Financial Statements, Supplemental Schedules and Independent Auditors' Report For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

Lowdermilk Church & Co., L.L.P. Certified Public Accountants

# LIST OF PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS June 30, 2019

## Mayor & Town Council

Mayor

Denver Buchanan

Councilmen

William Steppe Nicholas Goode

# **Town Administration**

Finance Officer

Amy Goode - Hanaway

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# FINANCIAL SECTION

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- Notes to the Financial Statements
- Individual Fund Schedules
- Other Schedules

# Lowdermilk Church & Co., L.L.P.

Certified Public Accountants

121 N. Sterling Street Morganton, North Carolina 28655 Phone: (828) 433-1226

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#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council Town of Ruth, North Carolina

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Ruth, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

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

#### Auditors' Responsibility

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

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

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

#### **Opinions**

In our opinion, based on our audit, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Ruth, North Carolina, as of June 30, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Other Matters

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, on pages 3–9, to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Supplementary and Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Ruth, North Carolina's basic financial statements. The individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules and other schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules and other schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from, and relate directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements, or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, based on our audit, the procedures performed as described above, the individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules and other schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Morganton, North Carolina

Low famil Club + Co., L.L. t.

November 21, 2019

#### Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of Town of Ruth, we offer readers of Town of Ruth's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of Town of Ruth for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in Town of Ruth's financial statements, which follow this narrative.

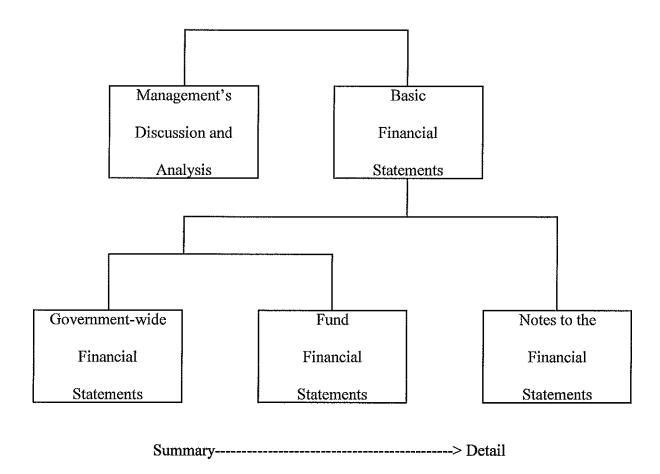
#### Financial Highlights

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of Town of Ruth exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the fiscal year by \$719,788 (net position).
- The government's total net position decreased by \$43,772.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, Town of Ruth's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$632,548, with a net decrease of \$41,799 in fund balance. Approximately 3.23 percent of this total amount, or \$20,455, is nonspendable or restricted.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$611,070, or 292.77 percent of total General Fund expenditures for the fiscal year.

#### Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to Town of Ruth's basic financial statements. Town of Ruth's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements (see Figure 1). The basic financial statements present two different views of Town of Ruth through the use of government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of Town of Ruth.

#### Required Components of Annual Financial Report Figure 1



#### **Basic Financial Statements**

The first two statements (Exhibits 1 and 2) in the basic financial statements are the Government-wide Financial Statements. They provide both short and long-term information about Town of Ruth's financial status.

The next statements (Exhibits 3 through 7) are **Fund Financial Statements**. These statements focus on the activities of the individual parts of the Town's government. These statements provide more detail than the government-wide statements. There are two parts to the Fund Financial Statements: 1) the governmental funds statements; and 2) the budgetary comparison statements.

The next section of the basic financial statements is the **Notes**. The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in those statements. After the notes, **Supplemental Information** is provided to show details about the Town's individual funds. Budgetary information required by the North Carolina General Statutes also can be found in this part of the statements.

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

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the Town's finances, similar in format to a financial statement of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the Town's financial status as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the Town's net position and how it has changed. Net position is the difference between the Town's total assets and deferred outflows of resources and total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Measuring net position is one way to gauge the Town's financial condition.

The government-wide statements are comprised of governmental activities. The governmental activities include all of the Town's basic services such as public safety, transportation, environmental protection and general administration. Property taxes and State grant funds finance most of these activities.

The government-wide financial statements are on Exhibits 1 and 2 of this report.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements (see Figure 2) provide a more detailed look at the Town's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Town of Ruth, like all other governmental entities in North Carolina, uses fund accounting to ensure and reflect compliance (or non-compliance) with finance-related legal requirements, such as the General Statutes or the Town's budget ordinance. All of the funds of Town of Ruth are in one category — governmental funds.

