# TOWN OF MONTGOMERY, LOUISIANA ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023



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November 19, 2024

#### Independent Auditors' Report

To the Mayor and Board of Aldermen Town of Montgomery, Louisiana

#### REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **Disclaimer of Opinions**

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of the of the Town of Montgomery, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

We do not express an opinion on the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and each major fund of the Town. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on the financial statements.

#### **Basis for Disclaimer of Opinions**

Information was not available to perform essential procedures necessary to complete an audit. Some information that was not available is listed as follows:

- Documentation was not available to support numerous transactions.
- Complete and accurate bank reconciliations were not available.

Due to limitations imposed by the absence of the information described above, we were not able to perform sufficient procedures to form an opinion on the financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and each major fund.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town's ability to continue



Rozier, McKay & Willis Certified Public Accountants Voice: 318.442.1608 160 Brown's Bend Road Alexandria, Louisiana 71303 Online: CenlaCPAs.com as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

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

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit of the Town's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and to issue an auditor's report. However, because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on the financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and each major fund.

We are required to be independent of the Town and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit.

#### **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 described in the table od contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our engagement to 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.

#### **Supplementary Information**

We were engaged to conduct an audit for the purposes of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to the Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer, the Schedule of Per Diem Paid to Board Members, and the Justice System Funding Schedule described as additional information in the accompanying table of contents, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The additional information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Because of the significance of the matters documented in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of this report, we do not express an opinion on the additional information in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 19, 2024 on our consideration of the Town's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of

#### Town of Montgomery November 19, 2024

its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an engagement in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Town's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Rozier, McKay & Willis Certified Public Accountants

#### Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2023

This section of the Town of Montgomery's annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the Town's financial performance during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

#### **OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The basic financial statements include government-wide financial statements and fund financial statements. These two types of financial statements present the Town's financial position and results of operations from differing perspectives which are described as follows:

#### Government - Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements report information about the Town as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. These report all revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid. Furthermore, the government-wide statements include all of the Town's assets and all of the Town's liabilities (including long-term debt).

The government-wide financial statements are divided into two categories, which are described as follows:

- Governmental Activities Expenses incurred in connection with providing basic services including police
  protection, fire protection, culture, recreation, public works and general administration are reported as
  governmental activities. The governmental activities are financed by taxes, license fees, fines, court cost,
  interest, grants and contributions.
- Business-Type Activities Expenses associated with providing utility services are recovered through fees
  paid by the customers that utilize these services. These activities are operated in a manner similar to
  commercial enterprises. Accordingly, activities associated with utility services are reported as business type
  activities.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

Fund financial statements provide detailed information regarding the Town's most significant activities and are not intended to provide information for the Town as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that are used to account for specific sources of funds. The Town has two types of funds that are described as follows:

- Governmental Funds These funds are used to account for essentially the same functions that are reported
  as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike government-wide
  financial statements, the governmental funds use a modified accrual basis of accounting that provides a shortterm view of the Town's finances. Assets reported by governmental funds are limited to amounts that are
  available for current needs. In addition, liabilities are limited to amounts that are expected to be paid from
  currently available assets.
- **Proprietary Fund** These funds are used to account for activities that function in a manner similar to commercial enterprises, including activities associated with the Town's utility services. Proprietary fund financial statements typically provide a more detail presentation of the information reported in the business-type activities portion of the government-wide financial statements.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWN AS A WHOLE

A comparative analysis of government-wide data is presented as follows:

#### **Net Position**

A condensed version of the government-wide Statement of Net Position is presented as follows:

## Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2023

|                                  | D                               |                                 |              |                   |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
|                                  | Govern-<br>mental<br>Activities | Business- Type Activities Total |              | December 31, 2022 |
| Assets:                          |                                 |                                 |              |                   |
| Current and Other Assets         | \$ 79,360                       | \$ 179,089                      | \$ 258,449   | \$ 171,504        |
| Capital Assets                   | 831,719                         | 1,130,122                       | 1,961,841    | 1,911,214         |
| Total Assets                     | 911,079                         | 1,309,211                       | 2,220,290    | 2,082,718         |
| Liabilities:                     |                                 |                                 |              |                   |
| Current and Other Liabilities    | 40,755                          | 109,668                         | 150,423      | 182,843           |
| Long-term Liabilities            |                                 |                                 |              |                   |
| Total Liabilities                | 40,755                          | 109,668                         | 150,423      | 182,843           |
| Net Position:                    |                                 |                                 |              |                   |
| Invested in Capital Assets (Net) | 831,719                         | 1,130,122                       | 1,961,841    | 1,911,214         |
| Restricted                       | 39,129                          |                                 | 39,129       |                   |
| Unrestricted                     | (524)                           | 69,421                          | 68,897       | (11,339)          |
| Total Net Position               | \$ 870,324                      | \$ 1,199,543                    | \$ 2,069,867 | \$ 1,899,875      |

As the presentation appearing above demonstrates, the majority of the Town's net position is invested in capital assets. Net position invested in capital assets consist of land, buildings, and equipment. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to its citizens; consequently, these amounts are not available for future spending.

In addition a portion of the net position is restricted for installing recreation facilities. Remaining net position is available to be used at the governing body's discretion.

#### **Changes in Net Position**

A condensed version of the government-wide Statement of Changes in Net Position is presented as follows:

|                       | For the Yea                     | ber 31, 2023                    |            |  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--|
|                       | Govern-<br>mental<br>Activities | Business-<br>Type<br>Activities | Total      | For the Year<br>Ended December<br>31, 2022 |
| Revenues:             |                                 |                                 |            |  |
| Program Revenue:      |                                 |                                 |            |  |
| Charges for Services  | \$ 25,781                       | \$ 516,315                      | \$ 542,096 | \$ 513,433                                 |
| Operating Grants and  |                                 |                                 |            |  |
| Contributions         | 152,318                         | 61,625                          | 213,943    | 189,986                                    |
| Capital Grants and    |                                 |                                 |            |  |
| Contributions         |                                 | 234,697                         | 234,697    | 58,136                                     |
| General Revenue:      |                                 |                                 |            |  |
| Property Taxes        | 17,345                          |                                 | 17,345     | 16,647                                     |
| Sales Taxes           | 68,934                          |                                 | 68,934     | 71,163                                     |
| Franchise Taxes       | 11,262                          |                                 | 11,262     | 17,470                                     |
| Occupational Licenses | 38,568                          |                                 | 38,568     | 34,290                                     |
| Miscellaneous         | 6,025                           |                                 | 6,025      | 932  |
| Total Revenue         | 320,233                         | 812,637                         | 1,132,870  | 902,057                                    |

## Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2023

|                                 | For the Year                    |                                 |              |  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--|
|                                 | Govern-<br>mental<br>Activities | Business-<br>Type<br>Activities | Total        | For the Year<br>Ended December<br>31, 2022 |
| Program Expenses:               |                                 |                                 |              |  |
| General Government              | 113,386                         |                                 | 113,386      | 161,175                                    |
| Public Safety (Law Enforcement) | 45,839                          |                                 | 45,839       | 87,629                                     |
| Public Works – Streets          | 58,420                          |                                 | 58,420       | 59,484                                     |
| Culture and Recreation          | 126,609                         |                                 | 126,609      | 16,996                                     |
| Utility System                  |                                 | 618,624                         | 618,624      | 799,156                                    |
| Total Expenses                  | 344,254                         | 618,624                         | 962,878      | 1,124,440                                  |
| Increase in Net Position Before |                                 |                                 |              |  |
| Special Items and Transfers     | (24,021)                        | 194,013                         | 169,992      | (222,383)                                  |
| Special Items                   |                                 |                                 |              |  |
| Transfers                       | 1,221                           | (1,221)                         |              |  |
| Change in Net Position          | (22,800)                        | 192,792                         | 169,992      | (222,383)                                  |
| Net Position Beginning          | 893,124                         | 1,006,751                       | 1,899,875    | 2,122,258                                  |
| Net Position Ending             | \$ 870,324                      | \$ 1,199,543                    | \$ 2,069,867 | \$ 1,899,875                               |

Governmental activities decreased the Town's net position by \$22,800. This decrease was attributable to deprecation of assets acquired in previous periods.

