwell Parish on October 19, 1985, for fire protection in the parish. The sales tax is collected by the police jury and remitted to the Town net of its pro-rata share of the cost of collection.

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

#### I. COMPENSATED ABSENCES

It is the Town's policy to permit full-time permanent employees to earn 18 days of annual leave for each full year of employment. Annual leave is credited to employees each pay period on a pro rata basis. Employees are allowed to carry over 30 to 45 days of accumulated annual leave to the following year based on years of service. All full-time permanent employees earn 10 days of sick leave for each full year of employment. Sick leave is credited to employees each pay period on a pro rata basis. Employees are allowed to accumulate any unused sick leave hours without limitation.

Upon termination, resignation, or retirement, employees shall be paid at their current rate of pay, for accumulated annual and sick leave combined from 90 to 105 days based on years of service. Unpaid compensated absences are recorded as a liability when the benefits are earned in the Water Fund financial statements, which is the fund that pays the salaries of the Town's permanent full-time employees. The valuation of accrued leave benefits is calculated in accordance with GASB Statement No. 16, Accounting for Compensated Absences. The Town's total accrued compensated absences liability at June 30, 2024, was zero.

#### J. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

In the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position.

#### K. FUND EQUITY

In the fund equity statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balances for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

#### L. RESTRICTED NET POSITION

The Town records restricted assets to indicate that a portion of its net position balances are legally restricted for a specific future use. The following is a list of such restrictions and a description of each:

#### Restricted for Road Maintenance

This amount represents \$2,973 restricted for repairs and maintenance of the Town roads.

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

#### (2) RESTRICTED ASSETS

#### A. GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Cash in the amount of \$2,973 that was received under a federal grant program and restricted for street repairs is reported as restricted cash with a corresponding restriction of net position/fund balance.

#### B. PROPRIETARY FUND

At June 30, 2025, restricted assets of the Enterprise funds were invested in either interest bearing checking accounts or time deposits and were restricted for the following purposes:

	Water
Customer Deposits	\$ 54,186
Total	\$ 54,186

#### (3) AD VALOREM TAX

The entity levies taxes on real and business personal property located within its boundaries. The entity utilizes the services of the Caldwell Parish Tax Assessor to assess the property values and prepare the entity's property tax roll. The entity bills and collects its own property taxes.

Property Tax Calendar				
Assessment Date	January 1	П		
Levy Date	No Later Than June 1			
Tax Bills Mailed	On or About October 15			
Total Taxes Are Due	December 31			
Penalties and Interest are Added	January 1			
Lien Date	January I			

For the year ended June 30, 2025, taxes of 6.18 mills were levied against property having a valuation of some \$1,375,823 which produced some \$5,938 in revenue.

Ad Valorem Taxes are broken down as follows:

	IVIIIIS
Clarks General Alimony	6.18
Total	6.18

\* \*\*\*\*

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

#### (4) <u>RECEIVABLES</u>

Property tax receivables are generally shown net of an allowance for uncollectible amounts. These statements contain no provision for uncollectible accounts for property taxes. The Town is of the opinion that such an allowance would be immaterial in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Trade receivables are generally shown net of an allowance for uncollectible amounts. The Town is of the opinion that an allowance for uncollectible accounts would be immaterial to the financial statements. Past due amounts are written off when they are considered uncollectible by management.

		Governmental	Business
		General Fund	Enterprise Fund
Sales Tax	\$	-0-	\$ -0-
Franchise Tax		314	-0-
Ad Valorem Tax		28	-0-
Occupational Licenses		3,101	-0-
Other		298	-0-
Customer		-0-	23,217
Allowance for Bad Debts		<b>-</b> 0-	-0-
Total	\$	3,741	\$ 23,217

#### (5) FIXED ASSETS

#### **GOVERNMENTAL FUND**

A summary of general fund property, plant, and equipment at June 30, 2025, is as follows:

	Balance 6-30-2024		Additions		(Deletions)	_	Balance 6-30-2025
Land*	\$ 1,700	\$	-0-	\$	-0-	\$	1,700
Building	61,000		-0-		-0-		61,000
Vehicles & Equipment	516,277		35,494		-0-		551,771
Improvements	1,232,818		-0-	-	-0-	_	1,232,818
Total Fixed Assets	 1,811,795	-	35,494		-0-		1,847,289
Accumulated Depreciation	 (884,945)		(72,588)		-0-		(957,533)
Total Fixed Assets (Net)	\$ 926,850	\$_	(37,094)	\$_	-0-	\$_	889,756

<sup>\*</sup> Land in the amount of \$1,700 is not being depreciated.

