



**Reporting and insights
from the 2021 audit:**
Village of Sauk Village, Illinois

April 30, 2021

Executive summary

February 13, 2026

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the Board of Trustees
Village of Sauk Village

We were engaged to complete an audit of the financial statements of the Village of Sauk Village, Illinois (the Village) for the year ended April 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated February 13, 2026. This letter presents communications required by our professional standards.

The audit was performed based on information obtained from meetings with management, data from your systems, knowledge of your Village's operating environment and our risk assessment procedures. The lack of complete financial information and supporting documentation resulted in us issuing a disclaimer of opinion. We strive to provide you clear, concise communication throughout the audit process and of the final results of our audit.

Additionally, we have included information on key risk areas the Village should be aware of in your strategic planning. We are available to discuss these risks as they relate to your organization's financial stability and future planning.

If you have questions at any point, please connect with us:

- Michael Malatt, CPA, Principal: michael.malatt@bakertilly.com or +1 (630) 645 6226

Sincerely,

Baker Tilly US, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Malatt", written in a cursive style.

Michael Malatt, CPA, Principal

THIS COMMUNICATION IS INTENDED SOLELY FOR THE INFORMATION AND USE OF THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, AND, IF APPROPRIATE, MANAGEMENT, AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE AND SHOULD NOT BE USED BY ANYONE OTHER THAN THESE SPECIFIED PARTIES.

BAKER TILLY ADVISORY GROUP, LP AND BAKER TILLY US, LLP, TRADING AS BAKER TILLY, ARE MEMBERS OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK OF BAKER TILLY INTERNATIONAL LTD., THE MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT LEGAL ENTITIES. BAKER TILLY US, LLP IS A LICENSED CPA FIRM THAT PROVIDES ASSURANCE SERVICES TO ITS CLIENTS. BAKER TILLY ADVISORY GROUP, LP AND ITS SUBSIDIARY ENTITIES PROVIDE TAX AND CONSULTING SERVICES TO THEIR CLIENTS AND ARE NOT LICENSED CPA FIRMS. NON-ATTEST SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY BAKER TILLY ADVISORY GROUP, LP.

Responsibilities

Our responsibilities

As your independent auditor, our responsibilities include:

- Planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance.
- Assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. Included in that assessment is a consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting.
- Performing appropriate procedures based upon our risk assessment.
- Evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management.
- Forming and expressing an opinion based on our audit about whether the financial statements prepared by management, with the oversight of the Village Board of Trustees:
 - Are free from material misstatement
 - Present fairly, in all material respects and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America
- Our audit does not relieve management or the Village Board of Trustees of their responsibilities.

We are also required to communicate significant matters related to our audit that are relevant to the responsibilities of the Village Board of Trustees, including:

- Internal control matters
- Qualitative aspects of the Village's accounting practice including policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures
- Significant unusual transactions
- Significant difficulties encountered
- Disagreements with management
- Circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditors' report
- Audit consultations outside the engagement team
- Corrected and uncorrected misstatements
- Other audit findings or issues

Audit status

Significant changes to the audit plan

Our audit plan included the completion of all audit procedures and the issuance of an unmodified opinion on the financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2021. However, during the audit, we found that the Village could not provide complete and balanced financial records or provide sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support amounts reported in the financial statements, including bank reconciliations, utility billing records, actuarial valuations for other postemployment benefits, and source documents for other accrued amounts. As a result, we were unable to obtain sufficient audit evidence to support an opinion and issued a disclaimer of opinion.

There were no other significant changes made to our planned audit strategy and to the significant risks and other areas of emphasis identified during the performance of risk assessment procedures.

Audit approach and results

Planned scope and timing

Audit focus

Based on our understanding of the Village and environment in which you operate, we focused our audit on the following key areas:

- Key transaction cycles
- Areas with significant estimates

Our areas of audit focus were informed by, among other things, our assessment of materiality. Materiality in the context of our audit was determined based on specific qualitative and quantitative factors combined with our expectations about the Village's current year results.

Key areas of focus and significant findings

Significant risks of material misstatement

A significant risk is an identified and assessed risk of material misstatement that, in the auditor's professional judgment, requires special audit consideration. Within our audit, we focused on the following areas below.