Business-type activities increased the Town's net position by \$192,792. The change in net position is influenced by grants, and related depreciation. Changes in net position excluding capital grants, contributions and depreciation are presented as follows:

| 1  | nental   |        | Type                    | Total   |  |  |
|----|----------|--------|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| \$ | (22,800) | \$     | 192,792                 | \$  | 169,992  |  |
|    | 55,884   |        | 82,152                  |   | 138,036  |  |
|    |          |        | (234,697)               |   | (234,697)  |  |
|    |          |        |                         |   |  |  |
| \$ | 33,084   |        | \$ 40,247               | \$  | 73,331   |  |
|    | <u>A</u> | 55,884 | mental   Activities   A | mental Activities         Type Activities           \$ (22,800)         \$ 192,792           55,884         82,152            (234,697) | mental Activities         Type Activities           \$ (22,800)         \$ 192,792         \$ 55,884         \$ 22,152            (234,697)         \$ 192,792         \$ 192, |  |

After considering depreciation and grants, it is apparent that the Town has depleted reserves for future needs.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWN'S FUNDS

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the General Fund experienced a increase in fund balance of \$33,084. The only differences between amounts reported by the general fund and governmental activities reported in the government-wide financial statements are attributable to including fixed assets in the government-wide presentation, and grant activity reported by separate funds. The increase is attributable to the receipt of resources restricted for installation of recreation facilities.

Amounts reported for business-type activities in the Town's individual funds are identical to the business-type activities reported in the government-wide presentation.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2023

#### GENERAL FUND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Town overlooked adopting a budget for the current period, accordingly no highlights are available.

#### **CAPITAL ASSET ADMINISTRATION**

Activity involving capital assets was limited to reporting depreciation for existing assets, and partial completion of a new water well.

#### **DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

No debt was outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2023.

#### FACTORS EXPECTED TO AFFECT FUTURE OPERATIONS

No significant factors are expected to affect operations in the near future.

# Statement of Net Position December 31, 2023

|   | ernmental ctivities | Business-Type Activities |           | <br>Total       |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <u>ASSETS</u>                                   |                     |                          |           |                 |
| Cash and cash equivalents                       | \$<br>18,484        | \$                       | 126,618   | \$<br>145,102   |
| Cash restricted for recreation                  | 39,129              |                          | -         | 39,129          |
| Receivables (net)                               | 21,747              |                          | 42,642    | 64,389          |
| Natural Gas Inventory                           | -                   |                          | 9,829     | 9,829           |
| Capital assets not subject to depreciation      | 18,680              |                          | 37,015    | 55,695          |
| Depreciable capital assets, net                 | <br>813,039         |                          | 1,093,107 | <br>1,906,146   |
| Total assets                                    | 911,079             |                          | 1,309,211 | 2,220,290       |
| <u>LIABILITIES</u> Accounts payable             | 40,755              |                          | 42,454    | 83,209          |
| Deferred revenue                                | -0,733              |                          | 300       | 300             |
| Meter deposits                                  | <br>                |                          | 66,914    | 66,914          |
| Total liabilities                               | <br>40,755          |                          | 109,668   | <br>150,423     |
| NET POSITION                                    |                     |                          |           |                 |
| Invested in capital assets, net of related debt | 831,719             |                          | 1,130,122 | 1,961,841       |
| Ristricted                                      | 39,129              |                          | -         | 39,129          |
| Unrestricted                                    | <br>(524)           |                          | 69,421    | <br>68,897      |
| <b>Total net position (deficit)</b>             | \$<br>870,324       | \$                       | 1,199,543 | \$<br>2,069,867 |

### Statement of Activities Year Ended December 31, 2023

|                                  |    |          |                      | Progra | am Revenue                         | S       |                                |    |                          | •  | oense) Revenue<br>es in Net Posit |                      |
|----------------------------------|----|----------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|----|--------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                  | F  | Expenses | Charges for Services |        | Operating Grants and Contributions |         | Capital Grants & Contributions |    | vernmental<br>Activities |    | Business-<br>Type<br>Activities   | <br>Total            |
| <b>Governmental Activities:</b>  |    |          |                      |        |                                    |         |                                |    |                          |    |                                   |                      |
| General Government               | \$ | 113,386  | \$<br>-              | \$     | -                                  | \$      | -                              | \$ | (113,386)                | \$ | -                                 | \$<br>(113,386)      |
| Public Safety                    |    |          |                      |        |                                    |         |                                |    |                          |    |                                   |                      |
| Police Department                |    | 45,839   | 20,531               |        | -                                  |         | -                              |    | (25,308)                 |    | -                                 | (25,308)             |
| Public Works - Streets           |    | 58,420   | 2,950                |        | -                                  |         | -                              |    | (55,470)                 |    | -                                 | (55,470)             |
| Culture and Recreation           |    | 126,609  | <br>2,300            |        | 152,318                            |         |                                |    | 28,009                   |    | -                                 | <br>28,009           |
| Total Governmental Activities    |    | 344,254  | <br>25,781           |        | 152,318                            |         | <u> </u>                       |    | (166,155)                |    |                                   | <br>(166,155)        |
| <b>Business-Type Activities:</b> |    |          |                      |        |                                    |         |                                |    |                          |    |                                   |                      |
| Utility System                   |    | 618,624  | 516,315              |        | 61,625                             |         | 234,697                        |    | -                        |    | 194,013                           | 194,013              |
| Total Business-Type Activities   |    | 618,624  | <br>516,315          | '      | 61,625                             |         | 234,697                        |    | -                        |    | 194,013                           | 194,013              |
| Total Primary Government         | \$ | 962,878  | \$<br>542,096        | \$     | 213,943                            | \$      | 234,697                        |    | (166,155)                |    | 194,013                           | 27,858               |
|                                  |    |          |                      | C      | 1 D                                | C       | . 1 1                          |    |                          |    |                                   |                      |
|                                  |    |          |                      |        | eral Revenues<br>d Transfers:      | s, Spec | ciai items                     |    |                          |    |                                   |                      |
|                                  |    |          |                      |        | a Transfers:                       |         |                                |    |                          |    |                                   |                      |
|                                  |    |          |                      | ]      | Ad Valor                           |         |                                |    | 17,345                   |    |                                   | 17 245               |
|                                  |    |          |                      |        | Sales Ta                           |         |                                |    |                          |    | -                                 | 17,345               |
|                                  |    |          |                      |        | Franchis                           |         |                                |    | 68,934<br>11,262         |    | -                                 | 68,934<br>11,262     |
|                                  |    |          |                      | ,      |                                    |         |                                |    |                          |    | -                                 | -                    |
|                                  |    |          |                      |        | Occupational<br>Miscellaneou       |         | ses                            |    | 38,568                   |    | -                                 | 38,568               |
|                                  |    |          |                      | Trans  |                                    | .S      |                                |    | 6,025<br>1,221           |    | (1,221)                           | 6,025                |
|                                  |    |          |                      | Total  |                                    |         |                                |    | 143,355                  | _  | (1,221)                           | <br>142,134          |
|                                  |    |          |                      |        |                                    |         |                                | -  |                          | _  | · · · · · ·                       | <br>_                |
|                                  |    |          |                      |        | ige in Net Po<br>Position Begi     |         |                                |    | (22,800)<br>893,124      |    | 192,792<br>1,006,751              | 169,992<br>1,899,875 |
|                                  |    |          |                      | INCL   | osmon begi                         | minig   |                                | -  | 093,124                  | _  | 1,000,731                         | <br>1,097,073        |
|                                  |    |          |                      | Net F  | Position Endi                      | ng      |                                | \$ | 870,324                  | \$ | 1,199,543                         | \$<br>2,069,867      |

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

#### Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds December 31, 2023

| <u>Assets</u>                                    | General |                  | Gove | Other<br>rnmental<br>unds | Gov | Total<br>ernmental<br>Funds |
|--|---------|------------------|------|---------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents                        | \$      |                  | \$   | 176                       | \$  | 18,484                      |
| Cash restricted for recreation Receivables (net) |         | 39,129<br>21,747 |      | -                         |     | 39,129<br>21,747            |
| Total assets                                     |         | 79,184           |      | 176                       |     | 79,360                      |
| <b>Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>              |         |                  |      |                           |     |                             |
| <u>Liabilities</u>                               |         |                  |      |                           |     |                             |
| Accounts payable                                 |         | 40,755           |      | _                         |     | 40,755                      |
| Total liabilities                                |         | 40,755           |      |                           |     | 40,755                      |
| Fund Balance                                     |         |                  |      |                           |     |                             |
| Restricted for recreation                        |         | 39,129           |      | -                         |     | 39,129                      |
| Unassigned                                       |         | (700)            |      | 176                       |     | (524)                       |
| Total Fund Balances                              |         | 38,429           |      | 176                       |     | 38,605                      |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>        | \$      | 79,184           | \$   | 176                       | \$  | 79,360                      |