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

General	\$ 5,366
Police	-0-
Fire	1,971
Street	65,251
<b>Total Depreciation</b>	\$ 72,588

#### ENTERPRISE FUND

A summary of enterprise fund property, plant, and equipment at June 30, 2025, is as follows:

	Balance 6-30-2024		Additions	(Deletions)		Balance 6-30-2025
Land*	\$ 1,500	\$	-0- \$	-0-	\$	1,500
Water System & Improvements	2,039,853		52,330	-0-		2,092,183
Sewer System & Improvements	1,484,988		-0-	-0-		1,484,988
Equipment	181,998		-0-	-0-	- 262	181,998
Total Fixed Assets	 3,708,339		52,330	-0-	-	3,760,669
Accumulated Depreciation	 (3,154,779)		(57,640)	-0-		(3,212,419)
Total	\$ 553,560	\$_	(5,310) \$	-0-	\$_	548,250

<sup>\*</sup>Land in the amount of \$1,500 is not being depreciated.

#### (6) ACCOUNTS, SALARIES, AND OTHER PAYABLES

#### **General Fund**

The payables of \$2,480 at June 30, 2025, are as follows:

Accounts Payable	\$ 2,480
Total	\$ 2,480

#### **Enterprise Fund**

The payables of \$8,727 at June 30, 2025, are as follows:

Accounts Payable Accrued Payroll	\$ 8,269
Accrued Payroll	458
Total	\$ 8,727

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

#### (7) <u>ELECTED OFFICIAL'S SALARIES</u>

Name	Title	<b>Annualized Salary</b>			
Jessica Morris	Mayor	\$3,600			
Krissy Jolly	Alderman	1,200			
Lisa Melton	Alderman	1,200			
Marilyn Ratcliff	Alderman	1,200			
Taylor Barton	Alderman	1,200			
John Preston, Sr	Alderman	1,200			
Donnie Brooks, Jr	Chief of Police	12,000			

#### (8) <u>USE OF ESTIMATES</u>

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.

#### (9) RETIREMENT PLANS

The Town does not offer its employees a retirement plan. All employees are in the social security system.

#### (10) TRANSFERS

Transfers From/To Other Funds							
Fund		Transfers In		Transfers Out		Total	
General	\$	65,322	\$	-0-	\$	65,322	
Enterprise		-0-		(65,322)		(65,322)	
Total	\$	65,322	\$	(65,322)	\$	-0-	

The transfers were made to help pay for operational expenses.

#### (11) RISK MANAGEMENT AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Town purchases commercial insurance to reduce the risk of loss resulting from property damage or liability claims. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from coverage in the prior year. Settlements have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

#### NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-(CONTINUED)

#### (12) FEDERAL GRANT CONTINGENCIES

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor agencies. If any expenditures are disallowed as a result of these audits, the claims for reimbursement to the grantor agency would become a liability of the Town. In the opinion of management, any such adjustments would not be material to the Town's operating results or fund balances.

#### (13) SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated events and transactions subsequent to the Statement of Net Position date through, September 30, 2025, of the independent auditor's report for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. The following item is reported as a subsequent event.

#### (14) EXCESS OVER APPROPRIATIONS

The Town over spent its budget by \$44,661 or 33.0%.