Significant risk areas	Testing approach	Conclusion
Management override of controls	Incorporate unpredictability into audit procedures, emphasize professional skepticism and utilize audit team with industry expertise	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion
Improper revenue recognition due to fraud	Confirmation or validation of certain revenues supplemented with detailed predictive analytics based on non-financial data and substantive testing of related receivables	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion

Other areas of emphasis

We also focused on other areas that did not meet the definition of a significant risk, but were determined to require specific awareness and a unique audit response.

Other areas of emphasis		
Cash and investments	Revenues and receivables	General disbursements
Payroll	Pension and OPEB liabilities	Long-term debt
Capital assets	Fund balance and net position calculations	Financial reporting and required disclosures

Internal control matters

We considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements. We are not expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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 combination of deficiencies in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We identified the following deficiencies as a material weakness:

- **Pervasive lack of internal controls**

A properly designed system of internal control consists of several key elements including, but not limited to:

- Formal, documented procedures and policies guiding daily operations and governing body oversight of operations.
- Adequate staffing to effectively implement processes and procedures and to allow for appropriate separations of responsibilities across personnel to limit the ability for one employee to process transactions without oversight.
- Required, documented approvals and authorizations of all transactional activity by management and the governing body.
- System-driven limitations on access that restricts the ability of personnel to circumvent established control processes.
- Consistent, accurate, and timely communication of financial results and related information from management to the governing body.
- Other checks and balances on a transaction cycle and organization-wide basis to mitigate the risk of improper and inaccurate transactional activity and ensure complete and accurate financial reporting.

During our evaluation of the Village's processes, we noted a pervasive, systematic lack of controls across the organization and a failure to implement foundational best practices. Our observations of lack of internal controls include:

Accounts payable/disbursements

- The Village does not have a system or process in place for the formal, documented review and approval of purchases both through purchase order or credit card.
- The same employee has the ability to create vendors, enter invoices, process payments, and distribute checks.
- There are no controls over the Village's vendor listing nor processes in place to verify that new and existing vendors are legitimate and provide services to the Village.

Payroll

- The same employee has the ability to create employees in the payroll system, change pay rates and hours and prepare and process payroll.
- There is no formal or consistent review of pay runs by someone other than the preparer.

Utility billing and collections

- The same employee is responsible for entering account information, applying billing rates, inputting manual meter reads, making account adjustments, and sending reports to the third-party billing provider.
- The same employee who reconciles the cash count to the register also collects cash at the register and makes deposits at the bank.
- There is limited or no independent review of utility billing activity, including billing adjustments and account information.

Organization-wide controls

- Budget-to-actual and other financial reports are not provided to the Board on a regular or timely basis. When reports are provided, there is no formal review or acceptance of the reports. There is also no formal policy requiring a review of monthly reporting.
- Bank reconciliations are not prepared on a timely basis. Additionally, when prepared, bank reconciliations do not appear to be accurate or align with transactions reported in the general ledger. There also is no policy requiring a review or approval of monthly bank reconciliations by someone other than the preparer.
- The Village was unable to present a complete, balanced trial balance. Trial balances provided for the audit included unbalanced funds, unrecorded activity, one-sided entries, and other pervasive and material inaccuracies.
- There are no formal, documented policies or controls around the Village's information technology control environment, including no password policies, no change management processes, no backup policy, and no oversight of third-party IT support.

As a result of these gaps in internal controls, the Village was unable to provide us with complete and balanced financial information which led to the issuance of a disclaimer of opinion on the financial statements.

While we are aware that staffing and financial limitations present real, tangible challenges to the Village, we do not believe it precludes the Village from working toward the implementation of a complete, functional system of internal control that would mitigate the risk of error or fraud in the Village's financial activities and allow the governing body to better-informed decisions related to the Village's financial health. Until such time that an effective system of controls can be put into place, the Village is at a continued, elevated risk of errors, irregularities and fraud occurring and going undiscovered by Village personnel, management, and governing body.

Required communications

Qualitative aspect of accounting practices

- Accounting policies: Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we have advised management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Village are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 1, the Village changed accounting policies related to lease accounting by adopting GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, in 2021. Accordingly, the accounting change has been retrospectively applied to the prior period presented. We noted no transactions entered into by the Village during the year for which accounting policies are controversial or for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus or diversity in practice.
- Accounting estimates: Accounting estimates, including fair value 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, the degree of subjectivity involved in their development and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The following estimates are of most significance to the financial statements:

Estimate	Management's process to determine	Baker Tilly's conclusions regarding reasonableness
Accrued compensated absences	Evaluation of hours earned and accumulated in accordance with employment policies and average wage per hour rates	No specific issues noted
Net pension liability and related deferrals	Evaluation of information provided by the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund and other actuaries	No specific issues noted
Total OPEB liability and related deferrals	Key assumptions set by management with the assistance of a third party actuary	No specific issues noted
Depreciation	Evaluate estimated useful life of the asset and original acquisition value	No specific issues noted

There have been no significant changes made by management to either the processes used to develop the particularly sensitive accounting estimates, or to the significant assumptions used to develop the estimates noted above.

- Financial statement disclosures: The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear.

Significant unusual transactions

There have been no significant transactions that are outside the normal course of business for the Village or that otherwise appear to be unusual due to their timing, size or nature.

Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

We encountered significant difficulties during the audit:

- Significant delays in Village personnel providing required information
- The unavailability of expected information including, but not limited to, the OPEB actuary report, utility billing reports, and bank reconciliations
- Village's inability to provide requested information to validate the amounts reported in the financial statements, including invoices, receipts, and personnel records.

As a result of these matters, we were unable to complete audit procedures over the Village's financial statements and issued a disclaimer of opinion as we were unable to determine if the balances reported were complete and accurate.

Disagreements with management

Professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the basic financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Audit report

We issued a disclaimer of opinion on the Village's financial statements. The disclaimer of opinion was due to substantial turnover and failure of the Village to provide complete and balanced financial records, which resulted in our inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support amounts reported in the financial statements, including bank reconciliations, utility billing records, actuarial valuations for other postemployment benefits, and source documents for other accrued amounts.

Audit consultations outside the engagement team

We encountered no difficult or contentious matters for which we consulted outside of the engagement team.

Uncorrected misstatements and corrected misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial and to communicate accumulated misstatements to management. Management is in agreement with the misstatements we have identified, and they have been corrected in the financial statements. The schedule within the attachments summarizes the material corrected misstatements, that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. The internal control matters section of this report describes the effects on the financial reporting process indicated by the corrected misstatements, other than those that we consider to be of a lesser magnitude than significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Other audit findings or issues

We encountered no other audit findings or issues that require communication at this time.

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 Village's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Management's consultations with other accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing or accounting matters.

Written communications between management and Baker Tilly

The attachments include copies of other material written communications, including a copy of the management representation letter.

Compliance with laws and regulations

During the course of the audit, we could not determine if the Village's was in compliance with Subsection (q) of Section 11-74.4-3 of Public Act 85-1142, "An Act in Relation to Tax Increment Financing". As such, we issued a disclaimer of opinion on the Village's compliance with TIF laws.

We did not identify any other non-compliance with laws and regulations during our audit.

Fraud

We were made aware of allegations of fraud against current and former Village employees. Based on information provided, the alleged fraud was not quantifiably material nor could it be determined if fraud actually occurred.

Going concern

Pursuant to professional standards, we are required to communicate to you, when applicable, certain matters relating to our evaluation of the Village's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time but no less than 12 months from the date of the financial statements, including the effects on the financial statements and the adequacy of the related disclosures, and the effects on the auditor's report. No such matters or conditions have come to our attention during our engagement.

Independence

We are not aware of any relationships between Baker Tilly and the Village that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

Related parties

We did not have any significant findings or issues arise during the audit in connection with the Village's related parties.

Other matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information which accompanies the financial statements but is not RSI. With respect to the supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves. However, due to the inability to obtain sufficient audit evidence and the issuance of a disclaimer of opinion on the financial statements, we do not express opinions on the supplementary information.

Nonattest services

The following nonattest services were provided by Baker Tilly:

- Financial statement preparation
- Adjusting journal entries
- Compiled regulatory reports
- Civic Systems software

In addition, as part of the financial statement preparation we prepared GASB No. 34 conversion entries which are summarized in the "Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position" and the "Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities" in the financial statements.

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

Board resources

Our business is to know every aspect of yours and to maintain a constant lookout for what's next. We invite you to learn about some of the trending challenges and opportunities for public sector organizations like yours and how Baker Tilly can help.

To explore more trending topics and regulatory updates, visit our resource page at <https://www.bakertilly.com/insights/audit-committee-resource-page>.



Funding evaluation and pursuit

Public sector organizations may be eligible for grants, tax credits and other financial incentives through funding opportunities such as the Inflation Reduction Act, the Clean Communities Investment Accelerator, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Baker Tilly can help you navigate, understand and pursue various federal and state funding sources through grant research and tracking, advising and writing, and management and compliance services.



Digital transformation

Digitizing public services can be a game changer for governments. Streamlining inefficient processes, providing digital access and delivery of services to meet public expectations, implementing technology to protect constituent data, leveraging information to make data-driven decisions and migrating outdated on-premises systems to the cloud are crucial to an entity's success.

Through these types of digital services, Baker Tilly can help you scale with future demand and be better positioned to rapidly respond to changing demands.



Cybersecurity

Public sector organizations face significant challenges from cyber threats and IT regulations. It can feel like you are on the defense keeping up with the latest risks, regulations and emerging trends. To mitigate risk, you must understand your organization's unique vulnerabilities, cybersecurity processes and controls.

Baker Tilly can help enhance your cybersecurity posture and ensure compliance with solutions in IT compliance and security and cybersecurity and data protection to safeguard your data and navigate complex risk environments.

Management representation letter



21801 Torrence Ave., Sauk Village, IL 60411 • Phone: (708) 758-3330 • Fax: (708) 758-1634

February 13, 2026

Baker Tilly US, LLP

1301 W 22nd Street
Suite 400
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

Dear Baker Tilly US, LLP:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Village of Sauk Village as of April 30, 2021 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Village of Sauk Village and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). We understand that, as a result of the significant limitations in the information available and provided, you will disclaim an opinion on the financial statements. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the previously mentioned financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting, and preventing and detecting fraud.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated December 6, 2022.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have engaged you to advise us in fulfilling that responsibility. The financial statements include all properly classified funds of the primary government and all component units required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to be included in the financial reporting entity.

- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility 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.
- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, if any, are reasonable.
- 6) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- 7) All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. No other events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the financial statement date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.
- 8) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 9) All known audit and bookkeeping adjustments have been included in our financial statements, and we are in agreement with those adjustments.
- 10) We are in agreement with the adjusting journal entries you have proposed, and they have been posted to the appropriate accounts.
- 11) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- 12) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Village is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

- 13) We have provided you with:
 - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, documentation, and other matters.
 - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - c) Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
 - d) Minutes of the meetings of the Village Board of Trustees or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.

- 14) We have not completed an assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 15) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
 - a) Management,
 - b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
 - c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 16) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 17) We have disclosed to you all known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 18) We have disclosed to you the names of our related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions, including side agreements, of which we are aware.

Other

- 19) We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
- 20) We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 21) We have identified to you any investigations or legal proceedings that have been initiated with respect to the period under audit.
- 22) The Village has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources or fund balance or net position.
- 23) We are responsible for compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits, debt contracts, and IRS arbitrage regulations; and we have identified and disclosed to you all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 24) We have appropriately disclosed all information for conduit debt obligations in accordance with GASB 91.