Governmental Funds - Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. All of the Town's basic services are accounted for in governmental funds. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow in and out and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting which provides a short-term spending focus. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the Town's programs. The relationship between government activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation that is a part of the fund financial statements.

Town of Ruth adopts an annual budget for its General Fund, as required by the General Statutes. The budget is a legally adopted document that incorporates input from the citizens of the Town, the management of the Town, and the decisions of the Board about which services to provide and how to pay for them. It also authorizes the Town to obtain funds from identified sources to finance these current period activities. The budgetary statement provided for the General Fund demonstrates how well the Town complied with the budget ordinance and whether or not the Town succeeded in providing the services as planned when the budget was adopted. The budgetary comparison statement uses the budgetary basis of accounting and is presented using the same format, language, and classifications as the legal budget document. The statement shows four columns: 1) the original budget as adopted by the Board; 2) the final budget as amended by the Board; 3) the actual resources, charges to appropriations, and ending balances in the General Fund; and 4) the difference or variance between the final budget and the actual resources and charges.

**Notes to the Financial Statements -** The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 17 of this report.

Other Information - In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents individual fund statements and schedules immediately following the notes. Individual fund statements and schedules can be found beginning on page 27 of this report.

Interdependence with Other Entities - The Town depends on financial resources flowing from, or associated with, both the Federal Government and the State of North Carolina. Because of this dependency, the Town is subject to changes in specific flows of intergovernmental revenues based on modifications to Federal and State laws and Federal and State appropriations. It is also subject to changes in investment earnings and asset values associated with U.S. Treasury Securities because of actions by foreign governments and other holders of publicly held U.S. Treasury Securities.

#### Government-Wide Financial Analysis

#### Town of Ruth's Net Position Figure 2

	GovernmentalActivities		
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	
Current and other assets	\$642,244	\$686,697	
Capital assets	78,821	79,233	
Deferred outflows of resources			
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>721,064</u>	765,930	
Other liabilities	1,277	2,370	
Deferred inflows of resources			
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	1,277	<u>2,370</u>	
Net position:			
Net investment in capital assets	78,821	79,233	
Restricted	14,947	23,196	
Unrestricted	626,020	661,131	
Total net position	<u>\$719,788</u>	<u>\$763,560</u>	

As noted earlier, net position may serve, over time, as one useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The assets and deferred outflows of Town of Ruth exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$719,788 as of June 30, 2019. The Town's net position decreased by \$43,772 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. However, one portion (10.95%), reflects the Town's net investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment). Town of Ruth uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. An additional portion of Town of Ruth's net position, \$14,947, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$626,020 is unassigned.

Several particular aspects of the Town's financial operations positively influenced the total unrestricted governmental net position:

- Continued diligence in the collection of property taxes by maintaining a tax collection percentage of 97.27%, which is comparable to the statewide average of 98.55%.
- Expenditures increased 28% mainly due to facility improvements.
- Increase in unrestricted investment earnings.

# Town of Ruth's Changes in Net Position Figure 3

	Govern	Governmental		
	Activities			
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>		
Revenues:				
Program revenues:				
Charge for services	\$ 8,940	\$ 3,782		
Operating grants and contributions	14,458	14,524		
Consent assessment				
General revenues:	92 926	92 952		
Property taxes  Local option sales tax	83,826 38,478	82,853 38,986		
Other taxes	•	-		
·	16,868	17,002		
Investment earnings	2,874	1,021		
Other	(83)	<u>(717)</u>		
Total revenues	<u>165,361</u>	<u> 157,451</u>		
Expenses:				
General government	129,663	90,943		
Public safety	24,924	27,169		
Transportation	25,594	17,999		
Environmental protection	28,952	27,733		
Total expenses	209,134	163,844		
Increase (decrease) in net position	(43,772)	(6,393)		
Net position - July 1	<u>763,560</u>	769,953		
Net position - June 30	<u>\$719,788</u>	<u>\$763,560</u>		

Governmental Activities. Governmental activities decreased the Town's net position by \$43,772, thereby accounting for 100% of the total decrease in the net position of Town of Ruth. Expenditures increased mainly due to facility improvements. The Town saw a 5% increase in revenues, which is primarily due to an increase in charge for services. Local option sales tax remained comparable to the prior year. Unrestricted investment earnings also contributed to the increase which is an indication of continuing economic growth.

#### Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

As noted earlier, Town of Ruth uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. The focus of Town of Ruth's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable resources. Such information is useful in assessing Town of Ruth's financing requirements.

The general fund is the chief operating fund of Town of Ruth. At the end of the current fiscal year, Town of Ruth's fund balance available in the general fund was \$620,004, while total fund balance reached \$632,548. The Town currently has an available fund balance of 297.05% of general fund expenditures, and total fund balance represents 303.06% of the same amount.