## Required Supplemental Information

# Town of Clarks, Louisiana Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, & Changes in Fund Balance Budget & Actual General Fund For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	BUDGET AMOUNTS			•20	ACTUAL AMOUNTS		BUDGET TO ACTUAL DIFFERENCES	
		ORIGINAL	_	FINAL		BUDGETARY BASIS		FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
REVENUES								
Fees & Charges	\$	15,800	\$	10,700	\$	12,017	\$	1,317
Taxes		24,000		21,000		20,834		(166)
Miscellaneous		120,100		105,400		37,560		(67,840)
TOTAL REVENUES		159,900		137,100		70,411		(66,689)
EXPENDITURES								
General Government		118,000		98,600		101,081		(2,481)
Public Safety:								
Police Expense		21,000		21,450		19,643		1,807
Fire Expense		15,000		12,300		20,798		(8,498)
Street Expense		1,000		3,000		2,995		5
Capital Outlay		-0-		-0-		35,494		(35,494)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		155,000		135,350		180,011		(44,661)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER								
(Under) Expenditures		4,900		1,750		(109,600)		(111,350)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)								18.
Transfers In/(Out)		90,000		63,000		65,322		2,322
Interest Income		100		100	_	59		(41)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	\$	90,100	. \$.	63,100		65,381	\$	2,281
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE		95,000		64,850		(44,219)		(109,069)
FUND BALANCES – BEGINNING						70,042		
FUND BALANCES – ENDING					\$	25,823	i	

**Supplemental Information** 

# Town of Clarks, Louisiana Schedule of Compensation Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

#### Honorable Jessica Morris, Mayor

Purpose	 Amount		
Salary	\$ 3,600		
Benefits-Insurance	-0-		
Benefits-Retirement	-0-		
Benefits (Expense Allowance)	-0-		
Car Allowance	-0-		
Vehicle Provided by Government	-0-		
Per Diem	-0-		
Reimbursements	-0-		
Travel	-0-		
Registration Fees	-0-		
Conference Travel	-0-		
Continuing Professional Education Fees	-0-		
Housing	-0-		
Un-vouchered Expenses*	-0-		
Special Meals	\$ -0-		

<sup>\*</sup>An example of an un-vouchered expense would be a travel advance

## Town of Clarks, Louisiana Justice System Funding Schedule – Collecting/Disbursing Entity Year Ended June 30, 2025

	First Six Months Ended 12/31/2024		Second Six Months Ended 06/30/2025
Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected	\$ -0-	\$	-0-
Add: Collections			
Criminal Court Costs/Fees	-0-		-0-
Criminal Fines – Contempt	-0-		-0-
Criminal Fines – Other	-0-		-0-
Subtotal Collections	-0-		-0-
Less: Disbursements to Governments & Nonprofits			
LA Judicial College	-0-		-0-
LA Traumatic Head & Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Bond Forfeitures & Fees Collected Central LA Juvenile	-0-		-0-
Detention Facility	-0-		-0-
CMIS Trial Court Case Management Information System	-0-		-0-
LA Commission on Law Enforcement Transmittal of			
Statutory Dedicated Funds	-0-		-0-
Less: Amounts Retained by Collecting Agency			
Amounts Self-Disbursed Criminal Fines – Other	-0-		-0-
Less: Disbursements to Individuals/3rd Party Collection or Processing Agency			
nCourt Processing Agency	-0-		-0-
Subtotal Disbursements/Retainage	-0-		-0-
Total: Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not			
Disbursed/Retained	-0-	è	-0-
Ending Balance of "Partial Payments" Collected but not Disbursed	-0-		-0-
Other Information:			
Ending Balance of Total Amounts Assessed but not yet Collected	-0-		-0-
Total Waivers During the Fiscal Period	\$ -0-	\$	-0-

# Other Reports

#### TOWN OF CLARKS, LOUISIANA

#### MANAGEMENT LETTER COMMENTS

During the course of our review, we observed conditions and circumstances that may be improved. Below are findings noted for improvement, our recommendation for improvement and the Town's plan for corrective action.

#### **CURRENT YEAR MANAGEMENT LETTER COMMENTS**

#### 2025-1 Budget Variance

**Condition:** The Town had an unfavorable revenue of \$66,689 or 48.7% and an unfavorable expenditure of \$44,661 or 33.0% in its general fund budget for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Criteria: The Budget Act requires that budgets be amended when the variance exceeds 5%.