## **Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheets to the Statement of Net Position**

| Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds   | \$<br>38,605  |
|--|---------------|
| Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because: |               |
| Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial                                     |               |
| resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.   | <br>831,719   |
| Net Position of Governmental Activities  | \$<br>870,324 |

#### Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds Year Ended December 31, 2023

|  |      | General    | Other<br>Government<br>Funds | tal |    | Total<br>vernmental<br>Funds |
|--|------|------------|------------------------------|-----|----|------------------------------|
| Revenues:  |      |            |                              |     |    |                              |
| Taxes:   |      |            |                              |     |    |                              |
| Ad valorem   | \$   | 17,345     | \$ -                         |     | \$ | 17,345                       |
| Sales Tax  |      | 68,934     | -                            |     |    | 68,934                       |
| Franchise  |      | 11,262     | -                            |     |    | 11,262                       |
| Occupational licenses  |      | 38,568     | -                            |     |    | 38,568                       |
| Intergovernmental  |      | 278        | -                            |     |    | 278                          |
| Fines and court cost   |      | 20,531     | -                            |     |    | 20,531                       |
| Donations  |      | 152,318    | -                            |     |    | 152,318                      |
| Miscellaneous  | _    | 10,997     |                              | _   |    | 10,997                       |
| Total revenues   |      | 320,233    |                              | _   |    | 320,233                      |
| Expenditures:  |      |            |                              |     |    |                              |
| Current  |      |            |                              |     |    |                              |
| General government   |      | 113,386    | -                            |     |    | 113,386                      |
| Public safety (law enforcement)  |      | 37,697     | -                            |     |    | 37,697                       |
| Public works - streets   |      | 18,779     | -                            |     |    | 18,779                       |
| Culture and recreation   |      | 118,508    | -                            |     |    | 118,508                      |
| Capital outlay   |      | -          |                              |     |    | -                            |
| Total expenditures   |      | 288,370    |                              | _   |    | 288,370                      |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures  | _    | 31,863     |                              | _   |    | 31,863                       |
| Other sources (uses)   |      |            |                              |     |    |                              |
| Operating transfers in   |      | 1,221      | -                            |     |    | 1,221                        |
| Operating transfers out  |      | -          | -                            |     |    | -                            |
| Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)   |      | 1,221      |                              |     |    | 1,221                        |
| Net Change in Fund Balances  |      | 33,084     | -                            |     |    | 33,084                       |
| Fund balance - beginning of year   |      | 5,345      | 17                           | 76  |    | 5,521                        |
| Fund balance - end of year   | \$   | 38,429     | -                            | 76  | \$ | 38,605                       |
|  |      |            |                              |     |    | _                            |
| Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Exp<br>Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the   |      |            | _                            |     |    |                              |
|  | Siai | ement of A | Cuvities                     |     | _  |                              |
| Net change in fund balances of Governmental Funds  |      |            |                              |     | \$ | 33,084                       |
| Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different bec  |      |            |                              |     |    |                              |
| Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of those assets is allocated over estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation exasset activities are summarized as follows: |      |            |                              |     |    |                              |
| Capital Outlay<br>Depreciation Expense   |      |            |                              |     | _  | (55,884)                     |
| Change in net position of governmental activities  |      |            |                              |     | \$ | (22,800)                     |

## Statement of Net Position - Proprietary Funds December 31, 2023

|   | Business-Type Activities |
|---|--------------------------|
|   | Enterprise Funds         |
|   | Utility System           |
| ASSETS:   |                          |
| Current Assets:                                 |                          |
| Cash and cash equivalents                       | \$ 126,618               |
| Receivables (net)                               | 42,642                   |
| Natural Gas Inventory                           | 9,829                    |
| Total current assets                            | 179,089                  |
| Noncurrent Assets:                              |                          |
| Capital Assets:                                 |                          |
| Capital assets not subject to depreciation      | 37,015                   |
| Depreciable capital assets, net                 | 1,093,107                |
| Total noncurrent assets                         | 1,130,122                |
| Total assets                                    | 1,309,211                |
| LIABILITIES:                                    |                          |
| Current Liabilities:                            |                          |
| Accounts payable                                | 42,454                   |
| Deferred revenue                                | 300                      |
| Meter deposits                                  | 66,914                   |
| Total current liabilities                       | 109,668                  |
| Total liabilities                               | 109,668                  |
| NET POSITION:                                   |                          |
| Invested in capital assets, net of related debt | 1,130,122                |
| Unrestricted                                    | 69,421                   |
| Total net position (deficit)                    | \$ 1,199,543             |

## Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position Proprietary Funds

Year Ended December 31, 2023

|  | Business-Type Activitie |           |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|--|--|
|  | Enterprise Funds        |           |  |  |
|  | Utility System          |           |  |  |
|  |                         |           |  |  |
| Operating revenues:                                      |                         |           |  |  |
| Charges for services                                     | \$                      | 480,439   |  |  |
| Miscellaneous  |                         | 35,876    |  |  |
| <b>Total Operating Revenues</b>                          |                         | 516,315   |  |  |
| Operating expenses:                                      |                         |           |  |  |
| Salaries and payroll taxes                               |                         | 122,761   |  |  |
| Chemicals and supplies                                   |                         | 51,318    |  |  |
| Depreciation   |                         | 82,152    |  |  |
| Gas purchases  |                         | 48,549    |  |  |
| Insurance  |                         | 38,271    |  |  |
| Utilities  |                         | 43,824    |  |  |
| Professional Fees  |                         | 40,815    |  |  |
| Repairs and maintenance                                  |                         | 178,566   |  |  |
| Miscellaneous  |                         | 12,368    |  |  |
| Total operating expenses                                 |                         | 618,624   |  |  |
| Operating income (loss)                                  |                         | (102,309) |  |  |
| Non-operating revenues (expenses):                       |                         |           |  |  |
| Interest income  |                         | -         |  |  |
| Intergovernmental grants                                 |                         | 296,322   |  |  |
| Total Non-operating revenues                             |                         | 296,322   |  |  |
| Income (loss) before capital contributions and transfers |                         | 194,013   |  |  |
| <b>Contributions, transfers and special items:</b>       |                         |           |  |  |
| Capital Contributions                                    |                         | -         |  |  |
| Operating transfers in (out)                             | -                       | (1,221)   |  |  |
| Change in net position                                   |                         | 192,792   |  |  |
| Total net position - beginning                           |                         | 1,006,751 |  |  |
| Total net position - ending                              | \$                      | 1,199,543 |  |  |

#### Statement of Cash Flows - Proprietary Funds Year Ended December 31, 2023

|   | Business-Type Activities |
|---|--------------------------|
|   | Enterprise Funds         |
|   | Utility System           |
| Cash flow from operating activities:  |                          |
| Cash received from customers  | \$ 517,109               |
| Cash payments to suppliers of goods and services  | (406,201)                |
| Cash payments to employees for services   | (122,761)                |
| Net cash provided (used) by operating activities  | (11,853)                 |
| Cash flows from non-capital financing activities:   |                          |
| Grant proceeds  | -                        |
| Operating transfers out   | (1,221)                  |
| Net cash provided (used) by non-capital financing activities  | (1,221)                  |
| Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:   |                          |
| Cash paid for capital assets  | (188,663)                |
| Grant proceeds  | 234,697                  |
| Net cash provided (used) by capital and related   |                          |
| financing activities  | 46,034                   |
| Cash flows from investing activities:   |                          |
| Interest and other income   |                          |
| Net cash provided (used) by investing activities  | <del>-</del>             |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash   | 32,960                   |
| Beginning cash balance  | 93,658                   |
| Ending cash balance   | \$ 126,618               |
| Providence of the state of the |                          |
| Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash Operating income (loss)   | \$ (102,309)             |
| Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash   | ψ (10 <b>2</b> ,30)      |
| provided by operating activities:   |                          |
| Depreciation  | 82,152                   |
| (Increase) decrease in accounts receivable  | (2,431)                  |
| (Increase) decrease in natural gas inventory  | -                        |
|   | 7,510                    |
| (Decrease) increase in accounts and other payables  | 7,510                    |
| (Decrease) increase in accounts and other payables (Decrease) increase in meter deposits  | 3,225                    |

#### **Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:**

For the year ended December 31, 2023, there were no operating, financing, or investing activities that did not result in cash receipts or payments.

#### Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2023

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Town of Montgomery (the Town) is operated under the provisions of a Home Rule Charter adopted July 18, 1998. Under the terms of the charter, the Town is governed by its Mayor and a Town Council consisting of five members. In addition to general government operations, the Town also provides police protection, fire protection, street maintenance, sanitation, recreation, water distribution, natural gas distribution, wastewater collection and wastewater treatment.

The accompanying policies conform to generally accepted accounting principles for governmental units.

#### **Financial Reporting Entity**

As the municipal governing authority, for reporting purposes, the Town is considered a separate financial reporting entity. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (the Town), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Town of Montgomery for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. The criteria include:

- 1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and
  - a) The ability of the Town to impose its will on that organization and/or
  - b) The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Town.
- 2. Organizations for which the Town does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the Town.
- 3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Based upon application of these criteria, there were no potential component units and all of the Town's activities were included in the primary government reporting entity.

#### Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2023

#### **Basic Financial Statements**

The basic financial statements include both government-wide and fund financial statements. Both government-wide and fund financial statements categorize activities as either governmental activities or business-type activities, which are described as follows:

- Governmental activities involve government services that are normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues.
- Business-type activities rely on fees and charges for support and operate in a manner similar to private sector enterprises.

The government-wide and fund financial statements present the Town's financial position and results of operations from differing perspectives which are described as follows:

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the Town as a whole. The effect of most interfund activity is eliminated from these financial statements. Furthermore, government-wide financial statements exclude any fiduciary activities which are reported in the fund financial statements.

Program revenues reported in the Statement of Activities consist of amounts that are directly associated with a governmental service or business-type activity. Program revenues include charges for services, fines, court cost, contributions associated with a particular function and most grants.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

Funds are separate accounting entities that are designed to assist with demonstrating legal compliance and segregating transactions by activity. Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and proprietary funds. In addition, separate financial statements are presented for any fiduciary activities. Major individual funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. The Town's major funds are described as follows:

- Governmental Funds Limited to the General Fund, which is the primary operating fund, used to account for all governmental activities.
- Proprietary Funds Are used to account for business type activities. Revenue earned
  in exchange for providing services is reported as operating income and revenue from
  other sources is reported as non-operating. Since proprietary funds operate in a manner
  similar to business enterprises, these funds follow certain pronouncements that are
  developed by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) for business
  enterprises.

### Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2023

#### **Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus**

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. The basis of accounting and measurement focus used for various financial statement presentations are described as follows:

| <b>Financial Statement Presentation</b> | Basis of Accounting    | Measurement Focus           |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Government-Wide Financial Statements    | Accrual Basis          | Economic Resources          |
| Fund Financial Statements:              |                        |                             |
| Governmental Funds                      | Modified Accrual Basis | Current Financial Resources |
| Proprietary Funds                       | Accrual Basis          | Economic Resources          |

Under the accrual basis of accounting and the economic resources measurement focus, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred.

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting and the current financial resources measurement focus revenue is recognized when it is considered measurable and available. Revenue is considered available if it is collected within 60 days of year end. In addition, expenses are generally recorded when a liability has been incurred; however, debt service, compensated absences, claims and judgments are recorded as expenses when payment is made. Furthermore, when the current financial resources measurement focus is used, amounts recorded as assets exclude capital assets and the acquisition of capital assets is treated as an expenditure. In addition, long-term debts are excluded from amounts reported as liabilities. Proceeds from issuing long-term debt are reported as other financing source and repayment of long-term debt is reported as an expenditure.

#### **Non-Exchange Transactions**

Revenue from certain non-exchange transactions cannot be properly measured prior to collection. Furthermore, it is not practical to determine the probability of collection resulting from certain non-exchange transactions such as traffic citations. Consequently, revenue from certain franchise taxes, fines and court cost is not recognized until it is collected.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statement in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Restricted Assets**

Restricted assets represent resources that must be expended in a specific manner. Restrictions of this nature are imposed by various contractual obligations including grant agreements and bond covenants. In situations where it is permissible to spend restricted resources, the Town typically depletes the available restricted resources before consuming unrestricted resources.

#### Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2023

#### **Deferred Revenues**

Deferred revenues represent grant funds not fully expended at the end of the year. Grant fund revenues are recognized in the subsequent year as funds are expended to complete the obligations of the grant agreement.

#### **Budget Practices**

Budget practices are governed by the Town's Home Rule Charter. In general, the Home Rule Charter considers the final budget from the previous year to be the original budget unless another original budget is adopted prior to the beginning of the year. Budgets are prepared for the Town's general fund by the Town Clerk under the supervision of the Mayor. Upon completion, the budget is submitted to the Board of Aldermen for approval. If amendments are necessary, the amended budgets are prepared and approved in the same manner as the original budget. The budget presents revenue and expenditures on a basis which is consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

#### **Capital Assets**

Capital assets are carried at historical cost including interest incurred during construction. Infrastructure capital assets consisting of streets, bridges, sidewalks and drainage systems acquired before August 1, 2003 are excluded from capital assets. Depreciation associated with capital assets is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents:**

Amounts reported as cash and cash equivalents (restricted and unrestricted) include all cash on hand, cash in bank accounts, certificates of deposit and highly liquid investments. Credit risk associated with bank deposits is limited by requiring fiscal agent banks to pledge securities as required by State Law. Furthermore, interest rate risk associated with certificates of deposits is typically mitigated by purchasing instruments that mature in one year or less.

#### **Inventory**

Inventories are limited to natural gas stored on the Town's behalf by the natural gas supplier. Inventories are reported at cost.

#### **Statement of Cash Flows:**

For the purpose of reporting cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes all cash on hand, cash in banks and certificates of deposit.

#### NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At December 31, 2023, cash balances were fully secured by FDIC coverage.

#### **NOTE 3 - RECEIVABLES**

Details related to receivables at December 31, 2023 are presented as follows:

### Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2023

|                                 | Gove | ernmental | Busi | iness-Type |
|---------------------------------|------|-----------|------|------------|
| Sales taxes                     | \$   | 12,552    | \$   |            |
| Ad valorem taxes                |      | 2,941     |      |            |
| Franchise tax                   |      | 3,304     |      |            |
| Miscellaneous                   |      | 2,950     |      |            |
| Utility revenues                |      |           |      | 53,642     |
| Allowance for doubtful accounts |      |           |      | (11,000)   |
| Total receivables               | \$   | 21,747    | \$   | 42,642     |

#### NOTE 4 – ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts payable at December 31, 2023, consisted entirely of amounts due to vendors and employees.

#### **NOTE 5 - AD VALOREM TAXES**

The Town bills and collects its own property taxes using the assessed values determined by the Tax Assessor of Grant Parish. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Town levied 8.28 mills for general corporate purposes.

Ad valorem taxes are assessed on a calendar year basis and are due on or before December 31 in the year the tax is levied. Revenues from ad valorem taxes are recognized as revenue in the year billed.

#### NOTE 6 - CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of the property and equipment reported by the Town's enterprise funds at December 31, 2023 consists of the following:

|   | В  | eginning                     |    |          |     |        | Ending                             |
|---|----|------------------------------|----|----------|-----|--------|------------------------------------|
|   | ]  | Balance                      | A  | dditions | Dis | posals | Balance                            |
| <b>Governmental Activities</b>  |    |                              |    |          |     |        |                                    |
| Land  | \$ | 18,680                       | \$ |          | \$  |        | \$<br>18,680                       |
| Total Not Subject to Depreciation   | \$ | 18,680                       | \$ |          | \$  |        | \$<br>18,680                       |
| Assets Being Depreciated: Buildings and Improvements Machinery and Equipment Infrastructure | \$ | 279,225<br>97,818<br>792,821 | \$ | <br>     |     | <br>   | \$<br>279,225<br>97,818<br>792,821 |
| Total   |    | 1,169,864                    |    |          |     |        | 1,169,864                          |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation   |    | 300,941                      |    | 55,884   |     |        | 356,825                            |
| Total Net of Depreciation   | \$ | 868,923                      | \$ | (55,884) | \$  |        | \$<br>813,039                      |

#### Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2023

#### **Business-Type Activities**

| Land                            | \$ | 37,015    | \$<br>        | \$<br> | \$<br>37,015    |
|---------------------------------|----|-----------|---------------|--------|-----------------|
|                                 |    |           |               |        |                 |
| Assets Subject to Depreciation: |    |           |               |        |                 |
| Construction in Process         | \$ | 58,136    | \$<br>188,663 | \$<br> | \$<br>246,799   |
| Equipment                       |    | 170,247   |               |        | 170,247         |
| Gas Distribution System         |    | 649,784   |               |        | 649,784         |
| Sewer System                    | 1  | 1,889,250 |               |        | 1,889,250       |
| Water Distribution System       | 2  | 2,063,790 |               |        | 2,063,790       |
| Total                           | ۷  | 1,831,207 | 188,663       |        | 5,019,870       |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation   | 3  | 3,844,611 | 82,152        |        | 3,926,763       |
| Total Net of Depreciation       | \$ | 986,596   | \$<br>106,511 | \$<br> | \$<br>1,093,107 |

Depreciation expense reported by various functions is presented as follows:

| <b>Governmental Activities:</b>              |              |
|--|--------------|
| Police Department                            | \$<br>8,142  |
| Recreation                                   | 8,101        |
| Streets                                      | 39,641       |
| Total Depreciation – Governmental Activities | \$<br>55,884 |
|  |              |
| <b>Business-Type Activities:</b>             |              |
| Utility Services                             | \$<br>82,152 |

#### **NOTE 7- RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft, damage or destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

The Town insures against these risks by participating in a public entity risk pool that operates as a common insurance program and by purchasing commercial insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

#### NOTE 8 – OPERATING TRANSFERS

In order to supplement the general fund and provide resources necessary for the general fund to meet its obligations, various funds have provided transfers to the general fund. These transfers are summarized as follows:

## Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2023

|  | Transfers      | s In ( | Out)            |
|--|----------------|--------|-----------------|
|  | eneral<br>Fund |        | Utility<br>Fund |
| Transfers from funds with unrestricted surpluses to funds in need of |                |        |                 |
| additional resources   | \$<br>1,221    | \$     | (1,221)         |

# General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual Year Ended December 31, 2023

|   |    | Budget   | Amou | nts          | 1  | Actual  | Fir | riance with<br>nal Budget<br>Positive |
|---|----|----------|------|--------------|----|---------|-----|---------------------------------------|
|   | Oı | riginal  |      | Final        | A  | mounts  | (1) | Negative)                             |
|   |    |          |      |              |    |         |     |                                       |
| Revenues:   |    |          |      |              |    |         |     |                                       |
| Taxes   | \$ | -        | \$   | -            | \$ | 97,541  | \$  | 97,541                                |
| Occupational licenses                             |    | -        |      | -            |    | 38,568  |     | 38,568                                |
| Intergovernmental                                 |    | -        |      | -            |    | 278     |     | 278                                   |
| Fines and Court Cost                              |    | -        |      | -            |    | 20,531  |     | 20,531                                |
| Donations   |    | -        |      | -            |    | 152,318 |     | 152,318                               |
| Miscellaneous                                     |    | -        |      | <del>-</del> |    | 10,997  |     | 10,997                                |
| Total revenues                                    |    |          |      |              |    | 320,233 |     | 320,233                               |
| General Government:                               |    |          |      |              |    |         |     |                                       |
| Current General government                        |    |          |      |              |    | 113,386 |     | (112 296)                             |
| Public safety (law enforcement)                   |    | _        |      | _            |    | 37,697  |     | (113,386)<br>(37,697)                 |
| Public works (streets)                            |    | _        |      | _            |    | 18,779  |     | (18,779)                              |
| Culture and recreation                            |    | -        |      | -            |    | 118,508 |     | (118,508)                             |
| Contingency                                       |    | -        |      | -            |    | -       |     | -                                     |
| Capital outlay                                    |    |          |      | <del>-</del> |    |         |     |                                       |
| Total expenditures                                |    |          |      |              |    | 288,370 |     | (288,370)                             |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures |    | -        |      | -            |    | 31,863  |     | 31,863                                |
| Other sources (uses)                              |    |          |      |              |    |         |     |                                       |
| Operating transfers in                            |    | -        |      | -            |    | 1,221   |     | 1,221                                 |
| Operating transfers out                           |    | -        |      | <del>-</del> |    |         |     |                                       |
| Net Change in Fund Balances                       |    | -        |      | -            |    | 33,084  |     | 33,084                                |
| Fund balance - beginning of year                  |    | <u>-</u> |      |              |    | 5,345   |     | (5,345)                               |
| Fund balance - end of year                        | \$ |          | \$   |              | \$ | 38,429  | \$  | 27,739                                |

## **TOWN OF MONTGOMERY**

## SCHEDULE OF PER DIEM PAID TO BOARD MEMBERS Year Ended December 31, 2023

| Delores LeBaron   | \$<br>2,860 |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Courtney Fowler   | 680         |
| Eleanor Sheffield | 965         |
| Jarrod Pinder     | 95          |
| Wendy Harrison    | 625         |
| Total             | \$<br>5,225 |

## Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer For the year ended December 31, 2023

| Agency Head    | (Mayor)            | _ |
|----------------|--------------------|---|
|                | Delores<br>LeBaron |   |
| Purpose:       |                    |   |
| Compensation   | \$ 2,860           |   |
| Benefits       | -                  |   |
| Reimbursements | -                  |   |
|                |                    | _ |
| Total          | \$ 2,860           |   |

# Justice System Funding Schedule - Collecting / Disbursing Entity As Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session Cash Basis Presentation

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

|   | Mon<br>E | rst Six<br>th Period<br>Inded<br>2 30, 2023 | Mont<br>E<br>Dec | ond Six<br>th Period<br>nded<br>cember<br>, 2023 |
|---|----------|---|------------------|--|
| Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected                | \$       |   | \$               |  |
| Add: Collections                                      |          |   |                  |  |
| Criminal Criminal/Costs/Fees                          |          | 13,774                                      |                  | 6,757  |
| Subtotal Collections                                  |          | 13,774                                      |                  | 6,757  |
| Less: Disbursements to Governments & Nonprofits       |          |   |                  |  |
| Central Louisiana Juvenille Detention Center          |          | -   |                  | -  |
| Dept. of Health and Hospitals - Head Injury Fund      |          | -   |                  | 10   |
| Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement - Court Cost  |          | -   |                  | -  |
| Louisiana Supreme Court Assessment                    |          | 2   |                  | -  |
| North Louisiana Crime Lab - Court Cost                |          | -   |                  | 20   |
| State of Louisiana - CMIS Assessment                  |          | -   |                  | 74   |
| Less: Amounts Retained by the Town of Montgomery      |          |   |                  |  |
| Self Disbursed Court Cost                             |          | 13,772                                      |                  | 6,653  |
| Subtotal Disbursements / Retainage                    |          | 13,774                                      |                  | 6,757  |
| Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed | \$       | _   | \$               | -  |



November 19, 2024

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Mayor and Board of Aldermen Town of Montgomery, Louisiana

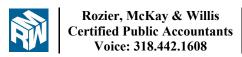
We were engaged to audit, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the Town of Montgomery, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Montgomery's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2024. Our report disclaims an opinion on such financial statements because documentation was not available to support numerous transactions and complete. In addition, complete and accurate bank reconciliations were not available.

#### REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

In connection with our engagement to audit the financial statements of the Town, we considered the Town's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing the 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 Town's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

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 deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-001, 2023-002, and 2023-005 to be material weaknesses.

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 deficiencies described in the accompany schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-006 and 2023-007 to be significant deficiencies.

#### REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

In connection with our engagement to audit the financial statements of the Town, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our engagement, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and as items 2023-003 and 2023-004. Additionally, if the scope of our work had been sufficient to enable us to express opinions on the basic financial statements, other instances of noncompliance or other matters may have been identified and reported herein.

#### TOWN OF MONTGOMERY'S RESPONSE TO FINDINGS

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

#### PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Rozier, McKay & Willis

Certified Public Accountants

Nozier, Mc Lay + Willi

#### Schedule of Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

#### <u>PART I</u> Summary of Auditor's Results

- The Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements of the Town of Montgomery as of December 31, 2023 and for the year then ended expressed a qualified opinion.
- The audit resulted in findings which are required to be reported as material weaknesses (2023-001, 2023-002, and 2023-005) and reportable conditions (2023-006 and 2023-007).
- The results of the audit disclosed instances of noncompliance (2023-003 and 2022-004) that are considered to be material to the financial statements of the Town of Montgomery.