At June 30, 2019, the governmental funds of Town of Ruth reported a combined fund balance of \$632,548, with a net decrease in fund balance of \$41,799.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights: During the fiscal year, the Town revised the budget on several occasions. Generally, budget amendments fall into one of three categories: 1) amendments made to adjust the estimates that are used to prepare the original budget ordinance once exact information is available; 2) amendments made to recognize new funding amounts from external sources, such as Federal and State grants; and 3) increases in appropriations that become necessary to maintain services.

Increase in appropriated fund balance due to repairs, purchase of non-capital equipment and fire protection. Increase in unrestricted intergovernmental revenues due to an anticipated increase in local option sales tax,

Capital Assets. Town of Ruth's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2019, totals \$78,821 (net of accumulated depreciation). These assets include buildings, land, and equipment.

	<u>(Net of Accumulat</u> Govern	Town of Ruth's Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation) Governmental Activities		
	<u>2019</u>	2018		
Land Buildings	\$70,779 	\$70,779 8,454		
Total	<u>\$78,821</u>	<u>\$79,233</u>		

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note III and on page 24 of the Basic Financial Statements.

#### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates**

The following key economic indicators will reflect the growth and prosperity of the Town:

The tax rate will remain at .28 per one hundred dollars of valuation. The Rails to Trails project and its enhancements continue to hold the most value and potential in supporting local economics for the Town. One area of benefit the Town affords its citizens is the waste and recycling efforts. The Board recognized the need to make changes to the waste fees charged to the citizens in an effort to offset waste expenses. This will improve the Town's financial position. The NCDOT highway project continues to be the biggest economic factor concerning the Town's financial health. There are significant obstacles, as well as opportunities, regarding downtown beautification and big picture developments with the NCDOT highway project. The Board would like to investigate utilizing the land the Town owns to support Town revenue and enhance growth. The Board is working with the Tourism Committee and is hopeful the new road will increase vehicular traffic and foot traffic with the advancements in Rails to Trails. The Board is investigating revising the septic solutions and installing sewer lines and joining a current processing plant. The new Board is constantly accessing the roads and looking to continue with ongoing maintenance and improvements.

#### Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

Governmental Activities: The Town's largest revenue source is the property tax. There is no change in the current tax rate of .28 cents per one hundred dollars of valuation. All other revenues are expected to remain relatively unchanged as well for fiscal year 2020.

Budgeted expenses in the General Fund are expected to be \$190,477. The largest increase is for a Town signage project while all other expenses are expected to remain relatively unchanged for fiscal year 2020.

The Town has chosen to appropriate \$6,531 of fund balance in the current fiscal year 2020 budget. Management believes that projected revenues and continued restrictions on spending will maintain the Town's financial position. As the Town considers future revenue sources, it has determined that the property tax rate will remain unchanged.

#### **Requests for Information**

This report is designed to provide an overview of the Town's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report, or requests for additional information, should be directed to the Finance Officer, Amy Goode-Hanaway, Town of Ruth, 108 Northview Dorsey St., Rutherfordton, N. C. 28139. You can also call (828) 287-7943 for more information.

# BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Basic Financial Statements present a condensed overview of the financial position and the results of operations of the Town as a whole. They also serve as an introduction to the more detailed statements and schedules that follow.

Exhibit 1

# Statement of Net Position June 30, 2019

	Governmental Activities		
<u>Assets</u>			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 618,878		
Taxes receivable (net)	8,419		
Due from other governments	12,544		
Restricted cash	2,403		
Total current assets	642,244		
Capital assets:			
Land and non-depreciable improvements	70,779		
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	8,042		
Total capital assets	78,821		
Total assets	721,064		
<u>Liabilities</u>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,277		
Total liabilities	1,277		
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets	78,821		
Restricted for:			
Stabilization by State Statute	12,544		
Streets	2,403		
Unrestricted	626,020		
Total net position	\$ 719,788		

Exhibit 2

# Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

		Program Revenues				Net (Expense)			
				Operating		Capital		Re	evenue and
	17		arge for		nts and		nts and		ange in Net
Emption/Duoguana	<u>Expenses</u>	26	ervices	Cont	ributions	Cont	<u>ributions</u>		<u>Position</u>
Function/Programs Governmental activities:									
General government	\$ 129,663	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(129,663)
Public safety	24,924		-		-		-		(24,924)
Transportation	25,594		-		14,458		-		(11,136)
Environmental protection	28,952	····	8,940						(20,012)
Total	\$ 209,134	\$	8,940	\$	14,458	\$	<del></del>		(185,735)
	General reve Taxes:	nues	:						
	Property tax	xes							83,826
	Local optio	n sale	es tax						38,478
	Other taxes								16,868
	Unrestricted		stment ea	rnings					2,874
	Miscellaneo	ıs							(83)
	Total genera	l reve	nues						141,963
	Change in ne	t pos	ition						(43,772)
	Net position	- beg	inning						763,560
	Net position	- end	ing					\$	719,788