Cause of Condition: The Town did not budget the revenue and expenses correctly.

Potential Effect of Condition: The general fund having an unfavorable revenue, and an unfavorable expenditure variance violates the Budget Act.

**Recommendation:** The Town should budget revenue and expenses for general operating.

Client Response and Corrective Action: The management of the Town will being properly budgeting operations as needed.

Contact Person: Jessica Morris, Mayor

**Anticipated Completion Date: 06/30/2026** 

#### TOWN OF CLARKS, LOUISIANA

### MANAGEMENT'S SUMMARY OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

Legislative Auditor State of Louisiana Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9397

The management of the Town of Clarks, Louisiana, has provided the following action summaries relating to review findings brought to their attention as a result of their financial audit for the year ended June 30, 2024.

#### PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

#### 2024-1 Budget Variance (Unresolved)

**Condition:** The Town had an unfavorable revenue of \$18,474 or 22.6% and an unfavorable expenditure of \$34,177 or 20.4% in its general fund budget for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Criteria: The Budget Act requires that budgets be amended when the variance exceeds 5%.

Cause of Condition: The Town did not budget the revenue and expenses correctly.

Potential Effect of Condition: The general fund having an unfavorable revenue, and an unfavorable expenditure variance violates the Budget Act.

Recommendation: The Town should budget revenue and expenses for general operating.

Client Response and Corrective Action: The management of the Town will being properly budgeting operations as needed.

John R. Vercher C.P.A.
john@verchergroup.com

Jonathan M. Vercher M.S., C.P.A. jonathan@verchergroup.com

David R. Vercher M.B.A., C.P.A., C.F.E. david@verchergroup.com

#### THE VERCHER GROUP

A Professional Corporation of Certified Public Accountants P.O. Box 1608 1737 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St. – Suite A Jena, Louisiana 71342 Tel: (318) 992-6348 Fax: (318) 992-4374

#### **MEMBERS**

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants

Association of Certified Fraud Examiners

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Town of Clarks, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures included in the Louisiana Government Audit Guide and enumerated below, which were agreed to by the management of the Town of Clarks, Louisiana, and the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, solely to assist the users in evaluating management's assertions about the Town of Clarks, Louisiana's compliance with certain laws and regulations during the year ended June 30, 2025, included in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was performed in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of Government Auditing Standards. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below whether for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

#### Public Bid Law

1. Obtain documentation for all expenditures made during the year for materials and supplies exceeding \$30,000, and public works exceeding \$250,000. Compare the documentation for these expenditures to Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 39:1551-39:1775 (the state procurement code) or R.S. 38:2211-2296 (the public bid law), whichever is applicable; and report whether the expenditures were made in accordance with these laws.

\*During our review of expenditures, we found no such expenditures.

Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees

- 2. Obtain a list of the immediate family members of each board member as defined by R.S. 42:1101-1124 (the ethics law).
  - \*Management provided us with the requested information.
- 3. Obtain a list of all employees paid during the fiscal year.
  - \*Management provided us with the requested information.
- Report whether any employees' names appear on both lists obtained in Procedures 2 and 3.
   \*None of the employees included on the list of employees provided by management.

- 5. Obtain a list of all disbursements made during the year; and a list of outside business interests of board members, employees, and board members' and employees' immediate families. Report whether any vendors appear on both lists.
  - \*Management provided the requested information. None of the businesses of board members, employees, and board members' and employees' immediate families appeared as vendors on the list of disbursements.

#### Budgeting

- 6. Obtain a copy of the legally adopted budget and all amendments.
  - \*We obtained a copy of the budget and the amended budget.
- 7. Trace documentation for the adoption of the budget and approval of any amendments to the minute book, and report whether there are any exceptions.
  - \*Adoption of the budget and approval of an amended budget were documented in the minute book.
- 8. Compare the revenues and expenditures of the final budget to actual revenues and expenditures. Report whether actual revenues failed to meet budgeted revenues by 5% or more, and whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 5% or more. (For agencies that must comply with the Licensing Agency Budget Act only, compare the expenditures of the final budget to actual expenditures, and report whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 10% or more per category or 5% or more in total).
  - \*The Town had an unfavorable revenue of \$66,689 or 48.7% and an unfavorable expenditure of \$44,661 or 33.0%.

