

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>PAGE NO.</b>
<b>INTRODUCTORY SECTION</b>	
List of Officials	5
<b>FINANCIAL SECTION</b>	
Independent Auditor's Report	7 - 9
Management's Discussion and Analysis	10 - 15
<b>Basic Financial Statements:</b>	
<i>Government Wide Financial Statements:</i>	
Statement of Net Position	17 - 18
Statement of Activities	19
<i>Government Fund:</i>	
Balance Sheet	20
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances	21
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of the Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities	22
<i>Proprietary Funds:</i>	
Statement of Net Position	23 - 24
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position	25
Statement of Cash Flows	26
Statement of Cash Flows – Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	27
Notes to Financial Statements	28 - 46

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**

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For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>PAGE NO.</b>
<b>REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION</b>	
<i>General Fund:</i>	
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual	48
Notes to Required Supplementary Information	49
<b>OTHER INFORMATION</b>	
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance	51
Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance	52
<b>COMPLIANCE SECTION</b>	
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 <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	54 - 56
Management Letter	57 - 59
Independent auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report On Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance	60 - 62
Independent Accountant's Report on compliance with <i>Florida Statutes</i> Relating to Local Government Investments	63
Schedule of Finds and Questioned Costs	64-65
Communication with Those Charged with Governance	66-67
Impact Fee Affidavit	68

## **INTRODUCTORY SECTION**

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**

**PRINCIPAL LIST OF OFFICIALS**

**September 30, 2024**

**MAYOR**

**Phillip Gaskin**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS**

**Charlie Pettis**

**Ralph Fisher**

**Brian Cox**

**John Paul**

**CITY CLERK**

**Rachel Jackson**

**FINANCE DIRECTOR**

**Brittney Proctor**

**CITY MANAGER**

**Michael Gortman**

**CITY ATTORNEY**

**Blankenship Jordan, P.A.**

## **FINANCIAL SECTION**



## **Powell and Jones CPA**

1359 S.W. Main Blvd.  
Lake City, FL 32025  
Phone 386.755.4200

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Honorable Mayor  
And Members of the City Commission  
City of Wewahitchka, Florida

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, (the City) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the City as of September 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### **Emphasis of Matter – Legal Settlement**

As discussed in Note 17 to the financial statements, during fiscal year 2024, the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, received a settlement payment of \$850,000 related to a legal dispute with a third-party contractor. This settlement was finalized following approval by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court and resolution of all related legal contingencies. The City recognized the settlement payment as revenue in the fiscal year 2024 financial statements. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### **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 City's ability to continue 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 objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 City's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the 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 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 audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### **Other Information**

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

#### **Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 8, 2025, on our consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of 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 audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Powell & Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Powell and Jones CPA**  
Lake City, Florida  
July 8, 2025

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**

This discussion and analysis is intended to be an easily readable analysis of the City of Wewahitchka's (City) financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions or conditions. This analysis focuses on current year activities and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements that follow.

**Report Layout**

The City has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments. This statement requires governmental entities to report finances in accordance with specific guidelines. Among those guidelines are the components of this section dealing with management's discussion and analysis. Besides this Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), the report consists of government-wide statements, fund financial statements, notes to the financial statements, and supplementary information. The first several statements are highly condensed and present a government-wide view of the City's finances. Within this view, all City operations are categorized and reported as either governmental or business-type activities. Governmental activities include basic services such as protective inspections, fire control, public works, parks and recreation, and general governmental administration. The City's utility and cemetery services are reported as business-type activities. These government-wide statements are designed to be secondary and more corporate-like in that all activities are consolidated into a total for the City.

***Basic Financial Statements***

- The Statement of Net Position focuses on resources available for future operations. In simple terms, this statement presents a snap-shot view of the assets the City owns, the liabilities it owes and the net difference. The net difference is further separated into amounts restricted for specific purposes and unrestricted amounts. In this presentation, governmental activities reflect capital assets including infrastructure and long-term liabilities. Business-type activities have long been reported capital assets and long-term liabilities. Also, in this presentation, governmental activities are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.
- The Statement of Activities focuses gross and net costs of the City's programs and the extent to which such programs rely upon general tax and other revenues. This statement summarizes and simplifies the user's analysis to determine the extent to which programs are self-supporting and/or subsidized by general revenues.
- Fund financial statements focus separately on governmental and proprietary funds. Governmental fund statements follow the more traditional presentation of financial statements. The City has one major governmental fund. A budgetary comparison is presented for this fund. Statements for the City's proprietary funds follow the governmental fund statements and include net position, revenue, expenses and changes in net position, and cash flows.
- The notes to the financial statements provide additional disclosures required by governmental accounting standards and provide information to assist the reader in understanding the City's financial condition.

The MD&A is intended to serve as an introduction to the City's basic financial statements and to explain the significant changes in financial position and differences in operation between the current and prior years.

## City as a Whole

### Government-wide Financial Statements

A condensed version of the Statement of Net Position at September 30, 2024 and 2023, follows:

#### Net Position at September 30, 2024 and 2023

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Government	
			2024	2023
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,031,437	\$ 661,737	\$ 2,693,174	\$ 2,871,803
Restricted assets	-	1,107,559	1,107,559	988,506
Other assets	824,689	740,261	1,564,950	576,676
Internal balances	548,869	(548,869)	-	-
Capital assets, net	3,110,778	8,213,392	11,324,170	10,046,604
Total assets	6,515,773	10,174,080	16,689,853	14,483,589
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Current liabilities	70,637	574,840	645,477	1,028,152
Long-term liabilities	20,362	1,454,547	1,474,909	1,550,957
Total liabilities	90,999	2,029,387	2,120,386	2,579,109
<b>Net position</b>				
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	3,110,778	6,650,784	9,761,562	8,404,191
Restricted for:				
Debt service	-	638,091	638,091	595,886
Renewal and replacement	-	291,960	291,960	219,602
City Hall restoration	27,961	-	27,961	27,821
Unrestricted	3,286,035	563,858	3,849,893	2,656,980
Total net position	\$ 6,424,774	\$ 8,144,693	\$ 14,569,467	\$ 11,904,480

67% of the City's net position reflect its investment in capital assets (land, buildings, and equipment), less any related outstanding debt used to acquire those assets. The City uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the City's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

Restricted net position of \$958,012 consist of earmarked funds for debt service in the utility fund, restoration of City Hall, debt service and customer deposits. The remaining balance of unrestricted net position of \$3,849,893 may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

The City's net position increased by \$2,664,987 from the prior year. The increase is due in part to a legal settlement discussed in Note 17.

### Legal Settlement Proceeds

In fiscal year 2024, the City received \$850,000 in settlement proceeds from a surety company due to a contractor's failure to complete construction of a firehouse facility. The settlement reimbursed the City for damages and costs to correct and complete the project.

The following schedule provides a summary of the changes in net position. The increase in governmental and business-type net position is due primarily to the ability of these operations to fully fund depreciation.

A condensed version of the Statement of Activities follows:

<b>Change in Net Position</b>				
<b>For the Fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 and 2023</b>				
	<b>Governmental</b>	<b>Business-type</b>	<b>Total Government</b>	
	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Program revenues				
Charges for services	\$ 68,513	\$ 1,350,406	\$ 1,418,919	\$ 1,420,764
Grants and contributions	720,601	777,690	1,498,291	725,799
General revenues				
Taxes	864,311	-	864,311	423,747
Intergovernmental	749,787	-	749,787	726,362
Licenses, permits	15,911	-	15,911	14,024
Legal settlement proceeds	850,000	-	850,000	-
Interest and other	42,167	48,743	90,910	74,200
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>3,311,290</b>	<b>2,176,839</b>	<b>5,488,129</b>	<b>3,384,896</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
General government	674,258	-	674,258	797,167
Public safety	90,513	-	90,513	75,833
Transportation	543,731	-	543,731	550,068
Health	22,329	-	22,329	16,630
Culture/recreation	148,208	-	148,208	122,928
Cemetery	-	2,576	2,576	2,626
Utility	-	1,292,828	1,292,828	1,901,034
Interest on long-term debt	-	48,699	48,699	55,047
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1,479,039</b>	<b>1,344,103</b>	<b>2,823,142</b>	<b>3,521,333</b>
<b>Change in net position</b>	<b>1,832,251</b>	<b>832,736</b>	<b>2,664,987</b>	<b>206,721</b>
<b>Beginning net position</b>	<b>4,592,523</b>	<b>7,311,957</b>	<b>11,904,480</b>	<b>10,963,830</b>
<b>Prior period adjustments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>733,929</b>
<b>Ending net position</b>	<b>\$ 6,424,774</b>	<b>\$ 8,144,693</b>	<b>\$ 14,569,467</b>	<b>\$ 11,904,480</b>

**Governmental activities:**

Taxes provide 26.1% of the revenues for Governmental Activities, while state shared revenues provide 22.6%. Most of the Governmental Activities resources are spent for General Government (45.6%), Transportation (36.8%), and Culture/recreation (10.0%).

### Business-type activities:

Business-type activities increased the City's net position by \$832,736.