# <u>PART II</u> Findings Relating to the Financial Statements Which are Required to be Reported in Accordance With Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards

| 2023-001        | Supporting Documentation (Originally Reported 2021)  |
|-----------------|--|
| Condition       | For the first quarter of 2023, documentation was not available to support a substantial portion of |
|                 | payments to vendors selected for testing.  |
| Criteria        | Retaining adequate supporting documentation is an essential part of proper administration and      |
|                 | establishing an audit trail to permit expressing an opinion on the financial statements.           |
| Cause           | Recordkeeping procedures were not sufficient to properly retain and retrieve adequate supporting   |
|                 | documentation.   |
| Effect          | Due to the absence of supporting documentation, evidence was not available to support an opinion   |
|                 | of amounts reported as expenses and expenditures.  |
| Recommendations | Establish filing procedure that will permit retention of records, including invoices necessary to  |
|                 | properly document payments made to vendors.  |

| 2023-002        | Utility Operating Losses (Originally Reported 2021)   |
|-----------------|---|
| Condition       | The Utility System reported substantial operating losses, resulting in depletion of the Systems         |
|                 | financial condition. In addition, the financial condition was further depleted by operating transfers   |
|                 | to the general fund.  |
| Criteria        | In order to sustain operations, utility rates should produce sufficient revenue to fully fund operating |
|                 | costs and any transfers to the general fund.  |
| Cause           | Rates have not been adjusted in recent years and existing rates do not appear sufficient to provide     |
|                 | resources for operations and transfers. Since existing rates were adopted, inflation and the            |
|                 | advancing age of the system have caused operating costs to escalate. In addition, the Town did not      |
|                 | charge a fuel adjustment necessary to pass along increases in the cost of natural gas that the Town     |
|                 | Purchases for resale to its utility customers.  |
| Effect          | Declining financial condition could eventually result in inability to deliver serves and sustain        |
|                 | operations.   |
| Recommendations | Conduct a rate study and establish rates necessary to properly operate the system.                      |

| 2023-003  | Budgeting (Originally Reported 2021)  |
|-----------|---|
| Condition | Minutes of meetings held by the Board of Aldermen do not include action to adopt a budget for the |
|           | year ended December 31, 2022.   |
| Criteria  | State Law and the Town's Home Rule Charter require the General Fund to operate under a duly       |
|           | adopted budget.   |
| Cause     | The absence of a budget appears to be the result of an administrative oversight.                  |
| Effect    | Failure to adopt a budget resulted in violations of State Law and the Home Rule Charter.          |

# Schedule of Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

| Recommendations | We suggest reviewing the applicable budget requirements and adopting a budget that conforms to  |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
|                 | the requirements. In addition, the budget should be monitored on a monthly basis and amended if |  |
|                 | necessary to avoid unfavorable budget variances that might exceed limits permitted by Law.      |  |

| 2023-004        | Financial Reporting (Late Audit Submission) – (Originally Reported 2021)                           |
|-----------------|--|
| Condition       | The audit was not completed by the initial due date and the condition of the books and records did |
|                 | not permit expressing an opinion.  |
| Criteria        | State Law requires audits to be completed within six months of year end. The law also requires     |
|                 | books and records to be maintained in a manner that permits auditors to express an opinion.        |
| Cause           | Financial records were not in proper condition to be properly audited within the required time     |
|                 | period.  |
| Effect          | Non compliance with State Law.   |
| Recommendations | Retain personnel with the necessary training and experience to perform timely financial reporting  |
|                 | or retain a third party to complete the reporting on site.   |

| 2023-005        | Reconciliation Discrepancies (Originally Reported 2021)   |
|-----------------|---|
| Condition       | The Town has numerous bank accounts and none of the bank accounts have been properly                  |
|                 | reconciled.   |
| Criteria        | Properly performing bank reconciliations is a vital part of properly reporting the Town's financial   |
|                 | affairs.  |
| Cause           | Ineffective monitoring of the reconciliation process.   |
| Effect          | Internal controls were not sufficient to prevent or detect and correct errors in a timely manner.     |
| Recommendations | Retain personnel with the necessary training to properly report and reconcile bank activity for every |
|                 | account or retain a third party to perform onsite reconciliations. In addition, the governing body    |
|                 | should review reconciliation reports as part of the financial review performed during regular         |
|                 | monthly meetings.   |

| 2023-006        | Payroll Documentation (Originally Reported 2022)   |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Condition       | Employees have completed timesheets reporting their attendance but typically the documents       |  |  |
|                 | contain no evidence of approval by the employee's supervisor.                                    |  |  |
| Criteria        | Monitoring attendance is an important mechanism for ensuring that the Town receives fair value   |  |  |
|                 | for the compensation provided to its employees. Due to the importance of the monitoring process, |  |  |
|                 | it should be documented by requiring a supervisor to approve each timesheet prior to issuing     |  |  |
|                 | paychecks.   |  |  |
| Cause           | Failure to follow procedures for monitoring and documenting attendance.                          |  |  |
| Effect          | The absence of an approval process limits the Town's ability to prevent payroll fraud.           |  |  |
| Recommendations | Require each employee's attendance records to be approved by a supervisor prior to delivering    |  |  |
|                 | compensation.  |  |  |

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# Schedule of Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

| 2023-007        | Policies (Originally Reported 2022)  |   |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Condition       | Formal guidance that communicates acceptable practices to employees is limited and to the extent it does exist, it is not routinely implemented of fully understood.   |   |
| Criteria        | Written policies can be an essential mechanism for communicating expectations to employees and holding employees responsible for accountable for performance.  |   |
| Cause           | An absence of written documentation that communicates expectations to employees. Workforce turnover experienced by the Town has resulted in a further need for measures of this nature.  |   |
| Effect          | Ineffective polices and poor performance.  |   |
| Recommendations | should be addressed in a document of this nature are listed as follows:  |   |
|                 | <ul> <li>Payroll and personnel polices including vacation, sick leave, and holidays.</li> <li>Budgeting</li> <li>Purchasing and bidding.</li> <li>Disbursements including procedures for issuing checks and making electronic payments.</li> <li>Ethics and sexual harassment policies and training.</li> <li>Expense documentation and record retention.</li> <li>Polices for reconciling bank accounts.</li> <li>Processing traffic tickets and operation of municipal court.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Prohibitions against work on private property and use of public resources for private purposes.</li> <li>Policies governing use of Town vehicles, equipment and fuel.</li> <li>Use of credit and debit cards.</li> <li>Travel and expense reimbursement.</li> <li>Information technology and disaster recovery.</li> <li>Utility billing practices including acceptable documentation and approval for adjusting customer accounts.</li> <li>Alcohol and drug use.</li> <li>Safety practices.</li> </ul> |

## Management's Corrective Action Plan For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

| SECTION I<br>INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 2023-001: Supporting Documentation  For the first quarter of 2023, documentation was not available to support a substantial portion of payments to vendors selected for testing.  | 2023-001: Response Our new staff began maintain records during April, 2023 and records processed since that time have been readily available.  |  |
| 2023-002: Utility Operating Losses The Utility System reported substantial operating losses, resulting in depletion of the Systems financial condition. In addition, the financial condition was further depleted by operating transfers to the general fund. | 2023-002: Response  New water and sewer rates were established on April 8, 2024 based on a rate study performed by the Louisiana Rural Water Association. A new rate structure for natural gas operations is pending approval. |  |
| 2023-003: Budgeting Minutes of meetings held by the Board of Aldermen do not include action to adopt a budget. See the Schedule of Findings for further details.  | 2023-003: Response In the future, we will ensure that adoption of the budget is fully documented in the minutes.   |  |
| 2023-004: Financial Reporting (Late Audit Submission) The audit was not completed by the initial due date   | 2023-004: Response  We are in the process of modernizing our accounting system. We expect the improvements to enable future audits to be completed on time.  |  |
| 2023-005: Reconciliation Discrepancies The Town has numerous bank accounts and none of the bank accounts have been properly reconciled.   | 2023-005: Response  We are in the process of modernizing our accounting system. We expect the improvements to facilitate future reconciliations.   |  |
| 2023-006: Payroll Documentation  Employees have completed timesheets reporting their attendance but typically the documents contain no evidence of approval by the employee's supervisor.   | 2022-006: Response  We are considering adopting a comprehensive set of polices that will establish and enforcement processes for documenting and approving attendance.   |  |
| 2023-007: Policies Formal guidance that communicates acceptable practices to employees is limited and to the extent it does exist, it is not routinely implemented of fully understood.   | 2022-007: Response  We will consider compiling and implementing a comprehensive set of policies and procedures.  |  |
| SECTION II<br>MANAGEMENT LETTER   |  |  |
| No management letter was issued.  | Response – N/A   |  |