#### Accounting and Reporting

- 9. Obtain the list of all disbursements made during the fiscal year. Randomly select six disbursements and obtain documentation from management for these disbursements. Compare the selected disbursements to the supporting documentation, and:
- (a) Report whether the six disbursements agree to the amount and the payee in the supporting documentation.
  - \*We examined supporting documentation for the six selected documents, and they all agreed.
- (b) Report whether the six disbursements were coded to the correct fund and general ledger account.
  - \*All of the payments were properly coded to the correct fund and correct general ledger account.
- (c) Report whether the six disbursements were approved in accordance with management's policies and procedures.
  - \*The selected disbursements were approved by the proper authorities.

#### Meetings

10. Obtain evidence from management to support that agendas for meetings recorded in the minute book were posted or advertised as required by R.S. 42:11 through 42:28 (the open meetings law); and report whether there are any exceptions.

\*I verified meetings were posted or advertised.

#### Deht

11. Obtain bank deposit slips for the fiscal year and scan the deposit slips in order to identify and report whether there are any deposits that appear to be proceeds of bank loans, bonds, or like indebtedness. If any such proceeds are identified, obtain from management evidence of approval by the State Bond Commission, and report any exceptions.

\*The Town did not enter into any long-term debt this fiscal year.

#### Advances and Bonuses

- 12. Obtain the list of payroll disbursements and meeting minutes of the governing board, if applicable. Scan these documents to identify and report whether there are any payments or approval of payments to employees that may constitute bonuses, advances, or gifts.
  - \*We inspected payroll records and minutes for the year and noted no instances which indicated payments to employees which would constitute bonuses, advances, and gifts.

#### State Audit Law

- 13. Report whether the agency provided for a timely report in accordance with R.S. 24:513.
  - \*The Town's report is due on December 31, 2024, and was submitted in a timely manner.
- 14. Inquire of management and report whether the agency entered into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).
  - \*The Town did not enter into any new contracts this fiscal year.

#### Prior-Year Comments

15. Obtain and report management's representation as to whether any prior-year suggestions, exceptions, recommendations, and/or comments have been resolved.

\*Our prior year report, dated September 18, 2024, contained one finding: budget variance.

We were not engaged to, and did not perform an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on management's assertions. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the use of management of the Town of Clarks, Louisiana and the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, and should not be used by those who have not agreed to the procedures and taken responsibility for the sufficiency of the procedures for their purposes. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

The Vercher Group September 30, 2025 John R. Vercher C.P.A. john@verchergroup.com

#### THE VERCHER GROUP

American Institute of

**MEMBERS** 

Jonathan M. Vercher M.S., C.P.A. jonathan@verchergroup.com

A Professional Corporation of Certified Public Accountants P.O. Box 1608 1737 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St. – Suite A Jena, Louisiana 71342 Tel: (318) 992-6348 Fax: (318) 992-4374

Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants

Certified Public Accountants

David R. Vercher M.B.A., C.P.A., C.F.E. david@verchergroup.com

Association of Certified Fraud Examiners

## LOUISIANA ATTESTATION QUESTIONNAIRE TOWN OF CLARKS

The Vercher Group

A Professional Group of Certified Public Accountants P.O. Box 1608 Jena, Louisiana 71342 Tel: (318) 992-6348

Fax: (318) 992-4374

In connection with your review of our financial statements as of June 30, 2025, and for the year then ended, and as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, we make the following representations to you. We accept full responsibility for our compliance with the following laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations. We have evaluated our compliance with the following laws and regulations prior to making these representations to you.

These representations are based on the information available to us as of September 30, 2025, (date of completion/representations).

#### Public Bid Law

It is true that we have complied with the public bid law, LSA-RS Title 38:2212, and, where applicable, the regulations of the Division of Administration, State Purchasing Office.