Exhibit 3

# Balance Sheet Governmental Fund June 30, 2019

<u>Assets</u>	<u>General</u>
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 618,878
Restricted cash	2,403
Taxes receivable. net	8,419
Due from other governments	12,544
Total assets	<u>\$ 642,244</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances	
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,277
Total liabilities	1,277
Deferred inflows of resources:	
Property taxes receivable	8,419
Total deferred inflows of resources	8,419
Fund balances:	
Restricted	
Stabilization by State Statute	12,544
Streets	2,403
Assigned	·
Subsequent year's expenditures	6,531
Unassigned	611,070
Total fund balances	632,548
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of	
resources and fund balances	\$ 642,244

# TOWN OF RUTH Exhibit 4 Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the **Statement of Net Position** June 30, 2019 Total governmental fund balances 632,548 Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (Exhibit 1) are different because: Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources Gross capital assets at historical cost \$ 172,295 Accumulated depreciation (93,475)78,821 Earned revenues considered deferred inflows of resources in fund statements. Property taxes receivable 8,419 Net position of governmental activities 719,788

Exhibit 5

# Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Fund

#### For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

	<u>General</u>
Revenues:	
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 85,387
Unrestricted intergovernmental revenues	64,286
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	14,458
Investment earnings	2,874
Miscellaneous revenues	(83)
Total revenues	166,923
Expenditures:	
General government	129,251
Public safety	24,924
Transportation	25,594
Environmental protection	28,952
Total expenditures	208,721
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(41,799)
Other Finances Sources (Uses): Sale of capital assets	
Net change in fund balance	(41,799)
Fund balance, beginning	674,347
Fund balance, ending	\$ 632,548

Exhibit 6

# Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ (41,799)
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay exceeded depreciation expense in the current period:	
Depreciation expense	(412)
Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds:	
Change in unavailable revenue for tax revenues	 (1,562)
Total changes in net position of governmental activities	\$ (43,772)

Exhibit 7

# General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance -Budget and Actual

For the Year Ended June 30, 2019

		Gene	eral Fund	
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	Actual <u>Amounts</u>	Variance with Final Budget- Postive <u>Negative</u>
Revenues:	A 04.510	Φ 04.510	<b>4</b> 05 005	ф 0.60
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 84,519	\$ 84,519	\$ 85,387	\$ 868
Unrestricted intergovernmental revenues	52,340	52,340	64,286	11,946
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	15,000	15,000	14,458	(542)
Investment earnings	700	700	2,874	2,174
Miscellaneous revenues			(83)	(83)
Total revenues	152,559	152,560_	166,923	14,363
Expenditures:				
General government	129,617	136,002	129,251	6,751
Public safety	27,169	24,924	24,924	-
Transportation	24,800	25,799	25,594	205
Environmental protection	30,682	30,682	28,952	1,732
Total expenditures	212,268	217,409	208,721	8,688
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(59,709)	(64,849)	(41,799)	23,051
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Fund balance appropriated	59,709	64,849		(64,849)
Total other financing sources (uses)	59,709	64,849		(64,849)
Net change in fund balance	\$ -	<u>\$</u>	(41,799)	\$ (41,799)
Fund balance, beginning			674,347	
Fund balance, ending			\$ 632,548	

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These notes are intended to communicate information necessary for a fair presentation of financial position and results of operations that are not readily apparent from, or cannot be included in, the financial statements themselves. The notes supplement the financial statements, are an integral part thereof, and are intended to be read in conjunction with the financial statements.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of Town of Ruth conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

#### A. Reporting Entity

Town of Ruth is a municipal corporation that is governed by an elected mayor and a two-member council.

#### B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Town's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expense allocations that have been made in the funds have been reversed for the statement of activities. Program revenues include: (a) fees and charges paid by the recipient of goods and services offered by the programs or (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

**Fund Financial Statements:** The fund financial statements provide information about the Town's funds. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as non-major funds.

The Town reports the following major governmental fund:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Town. The General Fund accounts for all financial resources except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund. The primary revenue sources are ad valorem taxes, State grants, and various other taxes and licenses. The primary expenditures are for general government, public safety, street maintenance and environmental protection.