## Schedule of Prior Year Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

| SECTION I<br>INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO THE FINANCIAL<br>STATEMENTS.   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 2022-001: Supporting Documentation  Documentation was not available to support a substantial portion of payments to vendors selected for testing. See the Schedule of Findings for further details.   | 2022-001: Resolved Transactions processed after the first quarter of 2023 were supported by adequate documentation.   |  |
| 2022-002: Utility Operating Losses The Utility System reported substantial operating losses, resulting in depletion of the Systems financial condition. In addition, the financial condition was further depleted by operating transfers to the general fund. | 2022-002: Unresolved The issue remained unresolved at December 31, 2023. New rates for water and sewer service were adopted in 2024. Natural gas rates have not been addressed. |  |
| 2022-003: Budgeting Minutes of meetings held by the Board of Aldermen do not include action to adopt a budget. See the Schedule of Findings for further details.  | <b>2022-003: Unresolved</b><br>See 2023-003.  |  |
| 2022-004: Financial Reporting (Late Audit Submission) The audit was not completed by the initial due date. See the Schedule of Findings for further details.  | <b>2022-004: Unresolved</b> See 2023-004.   |  |
| 2022-005: Reconciliation Discrepancies  The General Fund bank account reconciliation included a variety of errors. In addition, the utility savings account, the meter deposit account and the ARPA account were not reconciled.                              | <b>2022-005: Unresolved</b> See 2023-005.   |  |
| 2022-006: Payroll Documentation  Employees have completed timesheets reporting their attendance but typically the documents contain no evidence of approval by the employee's supervisor.   | 2023-006: Unresolved<br>See 2023-006.   |  |
| 2022-007: Policies Formal guidance that communicates acceptable practices to employees is limited and to the extent it does exist, it is not routinely implemented of fully understood.   | <b>2023-007: Unresolved</b><br>See 2023-007.  |  |
| SECTION II<br>MANAGEMENT LETTER   |   |  |
| No management letter was issued.  | Response – N/A  |  |

# APPENDIX A Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures



## Independent Accountant's Report On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Town of Montgomery and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Town of Montgomery (the Entity) and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the LLA's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The Entity's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The entity has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period described above. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

We were engaged to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the entity and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Rozier, McKay & Willis Certified Public Accountants Alexandria, Louisiana

January 7, 2025

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

| Written Policies and Procedures                  |  |                       |  |  |
|--|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| Agreed-Upon Procedure                            | Results  | Managements' Response |  |  |
| Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies | No written policies or procedures were provided. | -                     |  |  |

|   | Board (or Finance Committee)  |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
|   | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Agreed-Upon Procedure Results   | Managements' Response  |  |
| 2 | Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:   |   |  |  |
|   | a) Observe that the board/finance committee<br>met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a<br>frequency in accordance with the board's<br>enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or<br>other equivalent document.   | Minutes indicate that meetings were held monthly with a quorum present. | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.   |  |
|   | b) For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund and major special revenue funds, as well as monthly financial statements (or budget-to-actual comparisons, if budgeted) for major proprietary funds. Alternately, for those entities reporting on the non-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period. | The minutes did not include any evidence of budget adoption.            | As part of correcting deficiencies in our financial reporting system, we intend to incorporate budget amounts into financial information submitted to the Town's governing body. |  |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|  | Board (or Finance Committee)   |   |  |  |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results  | Managements' Response   |  |  |  |
| c) For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unrestricted fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unrestricted fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unrestricted fund balance in the general fund. | For the previous year, the general fund reported a positive unrestricted fund balance. | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.  |  |  |  |
| d) Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.  | No updates were reported in the minutes.   | In the future, we intend to include resolution of audit findings as part of the regular agenda. |  |  |  |

|   | Bank Reconciliations  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
|   | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results  | Managements' Response  |  |
| 3 | Obtain a listing of client bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for selected each account, and observe that: | The list was provided.                                       | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.   |  |
|   | <ul> <li>a) Bank reconciliations include evidence that<br/>they were prepared within 2 months of the<br/>related statement closing date (e.g., initialed<br/>and dated, electronically logged);</li> </ul>  | Reconciliations were not completed within a 2 month period.  | The Town is in the process of revising its financial reporting process to provide more timely financial reporting. |  |
|   | b) Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management/board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and   | No indications of management or Board approval were present. | Efforts will be made in the future to document the review process.   |  |
|   | c) Management has documentation reflecting<br>that it has researched reconciling items that<br>have been outstanding for more than 12<br>months from the statement closing date, if<br>applicable.  | No documentation was provided.                               | Efforts will be made in the future to document the review process.   |  |

|   |  | Collections (excluding EFTs)  |   |
|---|--|---|---|
|   | Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results   | Managements' Response   |
| , | Obtain a listing of <u>deposit sites</u> for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).  | All deposit activity is conducted in a single location.   | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.  |
|   | For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (i.e. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that: | Segregation is limited because the administrative staff is limited to two people, and it is sometimes necessary for these employees to assist each other with their duties. | Due to limited resources, it is not practical to provide further segregation; however, the matter is mitigated by retaining a third party vendor to assist with bank reconciliations. |
|   | a) Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.  | Due to the limited size of the staff, it is not always practical for each employee to use a drawer exclusively.   | Due to limited resources, it is not practical to provide further segregation; however, the matter is mitigated by retaining a third party vendor to assist with bank reconciliations. |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|   | Collections (excluding EFTs)  |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results   | Managements' Response   |  |  |  |
| b) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.   | Due to limited size of the staff complete segregations is not possible.   | Due to limited resources, it is not practical to provide further segregation; however, the matter is mitigated by retaining a third party vendor to assist with bank reconciliations. |  |  |  |
| c) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit.   | Due to limited size of the staff complete segregations is not possible.   | Due to limited resources, it is not practical to provide further segregation; however, the matter is mitigated by retaining a third party vendor to assist with bank reconciliations. |  |  |  |
| d) The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee verifies the reconciliation.   | Due to limited size of the staff complete segregations is not possible.   | Due to limited resources, it is not practical to provide further segregation; however, the matter is mitigated by retaining a third party vendor to assist with bank reconciliations. |  |  |  |
| 6 Inquire of management that all employees who have access to cash are covered by a bond or insurance policy for theft.   | Based on the available documentation, no coverage appears to be in place. | We intend to review our insurance needs and structure coverage accordingly.   |  |  |  |
| 7 Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under "Bank Reconciliations" above (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as |   |   |  |  |  |

# Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|  | Collections (excluding EFTs)                                |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results   | Managements' Response                                    |  |  |
| a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc. Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:   |   |  |  |  |
| a. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-<br>numbered.  | Receipts were provided for transactions involving currency. | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |  |  |
| b. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.   | Documentation was adequate.                                 | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |  |  |
| c. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.  | Deposit slips agreed with the bank statements.              | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |  |  |
| d. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100). | Deposits were made within a single business day.            | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |  |  |
| e. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.  | Deposits agreed with the bank statements.                   | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |  |  |

|   | Non-Payroll Disbursements – General (excluding credit card/debit card/fuel card/P-Card purchases or payments)   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
|   | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Agreed-Upon Procedure Results  |  |  |
| 8 | Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).  | All process is conducted at Town Hall.   | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.   |  |
| 9 | For each location selected under #8 above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that: |  |  |  |
|   | <ul> <li>a) At least two employees are involved in<br/>initiating a purchase request, approving a<br/>purchase, and placing an order/making the<br/>purchase.</li> </ul>  | The Town does not extensively utilize purchase orders or other means of preapproval. | Due to the Town's size and limited number of employees, purchasing is informal; however, the Council monitors expenditures by approving bills pror to payment. |  |
|   | b) At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.   | Checks require dual signatures.  | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.   |  |
|   | c) The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files.  | There are no policies restricting access to vendor files.                            | Due to the limited size of the staff, restrictions of this nature are not practical.   |  |

|    | Non-Payroll Disbursements – General (excluding credit card/debit card/fuel card/P-Card purchases or payments)   |  |  |  |  |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results  | Managements' Response  |  |  |
|    | d) Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments.  | Personnel with signature authority are responsible for mailing.  | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.   |  |  |
| 10 | For each location selected under #8 above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction and: |  |  |  |  |
|    | Observe that the disbursement matched the related original invoice/billing statement.   | Based on analysis of a sample of disbursements, documentation was not available to support an significant portion of the disbursements and the auditor's opinion was modified accordingly. | The matter was resolved in April, 2023 by replacing personnel that were responsible for maintaining documentation. |  |  |
|    | b. Observe that the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.  | Based on analysis of a sample of disbursements, documentation was not available to support an significant portion of the disbursements and the auditor's opinion was modified accordingly. | The matter was resolved in April, 2023 by replacing personnel that were responsible for maintaining documentation. |  |  |
| 11 | Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons                                    | Due to issues with record retention described above, documentation was not consistently available to support electronic transactions   | The matter was resolved in April, 2023 by replacing personnel that were responsible for maintaining documentation. |  |  |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

| Non-Payroll Disbursements – General (excluding credit card/debit card/fuel card/P-Card purchases or payments)   |         |                       |  |
|---|---------|-----------------------|--|
| Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results | Managements' Response |  |
| authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements. |         |                       |  |

|    | Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards  |   |   |  |
|----|--|---|---|--|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results   | Managements' Response   |  |
| 12 | Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.                   | Management indicated that cards were limited to a debit card for the General Fund bank account and the Utility Fund bank account. | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.            |  |
| 13 | Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement), obtain supporting documentation, and: |   |   |  |
|    | a. Observe that there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the authorized card holder.      | Bank accounts were not properly reconciled.   | We are in the process of developing improvements to our procedures. |  |
|    | b. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.  | Not Applicable: Transactions are limited to debit card purchases.   | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.            |  |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|   | Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards  |   |      |     |                                   |            |
|---|--|---|------|-----|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Agreed-Up   | oon Procedure  | Res   | ults | Man | agements' Respor                  | ise        |
| statements select excluding fuel caterial transactions (or all from each statement documentation for card should have testing). For each is supported by (1) that identifies precedure (2) written to business/public | y statements or combined ted under #12 above, ards, randomly select 10 transactions if less than 10) ent, and obtain supporting the transactions (i.e. each 10 transactions subject to transaction, observe that it an original itemized receipt cisely what was purchased, documentation of the purpose, and (3) the individuals participating charges only). | \$524.02 (58.0%) of the selected for testing. |      |     | the process of to our procedures. | developing |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

| Travel and Expense Reimbursement  |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results  | Managements' Response |
| 15 Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements, obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected: | Management representations and an analysis of general ledger activity did not reveal any reimbursements. |                       |
| a. If reimbursed using a per diem, agree the<br>reimbursement rate to those rates<br>established either by the State of Louisiana<br>or the U.S. General Services Administration<br>(www.gsa.gov).  | N/A  | N/A                   |
| <ul> <li>b. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe<br/>that the reimbursement is supported by an<br/>original itemized receipt that identifies<br/>precisely what was purchased.</li> </ul>  | N/A  | N/A                   |
| c. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by written policy (procedure #1h).  | N/A  | N/A                   |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

| Travel and Expense Reimbursement  |         |                       |
|---|---------|-----------------------|
| Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results | Managements' Response |
| d. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement. | N/A     | N/A                   |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|    | Contracts  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results  | Managements' Response                                    |
| 16 | Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and: | The list was provided.   |  |
|    | <ul> <li>a. Observe that the contract was bid in<br/>accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid<br/>Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids,<br/>advertised), if required by law.</li> </ul>   | Bids were awarded based on a tabulation of responses performed by consulting engineers | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |
|    | <ul> <li>b. Observe that the contract was approved by<br/>the governing body/board, if required by<br/>policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home<br/>Rule Charter).</li> </ul>  | Approval was not required by the charter.  | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |
|    | c. If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment.   | No amendments were processed.  | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |
|    | d. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.  | Documentation agreed with contract terms.  | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |

|    | Payroll and Personnel   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results   | Managements' Response   |
| 17 | Obtain a listing of employees/elected officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees/officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files. | Management provided copies of W-2s issued by the Town for 2023.   | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.  |
| 18 | Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees/officials selected under #16 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:   |   |   |
|    | a. Observe that all selected employees/officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).  | Hours for all employees were recorded on a single worksheet. The employees were not required to sign off. | We are in the process of preparing a personnel manual that will provide revised procedures.         |
|    | b. Observe that supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials.  | No evidence of approval by supervisors was present.   | In the future, we intend to require documentation by supervisors for all workers.                   |
|    | c. Observe that any leave accrued or taken<br>during the pay period is reflected in the<br>entity's cumulative leave records.   | Not Applicable:<br>Employees are not entitled to receive payment<br>for unused leave upon termination.    | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.  |
|    | d. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.   | No documentation appeared in personnel files.   | Due to the small size of our workforce, an informal documentation process is considered sufficient. |
| 19 | Obtain a listing of those employees/officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's  | Not Applicable:<br>Employees are not entitled to receive payment<br>for unused leave upon termination.    | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms.  |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|    | Payroll and Personnel   |         |  |
|----|---|---------|--|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results | Managements' Response                                    |
| 20 | representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees/officials, obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations, agree the hours to the employee/officials' cumulate leave records, and agree the pay rates to the employee/officials' authorized pay rates in the employee/officials' personnel files.  Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, and workers' compensation premiums have been paid, and associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines. |         | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|    | Ethics   |   |   |
|----|--|---|---|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results   | Managements' Response   |
| 21 | Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, obtain ethics documentation from management, and:                                |   |   |
|    | <ul> <li>a. Observe that the documentation<br/>demonstrates each employee/official<br/>completed one hour of ethics training during<br/>the fiscal period.</li> </ul>                      | Documentation of ethics training was available for 2 of the 5 selected employees. | The Town will make arrangements to fulfill the requirements in the future.  |
|    | b. Observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official attested through signature verification that he or she has read the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period. | No ethics policy has been adopted.  | The Town will make arrangements to fulfill the requirements in the future.  |
| 22 |  | No appointee was identified.  | We will address the requirements of R.S. 42:1170 when circumstances permit. |

# Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|    | Debt Service   |   |  |
|----|--|---|--|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results   | Managements' Response                                    |
| 23 | Obtain a listing of bonds/notes issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all bonds/notes on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each bond/note issued.  | Not Applicable:<br>No debt was issued or outstanding. | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |
| 24 | Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants. | • •   | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |

# Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|    | Fraud Notice  |  |  |
|----|---|--|--|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results  | Managements' Response                                    |
| 25 | Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled. | No misappropriations were reported.  | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |
| 20 | Observe that the entity has posted on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.  | The notice was posted physically and the Town does not maintain a website. | Procedures did not result in any findings or criticisms. |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|    | Information Technology Disaster Recovery /Business Continuity  |  |                       |
|----|--|--|-----------------------|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results  | Managements' Response |
| 27 | Perform the following procedures, verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."   |  |                       |
| a. | Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.                                   | We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management | Not Applicable        |
| b. | Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.   | We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management | Not Applicable        |
| C. | Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor. | We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management | Not Applicable        |
| 28 | Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in   | We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management | Not Applicable        |

## Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

|  | Information Technology Disaster Recovery /Business Continuity  |         |                       |
|--|--|---------|-----------------------|
|  | Agreed-Upon Procedure  | Results | Managements' Response |
| sele   | cedure #9C. Observe evidence that the ected terminated employees have been noved or disabled from the network.   |         |                       |
| Period<br>cybo<br>mar<br>doc<br>follo<br>the<br>have | ng the 5 randomly selected ployees/officials from Payroll and sonnel procedure #9A, obtain ersecurity training documentation from nagement, and observe that the sumentation demonstrates that the bwing employees/officials with access to agency's information technology assets by completed cybersecurity training as uired by R.S. 42:1267. | ·       | Not Applicable        |

|    | Sexual Harassment   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|
|    | Agreed-Upon Procedure   | Results   | Managements' Response   |
| 30 | Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year.  | Document of training was provided for 3 of the 5 employees selected for training. | Management is currently studying requirements related to sexual harassment, and will make arrangements fulfill requirements once the process is complete. |
| 31 | Observe the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).  | No evidence of posting was available.   | Management is currently studying requirements related to sexual harassment, and will make arrangements fulfill requirements once the process is complete. |
| 32 | Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:  a. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements; b. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency; c. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred; d. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and e. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint. | Based on the available evidence no reporting was conducted.                       | Management is currently studying requirements related to sexual harassment, and will make arrangements fulfill requirements once the process is complete. |