The City operated within its budgetary and revenue limits for both the City as a whole, as well as for its separate business-type activities.

### Capital Assets and Debt Administration

#### Capital Assets

At September 30, 2024, the City had approximately \$11 million invested in capital assets, including fire equipment, park and recreation facilities, buildings, and water and sewer facilities.

#### Capital Assets at September 30, 2024 and 2023

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Government	
			2024	2023
Land	\$ 845,050	\$ 131,333	\$ 976,383	\$ 976,383
Construction in progress	1,468,916	1,288,885	2,757,801	1,131,567
Buildings and improvements	1,722,992	-	1,722,992	1,686,632
Property, plant and equipment	823,496	13,419,037	14,242,533	14,157,450
Subtotal	4,860,454	14,839,255	19,699,709	17,952,032
Accumulated depreciation	(1,749,676)	(6,625,863)	(8,375,539)	(7,905,428)
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 3,110,778</u>	<u>\$ 8,213,392</u>	<u>\$ 11,324,170</u>	<u>\$10,046,604</u>

#### Long-term Liabilities

At year-end, the City had \$1,636,639 in debt outstanding versus \$1,702,308 last year, a decrease of \$65,669.

#### Long-term Liabilities at September 30, 2024 and 2023

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Government	
			2024	2023
Debt outstanding	<u>\$ 33,936</u>	<u>\$ 1,602,703</u>	<u>\$1,636,639</u>	<u>\$1,702,308</u>

More detailed information on the City long-term liabilities is presented in the notes to the financial statements.

## **OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

### **Economic Factors and Rates**

- The estimated unemployment rate for Gulf County was 3.2%, which is the approximate rate for the City.
- The estimated population for the City in 2024 was approximately 2,247 and is estimated to be approximately the same in 2025.
- The City's ad valorem tax rate for 2023 was 6.1133 mills, which was the same as the 6.1133 mills in the prior year.

### ***City Highlights***

- The operating millage rate is City-wide at 6.1133 mills and is expected to be sufficient at this time based on the reserves on hand for 2023-2024. There continues to be some new construction and several property improvements that will add to the ad valorem tax base.
- The City's records reflect around 3 new residential/(or) mobile home starts for the fiscal year. City records also show improvements in the form of 40 site plans excluding new homes, 3 culverts, and 1 land use change. There were 10 mobile home inspections.
- During the 2020-2021 year the City began plans to rebuild the Fire Station. As of December 2021, the project was 75% completed. However, in January 2022 the contract between the City and Winterfell Construction was terminated and the City officially went into litigation in April 2022. The project was completed in February 2025. This project was funded utilizing FEMA money from Hurricane Michael and through State of Florida FY23-24 Appropriations.
- In September 2021 the City received  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the allotted American Rescue Plan Act funding. The second  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the ARPA funds were received in August 2022. In part this funding was being used to complete repairs to LS#3 that began in June 2022 and was fully executed February 2023. Funds were used to make repairs/upgrades to LS#4. In May 2023 the City issued task order #4 to Southeastern Consulting Engineers to provide construction and engineering services for LS#4. The project was completed in July 2024, with the remaining funds of approximately \$175,847.95, obligated by the board as essential worker pay on September 25, 2024 by Resolution 2024-1210R.
- The City was awarded \$884,085.00, February 2022 through the DEO-DBG-DR-M0018-Waterline project that is intended to repair and replace water lines on Jehu Rd, River Rd, 2<sup>nd</sup> St, and Lake Alice Dr. The deadline for this grant was extended from February 2025 to September 30, 2026. The project was competitively bid and awarded to 850 Construction Services LLC. This project is currently in construction phase, and is expected to be completed by January 11, 2026.

- May 2022 the City was awarded round 2 of DEO-CDBG-DR-Waste Water System (Rebuild Florida-General Infrastructure) in the amount \$8,500,000.00. The project will allow for repair/re-construction of the wastewater system city-wide. The work deadline for the grant was May 2025, however, was extended to September 30, 2026. This project is estimated to be advertised for bid within 2 months. Once awarded, the project is expected to be completed within 1 year.
- The City was awarded \$5,500,000.00 for round 2 of DEO-CDBG-DR-Storm Sewer System (Rebuild Florida-General Infrastructure) funding. This project is intended to repair the storm sewer system city-wide. The work deadline for this project was extended from September 2025 to September 30, 2026. Currently the project is in final design phase. Anticipated timeline for the project to be advertised for bid is within the next three months. This project is also expected to be completed within 1 year.

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

The City's elected and appointed officials consider many factors when adopting the fiscal year budget. The budget emphasis continues to be the maintenance of the City's water/sewer services. The City continues to work with FL Rural Water to put together a plan for future revenues and expenses that the city will incur with the water and wastewater systems. An ordinance was created to increase utility rates by 10% for water and 15% for sewer during 2022-2023. Rates may need to increase further and will be assessed and a determination made by the board each year.

### ***Requests for Information***

A City website is available which includes the current financial audits as well as proposed budgets and other information regarding the City of Wewahitchka. The Internet address is [www.CityofWewahitchka.com](http://www.CityofWewahitchka.com).

Requests for information by postal mail should be addressed to PO Box 966, Wewahitchka, FL 32465. Email requests can be directed to the City Manager at [cityofwewa@fairpoint.net](mailto:cityofwewa@fairpoint.net) or the City Clerk at [wewaclerk@fairpoint.net](mailto:wewaclerk@fairpoint.net).

## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
September 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities	Business - type Activities	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current assets:			
Cash	\$ 2,031,437	\$ 661,737	\$ 2,693,174
Accounts receivable, net	824,689	740,261	1,564,950
Internal balances	548,869	(548,869)	-
Total current assets	<u>3,404,995</u>	<u>853,129</u>	<u>4,258,124</u>
Restricted cash:			
Bond interest and sinking	-	652,412	652,412
Renewal and replacement	-	291,960	291,960
Customer deposits	-	163,187	163,187
Total restricted cash	<u>-</u>	<u>1,107,559</u>	<u>1,107,559</u>
Non-current assets:			
Capital assets, net	3,110,778	8,213,392	11,324,170
Total non-current assets	<u>3,110,778</u>	<u>8,213,392</u>	<u>11,324,170</u>
Total assets	<u>6,515,773</u>	<u>10,174,080</u>	<u>16,689,853</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable	40,944	66,321	107,265
Accrued liabilities	16,119	7,007	23,126
Unearned revenues	-	175,848	175,848
Compensated absences	13,574	16,038	29,612
Notes payable, current	-	51,860	51,860
Accrued interest payable	-	14,321	14,321
Customer deposits	-	163,187	163,187
Bond payable, current	-	30,000	30,000
Bond payable, matured	-	51,000	51,000
Total current liabilities	<u>70,637</u>	<u>575,582</u>	<u>646,219</u>
Long-term liabilities			
Accrued compensated absences	20,362	24,057	44,419
Notes payable, less current portion	-	493,768	493,768
Bond payable, less current portion	-	935,980	935,980
Total long-term liabilities	<u>20,362</u>	<u>1,453,805</u>	<u>1,474,167</u>
Total liabilities	<u>90,999</u>	<u>2,029,387</u>	<u>2,120,386</u>
(continued)			

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
September 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities	Business - type Activities	Total
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Invested in long-term assets, net of related debt	\$ 3,110,778	\$ 6,650,784	\$ 9,761,562
Restricted for:			
Debt service	-	638,091	638,091
Renewal and replacement	-	291,960	291,960
City Hall restoration	27,961	-	27,961
Unrestricted	3,286,035	563,858	3,849,893
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 6,424,774</b>	<b>\$ 8,144,693</b>	<b>\$ 14,569,467</b>

See notes to financial statement.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024

		Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
<b>Functions/Programs</b>							
<b>Governmental activities</b>							
General government	\$ 674,258	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (674,258)	\$ -	\$ (674,258)
Public safety	90,513	-	-	720,601	630,088	-	630,088
Transportation	543,731	68,513	-	-	(475,218)	-	(475,218)
Culture and recreation	148,208	-	-	-	(148,208)	-	(148,208)
Health and welfare	22,329	-	-	-	(22,329)	-	(22,329)
Total governmental activities	<u>1,479,039</u>	<u>68,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>720,601</u>	<u>(689,925)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(689,925)</u>
<b>Business-type activities</b>							
Utility services	1,292,828	1,344,526	-	777,690	-	829,388	829,388
Cemetery services	2,576	5,880	-	-	-	3,304	3,304
Interest in long-term debt	48,699	-	-	-	-	(48,699)	(48,699)
Total business-type activities	<u>1,344,103</u>	<u>1,350,406</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>777,690</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>783,993</u>	<u>783,993</u>
Total government	<u>\$ 2,823,142</u>	<u>\$ 1,418,919</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,498,291</u>	<u>(689,925)</u>	<u>783,993</u>	<u>94,068</u>
<b>General revenues</b>							
Property taxes					497,269	-	497,269
Other taxes					367,042	-	367,042
Intergovernmental					749,787	-	749,787
Licenses and permits					15,911	-	15,911
Interest					39,458	14,714	54,172
Other fees and miscellaneous					2,709	34,029	36,738
Total general revenues					<u>1,672,176</u>	<u>48,743</u>	<u>1,720,919</u>
Change in net position before extraordinary items					982,251	832,736	1,814,987
Extraordinary Item - Legal Settlement Proceeds					850,000	-	850,000
Net position - beginning					<u>4,592,523</u>	<u>7,311,957</u>	<u>11,904,480</u>
Net position - ending					\$ 6,424,774	\$ 8,144,693	\$ 14,569,467