#### C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds of the Town are maintained during the year using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Government-wide Financial Statements - The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Town gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Amounts reported as program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than program revenues, likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements - Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgements, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

The Town considers all revenues available if they are collected within 90 days after year-end, except for property taxes. Ad valorem taxes receivable are not accrued as a revenue because the amount is not susceptible to accrual. At June 30, taxes receivable for property other than motor vehicles are materially past due and are not considered to be an available resource to finance the operations of the current year. Also, as of September 1, 2013, State law altered the procedures for the assessment and collection of property taxes on registered motor vehicles in North Carolina. Effective with this change in the law, the State of North Carolina is responsible for billing and collecting the property taxes on registered motor vehicles on behalf of all municipalities and special tax districts. Property taxes are due when vehicles are registered. The billed taxes are applicable to the fiscal year in which they are received. Uncollected taxes that were billed in periods prior to September 1, 2013, and for limited registration plates, are shown as a receivable in these financial statements and are offset by deferred inflows of resources.

Sales taxes and certain intergovernmental revenues, such as the beer and wine tax, collected and held by the State at year end on behalf of the Town are recognized as revenue. Sales taxes are considered a shared revenue for Town of Ruth because the tax is levied by Rutherford County and then remitted to, and distributed by, the State. Most intergovernmental revenues and sales and services are not susceptible to accrual because, generally, they are not measurable until received in cash. All taxes, including those dedicated for specific purposes are reported as general revenues rather than program revenues. Under the terms of grant agreements, the Town funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there is both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the Town's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants, and then general revenues.

#### D. Budgetary Data

The Town's budgets are adopted as required by the North Carolina General Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the General Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at the fiscal year end. All budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the functional level for all annually budgeted funds and at the project level for the multi year funds. Amendments are required for any revisions that alter total expenditures of any fund or that change functional appropriations by more than \$2,500. All amendments must be approved by the governing board, and the Board must adopt an interim budget that covers that time until the annual ordinance can be adopted.

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

#### Deposits and Investments

All deposits of the Town are made in Board-designated, official depositories and are secured as required by State law (G.S. 159-31). The Town may designate as an official depository any bank or savings association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the Town may establish time deposit accounts such as NOW and SuperNOW accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit.

State law (G.S. 159-30(c)) authorizes the Town to invest in obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States, obligations of the State of North Carolina, bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority, obligations of certain nonguaranteed federal agencies, certain high quality issues of commercial paper and bankers' acceptances, and the North Carolina Capital Management Trust. (NCCMT). The Town's investments are reported at fair value. Non-participating interest earning contracts are accounted for at cost.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Town pools money from several funds to facilitate disbursement and investment and to maximize investment income and considers all cash and investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash and cash equivalents.

#### Restricted Assets

Powell Bill Funds are classified as restricted cash because they can be expended only for the purposes outlined in G.S. 136-41.1 through 136-41.4.

#### Town of Ruth Restricted Cash

Governmental Activities
General Fund
Streets

<u>\$2,403</u>

#### Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable

In accordance with State law (G.S. 105-347 and G.S. 159-13 (a)), the Town levies ad valorem taxes on property other than motor vehicles on July 1st, the beginning of the fiscal year. The taxes are due on September 1st (lien date); however, interest does not accrue until the following January 6th. These taxes are based on the assessed values as of January 1, 2017. As allowed by State law, the Town has established a schedule of discounts that apply to taxes that are paid prior to the due date. In the Town's General Fund, ad valorem tax revenues are reported net of such discounts.

#### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

All receivables that historically experience uncollectible accounts are shown net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. This amount is estimated by analyzing the percentage of receivables that were written off in prior years.

#### **Prepaid Items**

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements and expensed as the items are used.

#### Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than a certain cost and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Minimum capitalization costs for all assets is \$5,000. Donated capital assets received prior to June 15, 2015 are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Donated capital assets received after June 15, 2015 are recorded at acquisition value. All other purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset, or materially extend assets' lives, are not capitalized.

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

	Estimateu
Asset Class	<u>Useful Lives</u>
Buildings	40
Improvements	40
Furniture and equipment	10
Computer equipment	3

#### Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, <u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an expense or expenditure until then. The Town has no items that meet this criterion. In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, <u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as revenue until then. The Town has only one item that meets the criterion for this category - property taxes receivable.

#### **Net Position/Fund Balances**

#### **Net Position**

Net position in government-wide financial statements is classified as net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted. Restricted net position represents constraints on resources that are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through State statute.

#### **Fund Balances**

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of five classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent.

The governmental fund types classify fund balances as follows:

Nonspendable Fund Balance - This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Prepaid Items - The portion of fund balance that is not an available resource because it represents the year-end balance of prepaid items that are costs applicable to future accounting periods and are expenses when used, which are not spendable resources.