Yes [x] No []

#### Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees

It is true that no employees or officials have accepted anything of value, whether in the form of a service, loan, or promise, from anyone that would constitute a violation of LSA-RS 42:1101-1124.

Yes [x] No []

It is true that no member of the immediate family of any member of the governing authority, or the chief executive of the governmental entity, has been employed by the governmental entity after April 1, 1980, under circumstances that would constitute a violation of LSA-RS 42:1119.

Yes [x] No []

#### Budgeting

We have complied with the state budgeting requirements of the Local Government Budget Act (LSA-RS 39:1301-15) or the budget requirements of LSA-RS 39:1331-1342.

Yes [ ] No [ x ]

#### Accounting and Reporting

All non-exempt governmental records are available as a public record and have been retained for at least three years, as required by LSA-RS 44:1, 44:7, 44:31, and 44:36.

Yes [x] No []

We have filed our annual financial statements in accordance with LSA-RS 24:514, 33:463, as applicable.

Yes [x]No[]

We have had our financial statements reviewed in accordance with RS 24:513.

Yes [x] No []

We did not enter into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S.39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law R.S.38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).

Yes [x] No []

We have complied with R.S. 24:513 A. (3) regarding disclosure of compensation, reimbursements, benefits and other payments to the agency head, political subdivision head, or chief financial officer.

Yes [x] No []

We have complied with R.S. 24:515.2 regarding reporting of pre- and post- adjudication court costs, fines and fees assessed or imposed; the amounts collected; the amounts outstanding; the amounts retained; the amounts disbursed, and the amounts received from disbursements.

Yes [x] No []

#### Meetings

We have complied with the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, provided in RS 42:11 through 42:28.

Yes [x] No []

#### Debt

It is true we have not incurred any indebtedness, other than credit for 90 days or less to make purchases in the ordinary course of administration, nor have we entered into any lease-purchase agreements, without the approval of the State Bond Commission, as provided by Article VII, Section 8 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, Article VI, Section 33 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, and LSA-RS 39:1410.60-1410.65.

Yes [x] No []

#### **Prior-Year Comments**

We have resolved all prior-year recommendations and/or comments.

Yes [x ] No []

#### Advances and Bonuses

It is true we have not advanced wages or salaries to employees or paid bonuses in violation of Article VII, Section 14 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, LSA-RS 14:138, and AG opinion 79-729.

Yes [x] No []

#### General

We acknowledge that we are responsible for the Agency's compliance with the foregoing laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations.

Yes [x] No []

We acknowledge that we are responsible for determining that the procedures performed are appropriate for the purposes of this engagement.

Yes [x ] No []

We have evaluated our compliance with these laws and regulations prior to making these representations.

Yes [x ] No []

We have provided you with all relevant information and access under the terms of our agreement.

Yes [ x] No [ ]

We have disclosed to you all known noncompliance of the foregoing laws and regulations, as well as any contradictions to the foregoing representations.

Yes [x] No []

We are not aware of any material misstatements in the information we have provided to you.

Yes [x] No []

We have disclosed to you any communications from regulatory agencies, internal auditors, other independent practitioners or consultants, and others concerning noncompliance with the foregoing laws and regulations, including communications received during the period under examination; and will disclose to you any such communication received between the end of the period under examination and the date of your report.

Yes [x] No []

We will disclose to you, the Legislative Auditor, and the applicable state grantor agency/agencies all known noncompliance and other events subsequent to the date of this representation and the date of your report that could have a material effect on our compliance with laws and regulations and the internal controls with such laws and regulations or would require adjustment or modification to the results of the agreed-upon procedures.

Yes [x] No []

We have disclosed to you all known noncompliance of the foregoing laws and regulations, as well as any contradictions to the foregoing representations. We have made available to you documentation relating to the foregoing laws and regulations.

We have provided you with any communications from regulatory agencies or other sources concerning any possible noncompliance with the foregoing laws and regulations, including any communications received between the end of the period under examination and the issuance of this report. We acknowledge our responsibility to disclose to you any known noncompliance which may occur subsequent to the issuance of your report.

Title: \\

Signature:

Date: