

WAYNE COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

NEW YORK

LETTER OF COMMUNICATION

For Year Ended December 31, 2023



BUSINESS
ADVISORS
AND CPAS



March 21, 2024

To the Board Members
Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority, New York

We have audited the financial statements of the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority, New York for the year ended December 31, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 21, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

A. Our Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated October 18, 2023, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

As part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority, New York. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority, New York's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, the objective of our tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with such provisions.

B. Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to management and the Board in our engagement letter dated October 18, 2023.

C. Significant Risks Identified

Professional standards require that we identify and assess risks and design and perform our audit procedures to assess those risks. The two risks which are always identified in an audit are management override of internal controls and revenue recognition. The identification of a risk does not mean that it has occurred, but rather it has the potential to impact the financial statements.

D. Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority, New York are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The new accounting pronouncements which were implemented were GASB Statement 94 *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Available Payment Arrangements*, GASB Statement 96 *Subscription Based Information Technology*, and GASB Statement 99 *Omnibus 2022-Leases, PPP, and SBITAS*. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no individually sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements.

E. Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

F. Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

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

G. Disagreements with Management

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

H. Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated March 21, 2024.

I. Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

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

J. Other Audit Findings or Issues

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

K. Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, and our firm have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence. Safeguards in place to eliminate or reduce threats to independence to an acceptable level include a skilled, knowledgeable and experienced Finance Director who reviews draft financial statements prior to issuance and accepts responsibility for them.

L. Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the management’s discussion and analysis, schedule of the authority’s proportionate share of the net pension liability, and schedule of authority contributions which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management’s responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

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

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This information is intended solely for the use of the Board and management of the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority, New York and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Mengel, Metzger, Barw & Co. LLP

Rochester, New York
March 21, 2024