Restricted Fund Balance - This classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes externally imposed by creditors or imposed by law.

Restricted for Stabilization by State statute - the portion of fund balance that is restricted by State Statute [G.S. 159-8(a)].

Restricted for Streets - The Powell Bill portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source for street construction and maintenance expenditures. This amount represents the balance of the total unexpended Powell Bill funds.

Committed Fund Balance - the portion of fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes imposed by majority vote by quorum of Town of Ruth's governing body (highest level of decision-making authority). The governing body can, by adoption of an ordinance prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the ordinance remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another ordinance) to remove or revise the limitation.

Assigned fund balance - the portion of fund balance that Town of Ruth intends to use for specific purposes.

Subsequent year's expenditures - the portion of fund balance that is appropriated in the next year's budget that is not already classified in restricted or committed. The governing body approves the appropriation.

Unassigned fund balance - the portion of fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes or other funds.

Town of Ruth has a revenue spending policy that provides guidance for programs with multiple revenue sources. The Finance Officer will use resources in the following hierarchy: bond proceeds, federal funds, State funds, local, non-city funds, city funds. For purposes of fund balance classification, expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first, followed in-order by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance and lastly unassigned fund balance. The Finance Officer has the authority to deviate from this policy if it is in the best interest of the Town.

#### F. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements 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.

#### II. Stewardship Compliance, and Accountability

#### A. Significant Violations of Finance-Related Legal and Contractual Provisions

#### 1. Noncompliance with North Carolina General Statutes

#### Deposits Not Timely Made

G.S. 159-32, Daily deposits, requires that, except as otherwise provided by law, all taxes and other moneys collected or received by an officer or employee of a local government or public authority shall be deposited in accordance with this section. Each officer and employee of a local government or public authority whose duty it is to collect or receive any taxes or other moneys shall deposit his collections and receipts daily. If the governing board gives its approval, deposits shall be required only when the moneys on hand amount to as much as two hundred fifty dollars (\$250), but in any event, a deposit shall be made on the last business day of the month. Numerous deposits were not in compliance.

#### Powell Bill Funds

Condition: Bookkeeping errors were made in expending and claiming Powell Bill Funds per

G.S. 136-41.3.

Effect: Non-allowable expenses could be claimed in error. The Town should implement

controls regarding bookkeeping in order to assure that these types of errors do not

happen in the future.

#### III. Detail Notes on All Funds

#### A. Assets

#### **Deposits**

All the deposits of the Town are either insured or collateralized by using one of two methods. Under the Dedicated Method, all deposits that exceed the federal depository insurance coverage level are collateralized with securities held by the Town's agent in the Town's name. Under the Pooling Method, which is a collateral pool, all uninsured deposits are collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer's agent in the name of the State Treasurer. Since the State Treasurer is acting in a fiduciary capacity for the Town, these deposits are considered to be held by the Town's agents in its name. The amount of the pledged collateral is based on an approved averaging method for noninterest bearing deposits and the actual current balance for interest-bearing deposits. Depositories using the Pooling Method report to the State Treasurer the adequacy of their pooled collateral covering uninsured deposits. The State Treasurer does not confirm this information with the Town or the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amounts of collateral pledged for the Town under the Pooling Method, the potential exists for under-collateralization. This risk may increase in periods of high cash flows. However, the State Treasurer of North Carolina enforces strict standards of financial stability for each depository that collateralizes public deposits under the Pooling Method. The Town has no formal policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits, but relies on the State Treasurer to enforce standards of minimum capitalization for all Pooling Method financial institutions and to monitor them for compliance. The Town complies with the provisions of G.S.159-31 when designating official depositories and verifying that deposits are properly secured.

At June 30, 2019, the Town's deposits had a carrying amount of \$621,280, and a bank balance of \$622,007. Of the bank balance, \$412,685 was covered by federal depository insurance, and the remainder was covered by collateral held under the Pooling Method.

#### Receivables - Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The amounts presented in the Balance Sheet and Statement of Net Position for the year ended June 30, 2019 are net of the following allowances for doubtful accounts.