See notes to financial statements.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUND**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
September 30, 2024

	<u>General Fund</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash	\$ 2,031,437
Accounts receivable	824,689
Due from other funds	548,869
Total assets	<u>3,404,995</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts payable	40,944
Accrued liabilities	16,119
Total liabilities	<u>57,063</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>	
Restricted - City Hall restoration	27,961
Unassigned	3,319,971
Total fund balances	<u>3,347,932</u>
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	3,110,778
Long-term liabilities are not due in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds	(33,936)
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 6,424,774</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024**

	<u>General Fund</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Property taxes, levied for general purposes	\$ 497,269
Other taxes	367,042
Intergovernmental	749,787
Licenses and permits	15,911
Charges for service	68,513
Legal settlement	850,000
Grant revenue	720,601
Interest	39,458
Other fees and miscellaneous	2,709
Total revenues	<u>3,311,290</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Current	
General government	659,086
Public safety	86,503
Transportation	504,767
Culture and recreation	104,189
Health and welfare	22,329
Capital outlay	
General government	12,044
Public safety	823,544
Transportation	22,378
Culture and recreation	10,603
Total expenditures	<u>2,245,443</u>
Net change in fund balance	1,065,847
Fund balance at beginning of year	2,238,738
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 3,304,585</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,**  
**AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024**

Net change in fund balance - total governmental funds		\$ 1,065,847
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures however, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
Expenditures for capital assets	\$ 868,569	
Less current year depreciation	<u>(91,114)</u>	
		777,455
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Change in compensated absences		<u>(11,051)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities		<u><u>\$ 1,832,251</u></u>
See notes to financial statements.		

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**September 30, 2024**

	Utilities Fund	Cemetery Fund	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current assets			
Cash	\$ 578,106	\$ 83,631	\$ 661,737
Accounts receivable, net	740,061	200.00	740,261
Due from other funds	3,888		3,888
Total current assets	<u>1,322,055</u>	<u>83,831</u>	<u>1,405,886</u>
Restricted cash and cash equivalents			
Bond interest and sinking	652,412	-	652,412
Renewal and replacement	291,960	-	291,960
Customer deposits	163,187	-	163,187
Total restricted cash and cash equivalents	<u>1,107,559</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,107,559</u>
Noncurrent assets			
Capital assets			
Non-depreciable:			
Land	73,504	57,829	131,333
Construction in progress	1,288,885	-	1,288,885
Depreciable:			
Property, plant and equipment	13,396,915	22,122	13,419,037
Allowance for depreciation	(6,603,741)	(22,122)	(6,625,863)
Total capital assets	<u>8,155,563</u>	<u>57,829</u>	<u>8,213,392</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>8,155,563</u>	<u>57,829</u>	<u>8,213,392</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 10,585,177</u>	<u>\$ 141,660</u>	<u>\$ 10,726,837</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current liabilities (payable from current assets):			
Accounts payable	\$ 66,321	\$ -	\$ 66,321
Accrued liabilities	7,007	-	7,007
Due to other funds	552,723	34	552,757
Unearned revenue	175,848	-	175,848
Compensated absences	16,038	-	16,038
Notes payable, current portion	51,860	-	51,860
Total current liabilities (payable from current assets)	<u>869,797</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>869,831</u>
Current liabilities (payable from restricted assets):			
Accrued interest payable	14,321	-	14,321
Customer deposits	163,187	-	163,187
Bond payable, current	30,000	-	30,000
Bond payable, matured	51,000	-	51,000
Total current liabilities (payable from restricted assets)	<u>258,508</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>258,508</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>1,128,305</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>1,128,339</u>
Long-term liabilities			
Accrued compensated absences	24,057	-	24,057
Notes payable, less current portion	493,768	-	493,768
Bond payable, less current portion	935,980	-	935,980
Total long-term liabilities	<u>1,453,805</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,453,805</u>
Total liabilities	<u>2,582,110</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>2,582,144</u>
(continued)			

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**September 30, 2024**

	Utilities Fund	Cemetery Fund	Total
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	\$ 6,592,955	\$ 57,829	\$ 6,650,784
Restricted for:			
Debt service	638,091	-	638,091
Renewal and replacement	291,960	-	291,960
Unrestricted	480,061	83,797	563,858
Total net position	<u>8,003,067</u>	<u>141,626</u>	<u>8,144,693</u>
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$ 10,585,177</u>	<u>\$ 141,660</u>	<u>\$ 10,726,837</u>

See notes to financial statements.



**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**PROPRIETARY FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION**  
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Utilities Fund	Cemetery Fund	Total
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>			
Water sales	\$ 523,022	\$ -	\$ 523,022
Sewer fees	499,028	-	499,028
Garbage fees	322,476	-	322,476
Lot sales	-	5,880	5,880
Miscellaneous income	34,029	-	34,029
Total operating revenues	<u>1,378,555</u>	<u>5,880</u>	<u>1,384,435</u>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Water utility			
Personnel services	179,080	-	179,080
Operating expenses	53,771	2,576	56,347
Depreciation	136,499	-	136,499
Sewer utility			
Personnel services	131,377	-	131,377
Operating expenses	221,783	-	221,783
Depreciation	242,498	-	242,498
Contractual expense, garbage	327,820	-	327,820
Total operating expenses	<u>1,292,828</u>	<u>2,576</u>	<u>1,295,404</u>
Total operating income (loss)	<u>85,727</u>	<u>3,304</u>	<u>89,031</u>
<b>NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>			
Grant proceeds	777,690	-	777,690
Interest earnings	13,495	1,219	14,714
Interest expense	(48,699)	-	(48,699)
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	<u>742,486</u>	<u>1,219</u>	<u>743,705</u>
Change in net position	828,213	4,523	832,736
Net position at beginning of year	<u>7,174,854</u>	<u>137,103</u>	<u>7,311,957</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 8,003,067</u>	<u>\$ 141,626</u>	<u>\$ 8,144,693</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Utilities Fund	Cemetery Fund	Total
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash received from customers, including cash deposits	\$ 1,124,718	\$ 5,680	\$ 1,130,398
Cash paid to suppliers	(537,455)	(2,576)	(540,031)
Cash paid to employees	(305,266)	-	(305,266)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>281,997</u>	<u>3,104</u>	<u>285,101</u>
Cash flows from non-capital related financing activities:			
Inter-fund balance repayments	(26,110)	(765)	(26,875)
Net cash used in non-capital related financing activities	<u>(26,110)</u>	<u>(765)</u>	<u>(26,875)</u>
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:			
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(879,108)	-	(879,108)
Grant contributions	327,047	-	327,047
Principal payments	(79,805)	-	(79,805)
Interest payments	(48,699)	-	(48,699)
Net cash provided by (used in) capital and related financing activities	<u>(680,565)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(680,565)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income	13,495	1,219	14,714
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>13,495</u>	<u>1,219</u>	<u>14,714</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash	(411,183)	3,558	(407,625)
Cash at beginning of year	2,096,848	80,073	2,176,921
Cash at end of year	<u>\$ 1,685,665</u>	<u>\$ 83,631</u>	<u>\$ 1,769,296</u>
Reported as:			
Cash	\$ 578,106	\$ 83,631	\$ 661,737
Restricted cash	1,107,559	-	1,107,559
	<u>\$ 1,685,665</u>	<u>\$ 83,631</u>	<u>\$ 1,769,296</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH**  
**PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024**

	Utilities Fund	Cemetery Fund	Total
Operating income	\$ 85,727	\$ 3,304	\$ 89,031
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	378,997	-	378,997
Changes in assets decrease (increase) and liabilities (decrease) increase:			
Accounts receivable, net	(258,343)	(200)	(258,543)
Accounts payable	65,918	-	65,918
Accrued liabilities	2,106	-	2,106
Compensated absences	3,085	-	3,085
Customer deposits	4,507	-	4,507
Total adjustments	196,270	(200)	196,070
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 281,997	\$ 3,104	\$ 285,101

See notes to financial statements.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
September 30, 2024

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the City of Wewahitchka (the City) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the standard-setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued after November 30, 1989, are not applied in the preparation of the financial statements of the proprietary fund type in accordance with GASB Statement 20. The GASB periodically updates its codification of the existing Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards which, along with subsequent GASB pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations), constitutes GAAP for governmental units.

In June, 1999, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) unanimously approved Statement 34-Basic Financial Statement and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments. As provided by GASB 34, the City has elected not to report retroactive infrastructure improvements in its financial statements due to the fact that its annual revenues are less than ten million. The City has implemented all other applicable provisions of this Statement.

**A. Reporting Entity** - The City of Wewahitchka, Florida is a municipality created and derives its powers pursuant to Chapter 63-1429, *Acts of 1963 - Laws of Florida*. It is governed by a Mayor and a four-member City Commission, all of whom are individually elected.

In evaluating how to define the City, for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include a potential component unit in the reporting entity was made by applying the criteria set forth in GAAP. The basic, but not the only, criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is the governing body's ability to exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibility include, but are not limited to, the selection of governing authority, the designation of management, the ability to significantly influence operations, and accountability for fiscal matters. A second criterion used in evaluating potential component units is the scope of public service. Application of this criterion involves considering whether the activity benefits the government and/or its citizens, or whether the activity is conducted within the geographic boundaries of the government and is generally available to its citizens. A third criterion used to evaluate potential component units for inclusion or exclusion from the reporting entity is the existence of special financing relationships, regardless of whether the government is able to exercise oversight responsibilities. Based upon the application of these criteria, management determined that the following component unit existed which should be included within the reporting entity.

**City of Wewahitchka Community Volunteer Fire Department** - The Wewahitchka Volunteer Fire Department is considered a component unit of the City. However, its operations are not material to the City's financial statements. Accordingly, the Volunteer Fire Department's operations and financial position are not included in the City's financial statements.

**B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting** - The basic financial statements of the City are comprised of the following:

- Government-wide financial statements
- Fund financial statements
- Notes to the financial statements

## **1. Government-wide Financial Statements**

Government-wide financial statements display information about the reporting government as a whole, except for its fiduciary activities. These statements include separate columns for the governmental and business-type activities of the City. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely, to a significant extent, on fees and charges for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from any legally separate component unit for which the primary government is financially accountable.

Government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund and agency fund financial statements. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement 33 - Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions.

Program revenues include charges for services, and payments made by parties outside of the reporting government's citizenry if that money is restricted to a particular program. Program revenues are netted with program expenses in the statement of activities to present the net cost of each program.

Amounts paid to acquire capital assets are capitalized as assets in the government-wide financial statements, rather than reported as an expenditure. Proceeds of long-term debt are recorded as liabilities in the government-wide financial statements, rather than as another financing source. Amounts paid to reduce long-term indebtedness of the reporting government are reported as a reduction of the related liability, rather than as an expenditure.

As a general rule the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. As applicable, the City also chooses to eliminate the indirect costs between governmental activities to avoid the "doubling up" effect.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 33 - *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions*, the City recognized \$850,000 in legal settlement revenue during FY2024 upon satisfaction of all eligibility and recognition criteria. Additional information related to this transaction is disclosed in Note 17 Legal Settlement Revenue.

## **2. Fund Financial Statements**

The underlying accounting system of the City is organized and operated on the basis of separate funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund

are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Governmental resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

Fund financial statements for the City's governmental and proprietary funds are presented after the government-wide financial statements. These statements display information about major funds individually, and nonmajor funds in the aggregate for governmental and enterprise funds.

**Governmental Funds** – Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the City considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. Franchise fees, licenses, sales taxes, gas taxes, operating and capital grants, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable only when cash is received by the City.

Under the current financial resources measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The reported fund balance is considered to be measure of "available spendable resources." Governmental funds operating statements present increases (revenue and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Any non-current portions of long-term receivables due to governmental funds are reported on their balance sheets in spite of their spending measurement focus.

As applicable, non-current portions of other long-term receivables are offset by fund balance reserve accounts. Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types excludes amounts represented by noncurrent liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities.

Amounts expended to acquire capital assets are recorded as expenditures in the year that resources were expended, rather than as fund assets. The proceeds of long-term debt are recorded as another financing source rather than as a fund liability. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

**Proprietary Funds** – The City's Utilities and Cemetery Funds are proprietary funds. In the fund financial statements, proprietary funds are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when the related goods and services are delivered. In the fund financial statements, proprietary funds are presented using the economic resources measurement focus. This means that all assets and all liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activity are included on their balance sheets. Proprietary fund type operating statements present increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses)

in total net position. The City applies all GASB pronouncements as well as all FASB Statements and Interpretations, APB Opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins, issued on or before November 30, 1989, which do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

Proprietary fund operation revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Nonoperating revenues, such as grants, subsidies, taxes, and investment earnings, result from nonexchange transactions or ancillary activities.

Amounts paid to acquire capital assets are capitalized as assets in the fund financial statements, rather than reported as an expenditure. Proceeds of long-term debt are recorded as a liability in the fund financial statements, rather than as another financing source. Amounts paid to reduce long-term indebtedness are reported as a reduction of the related liabilities, rather than as an expense.

**C. Basis of Accounting** – GASB Statement 34 sets forth minimum criteria (percentage of the assets, liabilities, revenues or expenditures, expenses of either fund category and the governmental and enterprise combined) for the determination of major funds. The City has used GASB 34 minimum criteria for major fund determination. The City has three major funds as follows:

**1. Governmental Major Funds:**

**General Fund** – The General Fund is the general operating fund of the City. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**2. Proprietary Major Funds:**

**Utilities Fund** – The Utilities Fund accounts for the revenues, expenses, assets, and liabilities associated with the City operated water, waste water, and sanitation services.

**Cemetery Fund** - The Cemetery Fund accounts for the revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities association with the City owned and maintained cemetery.

**3. Non-current Governmental Assets/Liabilities:**

GASB Statement 34 requires non-current governmental assets, such as land and building, and noncurrent governmental liabilities, such as general obligation bonds and capital leases, be reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide statement of net position.

**D. Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity**

**1. Cash and Investments** – Cash includes amounts in demand deposits as well as short-term money market investment accounts. Investments, consisting of certificates of deposit, are stated at cost which approximates market value. All such deposits and investments are insured and collateralized as required by state law.

**2. Allowance for Doubtful Accounts** - As applicable year-to-year, the City provides an allowance for Enterprise Fund accounts receivable that may become uncollectible. At September 30, 2024, there was an allowance for doubtful accounts for utility billings of \$5,000.

3. **Receivables and Payables** – Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as “due to/from other funds.” Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as “internal balances.”
4. **Encumbrances** – Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditures of monies are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is not utilized by the City.
5. **Capital Assets** - Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the City as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$5,000 or more and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Except for roads and bridges constructed prior to October 1, 1981, assets are recorded at historical cost. Roads and bridges constructed prior to October 1, 1981, are generally not reported. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated acquisition value at the date of donations.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend its useful life are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Certain interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets of business-type activities is included as part of the capitalized value of the assets constructed.

Property, plant, and equipment of the City, as well as of component units, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Building and improvements	20 - 40
Machinery and equipment	5 - 10
Street and related infrastructure	20 - 40

6. **Bond Issuance Costs** – In the proprietary funds, bond issuance costs are deferred and amortized over the term of the bonds using the bonds outstanding method, which approximates the effective interest method.
7. **Unearned Revenues** – Unearned revenues reported in government-wide financial statements represent unearned revenues. The unearned revenues will be recognized as revenue in the fiscal year they are earned in accordance with the accrual basis of accounting. Unearned revenues reported in governmental fund financial statements represent unearned revenues which are measurable but not available and, in accordance with the modified accrual basis of accounting, are reported as unearned revenues. The City has unearned revenues of \$175,848 at year end.
8. **Accrued Compensated Absences** – The City maintains a policy that permits employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation and sick pay benefits that will be paid to employees upon separation from City service if certain criteria are met. Those benefits,



plus their related tax and retirement costs are classified as compensated absences. Employees may be paid for unused vacation hours accrued up to 300 hours. Payment of unused sick leave, upon termination, is also provided for 25% of balance for those employed between one and five years. For those employed for more than five years, they may be paid 50% of unused sick leave. Sick leaves have no maximum accumulation threshold.

Both the current and long-term portion of compensated absences are accrued and reported in the government-wide financial statements. No expenditure is reported in the government fund level statements for these amounts until payment is made. Proprietary Fund types accrue vacation and sick leave in the period they are earned. Compensated absences liability is based on current rates of pay. This is accounted for pursuant to GASB Statement No. 16, "Accounting for Compensated Absences".

9. **Cash Equivalents** – The City's cash at September 30, 2024, consists of legally authorized deposits in institutions which are certified as Qualified Public Depositories under the Florida public Deposits Act. Therefore, the City's cash at September 30, 2024, is insured through the Bureau of Collateral Securities, Division of Treasury, State Department of Insurance. At year end the City's book balance for cash totaled \$3,800,733, and consisted of checking accounts, certificates of deposit, and money market accounts in a local bank.
10. **Prepaid Items** – As applicable year to year, significant payments made to vendors for goods or services that will benefit periods beyond September 30, 2024, are recorded as prepaid items.
11. **Bond Discounts and Issue Costs** – In the Proprietary Fund, bond discounts, premiums, and issue costs are amortized over the term of the bonds using the straight-line method which, for the bond discounts and premiums, is not materially different than the effective interest method. Unamortized bond discounts and premiums are presented in the financial statements as reductions/additions in bond payable and unamortized bond issue costs as deferred charges.
12. **Short-term Interfund Receivable/Payables** - During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds for goods provided or services rendered. These receivables and payables are classified as "due from other funds" or "due to other funds" on the balance sheet. Short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund receivables/payables."
13. **Inventories** - The costs of governmental and enterprise fund inventories are recorded as expenditures when purchased rather than when consumed. The actual amounts of any inventory type goods on hand at year end would not be material.
14. **Fund Balances/Net Position**

**A. Governmental Funds**

As of September 30, 2024, fund balances of the governmental funds are classified as follows:

Non-spendable – amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in non-spendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

**Restricted** – amounts that can be spent only for specific purpose because of constitutional provisions, charter requirements or enabling legislation or because of constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or the laws or regulations of other governments.

**Committed** – amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action of the City Commission. The City Commission is the highest level of decision-making authority for the City. Commitments may be established, modified or rescinded only through ordinances or resolutions approved by the City Commission.

**Assigned** – amounts that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed but that are intended to be used for specific purposes. Under the City's general policy, only the City Commission may assign amounts for specific purposes.

**Unassigned** – all other spendable amounts.

As of September 30, 2024, fund balances are composed of the following:

	<u>General Fund</u>
Restricted, City Hall restoration	\$ 27,961
Unassigned	3,319,971
	<u>\$ 3,347,932</u>

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes to which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the City considered restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the City considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the City Commission has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

## **B. Proprietary Funds**

Restrictions of equity show amounts that are not appropriated for expenditures or are legally restricted for specific uses.

As of September 30, 2024, net position are composed of the following:

	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt		\$ 6,650,784
Restricted for:	Debt service	638,091
	Renewal and replacement	291,960
Unrestricted		563,858
		<u>\$ 8,144,693</u>

15. **Proprietary Activity Accounting and Financial Reporting** - The City applies all applicable Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements as well as the following pronouncements issued on or before November 10, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements: Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins (ARB's).
16. **Interfund Transactions** - Quasi-external transactions are accounted for as revenues, expenditures or expenses. Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures/expenses initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures/expenses in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures/expenses in the fund that is reimbursed.  
  
All other interfund transactions, except quasi-external transactions and reimbursements, are reported as transfers. Nonrecurring or non-routine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transfers are reported as operating transfers.
17. **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.

## NOTE 2. RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### A. Explanation of Differences Between the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and the Government-wide Statement of Net Position.

"Total fund balances" of the City's governmental funds \$3,347,932 differs from "net position" of governmental activities \$6,424,774 reported in the statement of net position. This difference primarily results from the long-term economic focus of the statement of net position versus the current financial resources focus of the governmental funds balance sheet.

#### Capital related items

When capital assets (property, plant, equipment) that are to be used in governmental activities are purchased or constructed, the cost of these assets are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. However, the statement of net position included those capital assets among the assets of the City as a whole.

Cost of capital assets	\$ 4,860,454
Accumulated depreciation	(1,749,676)
Total	<u>\$ 3,110,778</u>

#### Long-term debt transactions

Long-term liabilities to the City's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All liabilities (both current and long-term) are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at September 30, 2024 were:

Compensated absences	<u>\$ (33,936)</u>
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**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**

**NOTE 2. RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**A. Explanation of Differences Between the Government Fund Balance Sheet and the Government-wide Statement of Net Position**

	Total Governmental Funds	Capital Related Items	Long - Term Debt Transactions	Statement of Net Position
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash	\$ 2,031,437	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,031,437
Accounts receivable	824,689	-	-	824,689
Due from other funds	548,869	-	-	548,869
Capital asset - net	-	3,110,778	-	3,110,778
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,404,995</u>	<u>\$ 3,110,778</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,515,773</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION</b>				
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 40,944	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,944
Accrued liabilities	16,119	-	-	16,119
Compensated absences	-	-	33,936	33,936
Total liabilities	<u>57,063</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,936</u>	<u>90,999</u>
 Fund balance/net position	 <u>3,347,932</u>	 <u>3,110,778</u>	 <u>(33,936)</u>	 <u>6,424,774</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances/net position	<u>\$ 3,404,995</u>	<u>\$ 3,110,778</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,515,773</u>

**B. Explanation of Differences Between Governmental Fund Operating Statements and the Statement of Activities**

The “net change in fund balances” for governmental funds \$1,065,847 differs from the “change in net position” for government activities \$1,832,251 reported in the statement of activities. The differences arise primarily from the long-term economic focus of the statement of activities versus the current financial resources focus of the governmental funds. The effect of the differences is illustrated below.

**Capital related items**

When capital assets that are to be used in governmental activities are purchased or constructed, the resources expended for those assets are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. However, in the statement of activities, the costs of those assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. As a result, fund balances decrease by the amount of financial resources expended, whereas net position decrease by the amount of depreciation expense charges for the year.

Capital outlay	\$ 868,569
Depreciation expense	(91,114)
Total	<u>\$ 777,455</u>

**Compensated absences**

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, do not result in an expense in Governmental Funds.

Net increase in compensated absences	<u>\$ (11,051)</u>
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**Long-term debt transactions**

The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds and thus contribute to the change in fund balance. In the statement of net position, however, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Similarly, repayment of debt principal is reported as an expenditure in the governmental funds and, thus, have the effect of reducing fund balance because current financial resources have been used. However, the principal payments reduce the liabilities in the statement of net position and do not result in an expense in the statement of activities.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**

**NOTE 2. RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**B. Explanation of Differences Between Government Fund Operating Statements and the Statement of Activities**

	Total Governmental Funds	Capital Related Items	Long-Term Debt Transactions	Statement of Activities
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Property taxes, levied for general purposes	\$ 497,269	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 497,269
Other taxes	367,042	-	-	367,042
Intergovernmental	749,787	-	-	749,787
Licenses and permits	15,911	-	-	15,911
Charges for service	68,513	-	-	68,513
Firehouse Settlement	850,000	-	-	850,000
Grant revenue	720,601	-	-	720,601
Interest	39,458	-	-	39,458
Other fees and miscellaneous	2,709	-	-	2,709
Total revenues	<u>3,311,290</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,311,290</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current expenditures				
General government	659,086	11,668	3,504	674,258
Public safety	86,503	4,010	-	90,513
Transportation	504,767	34,505	4,459	543,731
Culture and recreation	104,189	40,931	3,088	148,208
Health and welfare	22,329	-	-	22,329
Capital outlay				
General government	12,044	(12,044)	-	-
Public safety	823,544	(823,544)	-	-
Transportation	22,378	(22,378)	-	-
Culture and recreation	10,603	(10,603)	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>2,245,443</u>	<u>(777,455)</u>	<u>11,051</u>	<u>1,479,039</u>
Net change in fund balance	1,065,847	777,455	(11,051)	1,832,251
Fund balance at beginning of year	2,282,085	2,333,323	(22,885)	4,592,523
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 3,347,932</u>	<u>\$ 3,110,778</u>	<u>\$ (33,936)</u>	<u>\$ 6,424,774</u>

### NOTE 3. LEGAL COMPLIANCE–BUDGETS

The City follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. Prior to September 1, the City Commission develops a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following October 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. Prior to September 30, the budget is legally enacted by the City Commission through passage of an ordinance.
4. Any revision that alters the total expenditures of any fund or transfers budgeted amounts between departments within any fund must be approved by the City Commission.
5. Budgets for all City funds are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the City Commission. Individual amendments were not material in relation to the original appropriations which were amended.
6. The following is a comparison of the appropriations to total expenditures for the general fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024:

	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Budget Variance</u>
Primary government			
General fund:	<u>\$ 1,792,466</u>	<u>\$ 2,245,443</u>	<u>\$ (452,977)</u>

### NOTE 4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and any funds on hand at year end. Investments, consisting of a savings account or certificates of deposit, are stated at cost which approximates market value. Both of these accounts are secured as required by state law.

### NOTE 5. PROPERTY TAX REVENUES

Taxable values for all property are established as of January 1, which is the date of lien, for the fiscal year starting October 1. Property tax revenues recognized for the 2023-2024 fiscal year were levied in October 2023. All taxes are due and payable on November 1 or as soon as the assessment roll is certified and delivered to the Tax Collector. Discounts are allowed for early payment at the rate of 4% in November, 3% in December, 2% in January, and 1% in February. Taxes paid in March are without discount. All unpaid taxes become delinquent as of April 1. Virtually all unpaid taxes are collected via the sale of tax certificates on or prior to June 1; therefore, there were no material taxes receivable at fiscal year end.

## NOTE 6. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions/ Reclassifications	Ending Balance
<b>Governmental activities:</b>				
Capital assets:				
Non-depreciable assets:				
Land	\$ 845,050	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 845,050
CIP	645,372	823,544	-	1,468,916
Depreciable assets:				
Buildings and improvements	886,002	25,757	-	911,759
Improvements other than buildings	800,630	10,603	-	811,233
Furniture and equipment	814,831	8,665	-	823,496
Total capital assets	3,991,885	868,569	-	4,860,454
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,658,562)	(91,114)	-	(1,749,676)
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 2,333,323</u>	<u>\$ 777,455</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,110,778</u>
<b>Business-type activities:</b>				
Non-depreciable assets:				
Land	\$ 131,333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 131,333
Construction in progress	486,195	802,690	-	1,288,885
Depreciable assets:				
Property, plant and equipment	13,342,619	76,418	-	13,419,037
Total capital assets	13,960,147	879,108	-	14,839,255
Less accumulated depreciation	(6,246,866)	(378,997)	-	(6,625,863)
Business-type activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 7,713,281</u>	<u>\$ 500,111</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 8,213,392</u>

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

<b>Governmental activities:</b>	
General government	\$ (11,668)
Public safety	(4,010)
Transportation	(34,505)
Culture/recreation	(40,931)
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	<u>\$ (91,114)</u>
<b>Business -type activities:</b>	
Water	\$ (136,499)
Sewer	(242,498)
	<u>\$ (378,997)</u>



**NOTE 7. INTERFUND RECEIVABLES/PAYABLES**

The following is a schedule of interfund receivables and payables at September 30, 2024.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Interfund Receivables</u>	<u>Interfund Payables</u>
General	\$ 548,869	\$ -
Utilities	-	548,869
	<u>\$ 548,869</u>	<u>\$ 548,869</u>

**NOTE 8. RECEIVABLE AND PAYABLE BALANCES****Receivables**

Receivables at September 30, 2024, were as follows:

	<u>Total Receivables</u>
Governmental activities:	
General	\$ 824,689
Business-type activities:	
Utilities	740,261
	<u>\$ 1,565,150</u>

**Payables**

Payables at September 30, 2024, were as follows:

	<u>Vendors</u>
Governmental activities:	
General	\$ 40,944
Business-type activities:	
Utilities	66,321
	<u>\$107,265</u>

**NOTE 9. LONG-TERM DEBT****Governmental Activities**

A summary of all long-term debt associated with governmental activities of the City as of September 30, 2024, follows:

	<u>Balance October 1, 2023</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance September 2024</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
Governmental Activities:					
Compensated absences	\$ 22,885	\$ 11,051	\$ -	\$ 33,936	\$ 13,574
	<u>\$ 22,885</u>	<u>\$ 11,051</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 33,936</u>	<u>\$ 13,574</u>

**Business-type Activities**

- A. State Revolving Loan (SRL) –** On February 20, 2013 the City obtained a loan from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$2,115,000 under the State Revolving Loan Program. The proceeds were used for the purpose of upgrading and expanding the wastewater treatment plant. \$2,114,411 has been drawn to date under this loan. Subsequent to year end, on February 5, 2015, the City entered into an amendment with the Department of Environmental Protection amending the agreement to reduce the loan to \$2,114,411, and reduce the amount of the future grant amount to \$1,678,412. The total due including a service fee of \$42,288 and capitalized interest of \$16,465 is \$2,173,164. Per the terms of the agreement, the grant funds will be used to pay down the amount of the loan in one lump sum payment. The remaining balance of \$494,752 will be paid in 40 semi-annual payments of \$14,309, including interest of 1.25% beginning on February 15, 2015. Debt service payments to maturity including interest of \$25,514, is as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2026	\$ 25,031	\$ 3,588	\$ 28,619
2027	25,345	3,274	28,619
2028	25,662	2,956	28,619
2029	25,984	2,634	28,619
2030-2034	134,890	8,238	143,129
2035-2036	56,353	926	57,279
	<u>\$ 317,986</u>	<u>\$ 25,514</u>	<u>\$ 343,500</u>

- B. State Revolving Loan (SRL) –** On August 24, 2006, the City obtained a loan from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$1,166,121, and on April 9, 2009 amended the agreement to decrease the loan amount by \$766,841 to \$399,280 under the State Revolving Loan Program. As of September 30, 2024, the total due was \$159,110, including capitalized interest and service charges. The proceeds were used for the purpose of expansion and upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant and disposal system with a new collection system. The current loan requires 40 semi-annual payments of \$12,653 including interest of 1.96%. The loan is collateralized by net revenues of the utility fund.

Assuming maintenance of the current interest rate, debt service requirements to maturity, including interest of \$5,378 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 22,401	\$ 1,452	\$ 23,853
2026	22,843	1,231	24,074
2027	23,292	1,006	24,298
2028	23,751	777	24,528
2029	24,216	545	24,761
2030-2031	37,229	367	37,596
	<u>\$ 153,732</u>	<u>\$ 5,378</u>	<u>\$ 159,110</u>

- C. USDA Rural Development Water and Sewer Revenue Bond, Series 2007-** On February 15, 2007, the City issued \$1,323,980 in revenue bonds to finance the upgrade of the City's water and sewer system. The City pledged the net revenues of the system, certain municipal excise taxes and special assessments to secure payment of the bonds. The bonds bear interest at 4.125% per annum, payable annually on April 1, and mature

serially each April 1 in varying amounts with final maturity in 2046. A sinking fund is required to be maintained to accumulate amounts sufficient to pay principal and interest coming due. Also, a renewal and replacement reserve account is required with monthly payments of 1/12 of 10% of the maximum Bond Service Requirement until such time as the funds in the reserve account shall equal the maximum bond service requirements to reach and maintain a fund equal to \$69,980. The City began funding the renewal and replacement reserve accounting during the year ended September 30, 2010.

Debt service requirements to maturity, including interest of \$552,935 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 30,000	\$ 38,631	\$ 68,631
2026	31,000	37,476	68,476
2027	32,000	37,280	69,280
2028	34,000	35,001	69,001
2029	35,000	33,681	68,681
2030-2033	154,000	121,452	275,452
2034-2038	232,000	112,790	344,790
2039-2043	284,000	60,249	344,249
2044-2046	133,980	76,375	210,355
	<u>\$ 965,980</u>	<u>\$ 552,935</u>	<u>\$ 1,518,915</u>

- D. State Revolving Loan (SRL)** – On May 28, 2019 the City obtained a loan from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$32,611 under the State Revolving Loan Program. The proceeds were used for the purpose of the City's Hurricane Michael Recovery project. The current loan required 40 semi-annual payments of \$2,270 including interest of .075%. The first semi-annual payment in the amount of \$2,270 began June 15, 2021. Debt service requirements are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 4,428	\$ 109	\$ 4,537
2026	4,434	103	4,537
2027	4,441	96	4,537
2028	4,448	89	4,537
2029	4,454	83	4,537
2030-2040	51,706	467	52,173
	<u>\$ 73,911</u>	<u>\$ 947</u>	<u>\$ 74,858</u>

All of the above debt is budgeted and paid from the Utilities Fund. There are a number of limitations and restrictions contained in the various bond indentures, including the establishment of specific debt service sinking and reserve accounts. The City is in compliance with all significant limitations and restrictions.

All of these loans are serviced by the associated utility revenues of the system. All of the debt instruments contain provisions to allow the debt-holders to enforce payment of the debt owed through legal proceedings.

Restricted cash account balances relating to the bond issues and notes payable in the proprietary funds as September 30, 2024, are as follows:

	<u>2019 SRF</u>	<u>2013 SRF</u>	<u>2008 SRF</u>	<u>2007 Bond Issue</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sinking fund - principal and interest	\$ 38,420	\$ 185,472	\$ 215,260	\$ 82,606	\$ 521,759
Reserve account	-	-	-	130,654	130,654
	<u>\$ 38,420</u>	<u>\$ 185,472</u>	<u>\$ 215,260</u>	<u>\$ 213,260</u>	<u>\$ 652,413</u>

A summary of changes in proprietary long-term debt follows:

	<u>Balance 9/30/2023</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance 9/30/2024</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
<b>Business-type Activities</b>					
Note payable and other liabilities:					
State Revolving Loan WW76404P	\$ 175,701	\$ -	\$ (21,969)	\$ 153,732	\$ 22,401
State Revolving Loan WW230200	342,400	-	(24,415)	317,985	25,031
State Revolving Loan WW230210	78,332	-	(4,421)	73,911	4,428
Compensated absences	37,010	3,085	-	40,095	16,038
Matured Int Pay Phillips - WS	51,000	-	-	51,000	51,000
Bonds payable:					
Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds	994,980	-	(29,000)	965,980	30,000
	<u>\$ 1,679,423</u>	<u>\$ 3,085</u>	<u>\$ (79,805)</u>	<u>\$ 1,602,703</u>	<u>\$ 148,898</u>

#### **NOTE 10. WATERWORKS SYSTEM BONDS PAYABLE AND OTHER DEBT**

The City issued \$300,000 in waterworks revenue bonds in 1960 to refinance the construction of the City's Water System. The amount of \$51,000 remains outstanding on this bond issue plus accrued interest of \$14,321. The \$51,000 bonds matured in 1975, but the City has been unable to locate the holder, if any, of the bonds.

#### **NOTE 11. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS**

The City entered into an interlocal agreement in July 2006, with Gulf County, Florida, whereby Gulf County, Florida, assumed responsibility for a period of 25 years for paving, resurfacing and maintenance of all roads within the city limits of the City. As consideration to Gulf County, Florida, the City agreed to waive its rights to receive the six-cent local option gas taxes for a period of 25 years.

A service agreement exists between the City and the Sheriff of Gulf County, Florida, whereby the Sheriff of Gulf County provides daily law enforcement protection within the City. The City pays the Sheriff, through the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, the sum of \$2,800 per month in consideration of these services. As additional consideration, law enforcement education funds collected for the City and cash or property forfeited have been assigned to the Sheriff.

The City entered into an interlocal agreement in April 2008, with the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners (the County), whereby by the County assumed responsibility of providing building official services and building inspection services in order to provide the required services to the citizens and builders of the City. As consideration for Gulf County, the City agreed to allow the County to collect and retain all revenues derived from building permit fees generated within the City. This agreement shall remain in effect until terminated or modified.

The City entered into an interlocal agreement in October, 2009 with the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners whereby the County levies a one-cent small county surtax and 50 percent of the revenues are utilized for county-wide healthcare with the remaining 50 percent distributed to the County and cities in accordance with Section 218.62, *Florida Statutes*.

**NOTE 12. OPERATING LEASES**

The City has no operating leases for the current year ended September 30, 2024.

**NOTE 13. RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Employees who have completed the year of service with the City participate in a Money Purchase Pension Plan (a defined contribution plan administered by the Florida League of Cities). Payments amounting to 5% of the gross salaries of each eligible employee are made by the City. During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2024, 2023 and 2022, retirement expense was \$29,935, \$29,313, and \$24,629, respectively. At September 30, 2024, 2023, and 2022, the net position in the plan available for participants' benefits were \$420,600, \$386,772, and \$535,193, respectively. 40% vesting occurs after four service years and increase 10% per year thereafter with full vesting occurring upon reaching ten years in the plan. The accounts of non-vested terminated employees are forfeited and can be used to reduce the current year contributions. The liability for future benefit payments remains with the plan's administrator. Under the provisions of the retirement plan, a maximum contribution of 25% of an employee's annual pay may be made. Benefits consist of the individual account balances.

**NOTE 14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During the year the City had transactions with related parties. Payments that totaled \$14,652 were made to three businesses owned by a Commission member for building supplies, repair and maintenance work, and construction work. Payments in the amount of \$1,080 were made to a business owned by another Commission member for pest control services. In accordance with City policy, these contracts were awarded based upon competitive bids, with the related parties abstaining from voting on the awards.

**NOTE 15. CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS**

Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the state and federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time, although the City expects such amounts, if any, to not be material.

**NOTE 16. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to theft of, damage to and destruction of assets, and injury or death on the job of all employees. These risks are primarily covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial or workers' compensation insurance coverage for the past three years. There has been no reduction in insurance coverage from the previous year.

**Note 17. LEGAL SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS**

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, the City received a legal settlement totaling \$850,000 from a surety company related to the nonperformance of a contractor engaged in the construction of a new firehouse facility. The project was fully funded through a grant administered by the State of Florida.

The contractor experienced significant performance deficiencies and ultimately filed for bankruptcy before the project was completed. As a result, the City was required to incur substantial unanticipated costs to correct and complete the work. The settlement was intended to resolve the matter and compensate the City for liquidated damages, legal and professional fees, and additional project costs that arose due to the contractor's deficiencies and nonperformance under the contract.

Following receipt of the settlement, the granting agency placed a temporary hold on pending reimbursements and initiated a review to determine whether any portion of the settlement proceeds may have overlapped with costs submitted by the City for reimbursement under the grant. This review relates only to fiscal year 2025 reimbursements and does not impact the current fiscal year. The review is ongoing.

The \$850,000 in settlement proceeds is presented separately in the government-wide Statement of Activities, an extraordinary item as the event is considered both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence.

## **REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUND**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024**

	Budgeted Amounts Original and Final	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Property taxes, levied for general purposes	\$ 485,062	\$ 497,269	\$ 12,207
Other taxes	311,191	367,042	55,851
Intergovernmental	894,463	749,787	(144,676)
Licenses and permits	13,700	15,911	2,211
Charges for service	75,000	68,513	(6,487)
Grant revenues	1,529,666	720,601	(809,065)
Legal settlement	-	850,000	850,000
Interest	5,000	39,458	34,458
Other fees and miscellaneous	8,050	2,709	(5,341)
Total revenues	<u>3,322,132</u>	<u>3,311,290</u>	<u>(10,842)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current			
General government			
Personnel	438,857	460,873	(22,016)
Operating	384,799	198,213	186,586
Public safety			
Fire	52,913	36,503	16,410
Police	54,500	50,000	4,500
Transportation			
Personnel	516,589	391,335	125,254
Operating	113,181	113,432	(251)
Culture and recreation			
Operating	112,233	104,189	8,044
Health and welfare			
Operating	29,500	22,329	7,171
Capital outlay			
General Government	-	12,044	(12,044)
Public safety	1,529,666	823,544	706,122
Culture and recreation	68,395	10,603	57,792
Transportation	21,500	22,378	(878)
Total expenditures	<u>3,322,132</u>	<u>2,245,443</u>	<u>1,076,689</u>
Net change in fund balance	-	1,065,847	1,065,847
Fund balance at beginning of year	<u>2,238,738</u>	<u>2,238,738</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 2,238,738</u>	<u>\$ 3,304,585</u>	<u>\$ 1,065,847</u>

See notes to financial statements.



**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

**I. Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability**

- A. Budgetary information.** The City, in establishing its budgetary data reflected in the financial statements follows the procedures set out in Chapters 166 and 200, *Florida Statutes*. The City prepares a tentative budget, which is used by the City at a public workshop to prepare the budgets for the coming year. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments. Subsequently, these budgets are legally adopted through the passage of a resolution at an advertised public session. Such actions are recorded in the City's minutes.

The budget is adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting, which is consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The only exception to the GAAP basis is the Enterprise Funds, where depreciation is not budgeted for capital assets, while capital outlay expenditures are budgeted and are reclassified into fixed assets. These are then eliminated from the results of operations for financial reporting purposes in the Enterprise Fund. Estimated beginning fund balances are considered in the budgetary process, but are not included in the financial statements as budgeted revenues.

The annual budget serves as the legal authorization for expenditures. All budget amendments, which change the legally adopted total appropriation for a fund, are approved by the City Commission.

If during the fiscal year, additional revenue becomes available for appropriations in excess of those estimated in the budget, the City Commission, by resolution, may make supplemental appropriations for the year up to the amount of such excess.

The City follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. Prior to September 1, the City Manager submits to the City Commission a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following October 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted in August and September to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. Prior to November 1, the budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance.
4. The legal level of budgetary control is the department level; however, the City Commission may, by formal motion, transfer appropriations between departments and may use surplus revenues not appropriated in the budget for any municipal purpose.
5. Budgets are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for governmental fund types.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024**

<u>GRANTOR/PROGRAM TITLE</u>	<u>ALN/CSFA#</u>	<u>Grant Number</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>	<u>Expenditures in the Current Year</u>	<u>Major Program</u>
<b>Federal Awards</b>					
<i>U.S Federal Emergency Management Agency</i>					
Public Assistance Program					
Hurricane Michael Recovery	97.036	Z0822	\$ 1,147,250	\$ 617,658	Major
<i>U.S Department of the Treasury</i>					
Passed through Division of Emergency Management					
American Rescue Plan Act	21.027	Y5054	1,068,321	433,126	
<i>U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development</i>					
Passed through Florida Department of Economic Opportunity					
Infrastructure Repair Program-Waste Water Repair	14.228	M0118	8,500,000	211,442	
Infrastructure Repair Program-Storm Sewer Repair	14.228	M0163	5,500,000	110,436	
Infrastructure Repair Program-Water Line Repairs	14.228	M0018	884,085	5,186	
<b>Total Federal Awards</b>			<u>17,099,656</u>	<u>1,377,848</u>	
<b>State Financial Assistance</b>					
<i>Executive office of the Governor</i>					
Public Assistance Program					
Hurricane Michael Recovery	NA	Z0822	191,208	102,943	
<i>Department of Economic Opportunity</i>					
Lift Station Design and Upgrade	DL010	DL010	600,000	17,500	
<b>Total State Awards</b>			<u>791,208</u>	<u>120,443</u>	
<b>Total Federal awards and State financial assistance</b>			<u>\$ 17,890,864</u>	<u>\$ 1,498,291</u>	

See notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA**  
Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance  
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance include the federal and state award activity of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida (the City). The accounting policies and presentation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance of the City have been designed to conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units, including the reporting and compliance requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (“OMB Uniform Guidance”) and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the State of Florida, Office of the Auditor General. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of the financial statements.

**A. Reporting Entity**

This reporting entity consists of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, and each of its component units. The City includes a Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance in the Compliance Section for the purpose of additional analysis.

**B. Basis of Accounting**

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.

**C. Grant Awards**

As required by OMB Uniform Guidance, federal grant awards drawn and expended during the year are included in the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance.