General Fund: Taxes receivable

<u>\$1,133</u>

#### Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the Primary Government for the year ended June 30, 2019 was as follows:

	Beginning <u>Balances</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	Ending <u>Balances</u>
Governmental Activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	<u>\$ 70,779</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u> </u>	<u>\$ 70,779</u>
Total capital assets				
not being depreciated	<u>70,779</u>		<del>-</del>	<u>70,779</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Building	78,054	-	-	78,054
Building improvements	16,496	-	-	16,496
Other improvements	<u>6,966</u>			6,966
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>101,516</u>			<u>101,516</u>
Less accumulated depreciated for:				
Building	78,052	-	-	78,052
Building improvements	8,041	412		8,454
Other improvements	<u>6,969</u>			6,969
Total accumulated depreciation	93,062	<u>\$ 412</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	93,474
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	8,454			8,042
Governmental activity capital assets, net	<u>\$ 79,233</u>			<u>\$ 78,821</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the government as follows:

General government

<u>\$412</u>

#### B. Liabilities

## Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

The Town has no deferred outflows of resources.

Deferred inflows of resources at year-end is comprised of the following:

	Statement of Net Position	General Fund <u>Balance Sheet</u>
Taxes receivable (General Fund)	\$ -	\$8,41 <u>9</u>

#### C. Fund Balance

The following schedule provides management and citizens with information on the portion of General Fund balance that is available for appropriation:

Total fund balance-General Fund	\$632,548
Less:	
Stabilization by State Statute	12,544
Streets-Powell Bill	7,911
Appropriated Fund Balance in 2020 Budget	6,531
Remaining Fund Balance	605,562

#### IV. Risk Management

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Town carries commercial general liability coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and Public officials E&O of \$1,000,000 per occurrence. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage in the prior year, and settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

The Town does not carry flood insurance, as the Town is not in an area of the State designated as a flood plain, and the expense does not warrant the purchase of coverage.

In accordance with G.S. 159-29, the Town's employees that have access to \$100 or more at any given time of the Town's funds are performance bonded through a commercial surety bond. The finance officer is individually bonded for \$50,000.

#### V. Commitments

The Town has a service agreement for recyclable pickup for a five year period ended February 2018. The agreement shall automatically renew for additional five year terms unless either party notifies the other at least ninety days prior to the end of the initial term or any successive term. The fees charged will be adjusted annually on the anniversary of the effective date based on the Consumer Price Index published for December. The monthly fee was \$1,740 at June 30, 2019.

#### VI. Jointly Governed Organization

#### Isothermal Planning & Development Commission

The Town, in conjunction with four counties and twenty-four other municipalities, established the Isothermal Planning & Development Commission (the Commission). The participating governments established the Commission to coordinate various funding received from federal and State agencies. Each participating County appoints three members to the Commission's governing board, and each participating Town appoints one member to the Commission's governing board. The Town paid membership fees of \$500 to the Commission during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

#### **Broad River Water Authority**

The Broad River Water Authority has been organized pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 162A Article 1, of the North Carolina General Statutes. The Water Authority was organized to purchase and manage a water system to provide water services to the citizens of Rutherford County, Town of Rutherfordton, Town of Spindale and Town of Ruth. The political subdivisions of the authority are Rutherford County, Town of Rutherfordton, Town of Spindale and Town of Ruth. Each political subdivision shall be allowed to appoint two members to the Authority. The Town, according to 162A-16, is authorized to make contributions or advances to an authority to provide for preliminary expenses of such authority. Any advances may be repaid to such political subdivisions from the proceeds of bonds issued by the authority. The Town of Ruth joined the Broad River Water Authority on March 10, 2000.

#### VII. Related Party Transactions

The Town's Mayor is the uncle of one of the councilmen, and the Finance Officer is the sister of the other councilman, which are relationships that are required to be disclosed.

#### VIII. Summary Disclosure of Significant Contingencies

#### Federal and State Assisted Programs

The Town has received proceeds from several federal and State grants. Periodic audits of these grants are required, and certain costs may be questioned as not being appropriate expenditures under the grant agreements. Such audits could result in the refund of grant moneys to the grantor agencies. Management believes that any required refunds will be immaterial. No provisions have been made in the accompanying financial statements for the refund of grant moneys.

#### IX. Significant Effects of Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through November 21, 2019, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued. During the period from the end of the year, and through this date, no circumstances occurred that require recognition or disclosure in these financial statements.

# GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES MAJOR FUNDS GENERAL FUND

The General Fund is used to account for resources traditionally associated with government which are not required legally or by sound financial management to be accounted for in another fund.