**D. Sub-recipients**

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance is required to identify amounts passed through to sub-recipients of grant funding. The City did not have any sub-recipients of grant funding in the current year.

**E. Indirect Cost Rate**

The City did not elect to use the 10% de minimis cost rate.

## **COMPLIANCE SECTION**



## Powell and Jones CPA

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### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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 Members  
Of the City Commission  
City of Wewahitchka, Florida

We have audited, 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 and the business-type activities and each major fund of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Wewahitchka, Florida's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 8, 2025.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City of Wewahitchka, Florida's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

Our consideration of the internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section 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 were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be 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. 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 accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2024-001 to be significant deficiencies.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City of Wewahitchka, Florida's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the City Commission, the Auditor General of the State of Florida, and federal and state awarding agencies and pass-through entities, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Powell & Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Powell and Jones CPA  
Lake City, Florida  
July 8, 2025



## Powell and Jones CPA

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Phone 386.755.4200

### MANAGEMENT LETTER REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

To The City Commission  
City of Wewahitchka, Florida

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida (City), for the year ended September 30, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated July 8, 2025, which is unmodified. We have also issued our report on compliance and on internal control over financial reporting.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance); and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

#### Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our 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; Independent Auditor's Reports on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and State Project and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance; Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs; and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with AICPA Professional Standards, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated July 8, 2025, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

#### PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding financial audit report. The following finding was included in the preceding reports:

Tabulation of Uncorrected Audit Finds		
Current Year Finding No.	FY 23 Finding No.	FY 22 Finding No.
2011-1	2011-1	2011-1



## **AUDITOR GENERAL COMPLIANCE MATTERS**

**Official Title and Legal Authority** - Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. This information has been disclosed in Note 1 of the financial statements.

**Financial Condition Assessment** - Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not the City met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the City did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.554 (1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for the City. It is management's responsibility to monitor the City's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and review of financial information provided by the same.

Section 10.554 (1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

### **Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs (PACE)**

As required by Section 10.554(1)(i)6.a., Rules of the Auditor General, the City did not have a property assessed clean energy (PACE) program that finances qualifying improvements authorized pursuant to Section 163.081 or Section 163.082, Florida Statutes, operated within the City's geographical boundaries during the fiscal year under audit.

## **RURAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

We are providing the following additional information relative to our examination of the financial statements of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, for the year ended September 30, 2024, as provided in the audit requirements for USDA-Rural Development borrowers.

1. Generally accepted auditing procedures were performed in this audit.
2. Internal control was evaluated and is discussed in the prior sections of this audit report.
3. Accounting records and physical control over assets were adequate.
4. The accounting records of the City have been adjusted to agree with the audited financial statements.
5. The City's funds are in institutions insured by the Federal government and are authorized depositories of Florida public funds.
6. A summary of the City's insurance coverage is shown in the annual report to USDA-Rural Development.
7. The City is exempt from Federal Income Tax.
8. We found nothing to indicate that financial compliance with the loan agreements had not occurred.

**Purpose of This Letter**

Our Management Letter is intended solely for the information of and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the City's Council and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Powell & Jones". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name of the firm.

Powell and Jones CPA  
Lake City, Florida  
July 8, 2025



## Powell and Jones CPA

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### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

To The City Commission  
City of Wewahitchka, Florida

#### **Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

##### ***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We have audited City of Wewahitchka, Florida's (the City) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and the requirements described in the Department of Financial Services' *State Projects Compliance Supplement*, that could have a direct and material effect on each of City's major Federal programs and State projects for the year ended September 30, 2024. The City's major Federal programs and State projects are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the City complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major Federal programs and State projects for the year ended September 30, 2024.

##### ***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program and State Project***

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and chapter 10.550 Rules of the Auditor General. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major Federal program and State project. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the City's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

### ***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to City's Federal programs and State projects.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on City's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and chapter 10.550 Rules of the Auditor General will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about City's compliance with the requirements of each major Federal program or State project as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and chapter 10.550 Rules of the Auditor General, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding City's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of City's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and chapter 10.550 Rules of the Auditor General, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

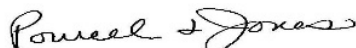
## ***Report on Internal Control over Compliance***

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program and State project will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program or a State project that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and chapter 10.550 Rules of the Auditor General. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Powell and Jones CPA  
Certified Public Accountants  
July 8, 2025



## Powell and Jones CPA

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### **INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS**

To The City Commission  
City of Wewahitchka, Florida

We have examined the City of Wewahitchka, Florida's compliance with Section 218.415, *Florida Statutes*, regarding the investment of public funds during the year ended September 30, 2024. Management is responsible for the City's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the City's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the City's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the City's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the City complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2024.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida and the Auditor General, State of Florida, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Powell and Jones CPA  
Lake City, Florida  
July 8, 2025

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

**Section I. Summary of Auditor's Results**

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting

- Material weakness(es) identified? No
- Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? No

**Federal Awards**

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? No
- Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance 2 CFR 200.516(a)? No

Identification of major Federal programs:

Assistance Listing Number:

97.036

Name of Program

*U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Public Assistance Program  
Hurricane Michael Recovery*

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B Federal programs: \$750,000

## **Section II – Financial Statement Findings and Recommendations**

### ***Findings for Significant Deficiencies***

#### **2024-001: Financial Statement Preparation**

**Criteria:** The preparation of the financial statements is the responsibility of management. Management must have the ability to draft financial statements in accordance with US GAAP, ensuring they fairly present the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of the entity. While auditors may assist in the preparation of the financial statements, this should not replace the capability of management to oversee and prepare such statements themselves.

**Condition:** During our audit, we identified a deficiency in internal control because the City lacks the capability to draft its financial statements in accordance with GAAP. The City does not have a staff or a contracted accountant with the necessary skills to prepare these statements

**Cause:** The City has not employed or contracted with an accounting professional who possesses the technical expertise required to prepare financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Although the City has staff with suitable skills, knowledge, and experience to oversee services provided by the auditors in assisting with financial statement preparation, this level of competence is lower than what is required to independently draft the financial statements.

**Effect:** The City is unable to internally prepare financial statements in compliance with GAAP. This places reliance on the auditors for financial statement preparation.

**Recommendation:** We recommend that the City hire a qualified accounting professional, either in-house or on a contractual basis, who has the expertise to prepare financial statements in accordance with GAAP. We understand that the City has a limited budget, and this may not be feasible at this time and that even with a qualified professional it may be more efficient for the City to continue using its auditors to prepare these financial statements in future years.

## **Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs**

There were no current year findings or questioned costs.

## **Section IV – Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings**

### **Finding 2011-1 Financial Statement Preparation**

#### **2011-1 Financial Statement Preparation**

A system of internal control over financial reporting includes controls over financial statement preparation, including footnote disclosures. While your auditor can assist with the preparation of your financial statements and related footnotes, the financial statements are the responsibility of management. A deficiency exists when the City does not have the expertise necessary to prevent, detect, and correct misstatements. A deficiency in internal control exists in instances where the City is not capable of drafting the financial statements and all required footnote disclosures in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Possessing suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee services an auditor provides in assisting with financial statement presentation requires a lower level of technical knowledge than the competence required to prepare the financial statements and disclosures.

Finding 2011-1 was not corrected. No corrective action was taken as management believes it is not financially feasible for the City at this time. This finding was repeated as finding 2024-001.





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### Communication with Those Charged with Governance

To The City Commission  
City of Wewahitchka, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida for the year ended September 30, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

#### Significant Audit Findings

##### *Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the City are described Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the current year. 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 financial statements in the proper period.

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

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There are no sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements.

##### *Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

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

##### *Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no such misstatements identified during our audit.

##### *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.

### *Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated July 8, 2025.

### *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.

### *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.

### Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements

With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, 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.

This information is intended solely for the use of the City Commission and management of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Powell & Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Powell and Jones CPA  
Lake City, Florida  
July 8, 2025

**EXAMPLE IMPACT FEE AFFIDAVIT**

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Michael Gortman, who being duly sworn, deposes and says on oath that:

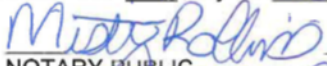
1. I am the City Manager<sup>1</sup> of The City of Wewahitchka which is a local governmental entity of the State of Florida.
2. The governing body of City of Wewahitchka adopted Ordinance No. 2007-1034L (Water Capital Facilities Charges) and Ordinance No. 2020-1205L (Wastewater Capital Facilities Charges implementing an impact fee.
3. The City of Wewahitchka has complied and, as of the date of this Affidavit, remains in compliance with Section 163.31801, Florida Statutes.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

  
(City Manager)

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF (Gulf)

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 17 day of July, 2025.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Print Name Misty Robbins

Personally known X or produced identification \_\_\_\_\_

Type of identification produced: \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Expires:

Sept 20, 2025



Misty Robbins  
Comm.: HH 177017  
Expires: Sept. 20, 2025  
Notary Public - State of Florida

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Section 163.31801(8), Florida Statutes, if there is no chief financial officer, the executive officer must sign the affidavit.