Schedule 1 Page 1 of 3

# General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget and Actual

# For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019

(With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2018)

		2019				
	Budget		<u>Actual</u>	Variance Positive (Negative)	2018 <u>Actual</u>	
Revenues:						
Ad valorem taxes:						
Current year	\$	84,519	\$ 81,737	\$ (2,782)	\$ 80,764	
Prior years		-	2,693	2,693	2,044	
Penalties and interest		<u>-</u>	957	957	628	
Total		84,519	85,387	<u>868</u>	83,436	
Unrestricted intergovernmental:						
Local option sales tax		30,500	38,478	7,978	38,986	
Utilities sales tax		12,000	16,464	4,464	16,695	
Landfill fees		9,840	9,344	(496)	4,089	
Total		52,340	64,286	11,946	59,770	
Restricted intergovernmental:						
Powell Bill allocation		15,000	14,458	(542)	14,524	
Investment earnings on Powell Bill allocation		-	´ <b>-</b>	`- ′	-	
Total		15,000	14,458	(542)	14,524	
Investment earnings		700	2,874	2,174	1,021	
Other		-	(83)	(83)	<u>(717)</u>	
Total revenues		152,560	166,923	14,363	158,034 cont.	

Schedule 1 Page 2 of 3

# General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget and Actual

## For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019

(With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019							
		Budget Actual		]	Variance Positive (Negative)		- 2018 <u>Actual</u>	
Expenditures:						_		
General government:								
Salaries and employee benefits	\$	22,067	\$ 23,767	\$	(1,700)	\$	23,755	
Professional services		23,150	16,486		6,664		17,806	
Other operating expenditures		90,785	88,998		1,787		48,970	
Total general government		136,002	129,251		6,751		90,531	
Public safety:								
Fire contracted services		24,924	24,924	<u> </u>			27,169	
Transportation:								
Street repair		13,500	16,183		(2,683)		7,565	
Contracted services		2,500	1,375		1,125		550	
Operating expenditures		9,800	8,037		1,764		9,884	
Total transportation		25,800	25,594		206	-	17,999	
Environmental protection:								
Contracted services		20,882	20,784		99		19,666	
Landfill fees		9,800	8,167		1,633		8,068	
Total environmental protection		30,682	28,952		1,732		27,733	
Total expenditures		217,410	208,721	-	8,688		163,432	
Revenues over (under) expenditures		(64,850)	(41,799)	<u> </u>	23,051		(5,398) cont.	

Schedule 1 Page 3 of 3, cont.

#### **General Fund**

## Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget and Actual

## For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019

(With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2018)

		2019		
	Budget Ac		Variance Positive (Negative)	2018 <u>Actual</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Appropriation of fund balance	\$ 64,850	\$	\$ (64,850)	\$
Total other financing sources (uses)	64,850	_	(64,850)	-
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other				
financing sources (uses)	<u>\$</u>	(41,799)	<u>\$ (41,799)</u>	(5,398)
Fund balance - beginning		674,347		679,745
Fund balance - ending		\$ 632,548		\$ 674,347

# **OTHER SCHEDULES**

- This section contains additional information required on property taxes and transfers.
- Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable
- Analysis of Current Tax Levy

Schedule 2

# Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable June 30, 2019

Fiscal Year	F	collected Balance y 1, 2018		dditions and justments		ollections d Credits	B	collected Balance e 30, 2019
2018-2019 2017-2018 2016-2017 2015-2016	\$	2,696 1,964 1,404	\$	84,211 - - -	\$	81,912 1,505 582 389	\$	2,299 1,191 1,382 1,015
2014-2015 2013-2014 2012-2013 2011-2012		1,358 1,060 1,055 586		- - -		488 146 182 205		870 914 873 381
2010-2011 2009-2010 2008-2009		347 265 359		- - -		6 197 359		341 68
Total	\$	11,094	<u>\$</u>	84,211	<u>\$</u>	85,971		9,334
Less allowance for uncollectibles  Balance							\$	(1,133) 8,201
Reconcilement With Revenues:								
Taxes - Ad valorem - General Fund Amounts written off for fiscal year 2008-2009 Less interest collected						•	\$	85,387 359 (957)
Total collections and credits							\$	84,789

Schedule 3

# Analysis of Current Tax Levy June 30, 2019

	T	own - wide	;	Property Excluding Registered	Registered
	Property <u>Valuation</u>	Rate	Total <u>Levy</u>	Motor <u>Vehicles</u>	Motor <u>Vehicles</u>
Original levy:					
Property taxes at current year's rate	\$ 27,641,323	\$ 0.28	\$ 77,286	\$ 77,286	\$ -
Registered motor vehicles taxed at					
current year's rate	2,473,361	0.28	6,925	-	6,925
Total property valuation	<u>\$30,114,684</u>		\$ 84,211	<u>\$ 77,286</u>	\$ 6,925
Net levy			\$ 84,211	\$ 77,286	\$ 6,925
Less uncollected taxes at June 30, 2019			(2,299)	(2,299)	
Current year's taxes collected			\$ 81,912	<u>\$ 74,987</u>	\$ 6,925
Current levy collection percentage			97.27%	97.03%	100.00%