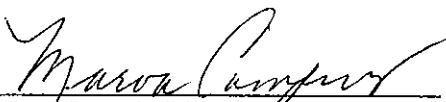
- 25) There are no:
- a) Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, federal, state, and local laws or regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance, except those already disclosed in the financial statement, if any.
 - b) Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
 - c) Nonspendable, restricted, committed, or assigned fund balances that were not properly authorized and approved.
 - d) Rates being charged to customers other than the rates as authorized by the applicable authoritative body.
 - e) Violations of restrictions placed on revenues as a result of bond resolution covenants such as revenue distribution or debt service funding.
- 26) In regards to the nonattest services performed by you listed below, we acknowledge our responsibility related to these nonattest services and have 1) accepted all management responsibility; 2) designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services; 3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and 4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.
- a) Financial statement preparation
 - b) Adjusting journal entries
 - c) Compiled regulatory reports
 - d) Civic Systems software
- None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.
- 27) The Village of Sauk Village has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 28) The Village of Sauk Village has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statement in the event of noncompliance.
- 29) The financial statements include all fiduciary activities required by GASB No. 84.
- 30) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.
- 31) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and components of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.

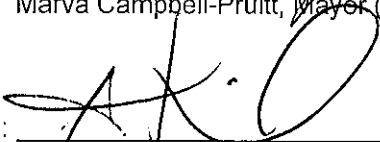
- 32) The Village of Sauk Village has no derivative financial instruments such as contracts that could be assigned to someone else or net settled, interest rate swaps, collars or caps.
- 33) Provisions for uncollectible receivables, if any, have been properly identified and recorded.
- 34) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 35) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues and general revenues.
- 36) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.
- 37) Deposits and investments are properly classified, valued, and disclosed (including risk disclosures, collateralization agreements, valuation methods, and key inputs, as applicable).
- 38) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated/amortized. Any known impairments have been recorded and disclosed.
- 39) Tax-exempt bonds issued have retained their tax-exempt status.
- 40) We are following our established accounting policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available. That policy determines the fund balance classifications for financial reporting purposes.
- 41) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
- 42) With respect to the supplementary information, (SI):
 - a) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the SI in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the SI, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SI have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
 - b) If the SI is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.

- 43) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the findings of specialists in evaluating the other postemployment benefits liability and associated deferred inflows and outflows of resources and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.
- 44) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the information provided by the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund as audited by their auditors relating to the net pension asset/liability and related deferred outflows and deferred inflows and have adequately considered the reasonableness of the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We also assume responsibility for the census data that has been reported to the plan.

Sincerely,

Village of Sauk Village

Signed: 
Marva Campbell-Pruitt, Mayor (effective April 28, 2025)

Signed: 
Anthony Finch, Interim Village Administrator (effective April 28, 2025)

Two-way audit communications

As part of our audit of your financial statements, we are providing communications to you throughout the audit process. Auditing requirements provide for two-way communication and are important in assisting the auditor and you with more information relevant to the audit.

As this past audit is concluded, we use what we have learned to begin the planning process for next year's audit. It is important that you understand the following points about the scope and timing of our next audit:

- a. We address the significant risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, through our detailed audit procedures.
- b. We will obtain an understanding of the five components of internal control sufficient to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to error or fraud, and to design the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures. We will obtain a sufficient understanding by performing risk assessment procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of financial statements and to determine whether they have been implemented. We will use such knowledge to:
 - Identify types of potential misstatements
 - Consider factors that affect the risks of material misstatement
 - Design tests of controls, when applicable and substantive procedures
- c. We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations and provisions of contracts or grant programs.
- d. The concept of materiality recognizes that some matters, either individually or in the aggregate, are important for fair presentation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles while other matters are not important. In performing the audit, we are concerned with matters that, either individually or in the aggregate, could be material to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that material misstatements, whether caused by errors or fraud, are detected.

Our audit will be performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are very interested in your views regarding certain matters. Those matters are listed here:

- a. We typically will communicate with your top level of management unless you tell us otherwise.
- b. We understand that the governing board has the responsibility to oversee the strategic direction of your organization, as well as the overall accountability of the entity. Management has the responsibility for achieving the objectives of the entity.
- c. We need to know your views about your organization's objectives and strategies, and the related business risks that may result in material misstatements.
- d. We anticipate that the Village will receive a disclaimer of opinion on its financial statements due to the inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence for balances reported in the financial statements.
- e. Which matters do you consider warrant particular attention during the audit, and are there any areas where you request additional procedures to be undertaken?
- f. Have you had any significant communications with regulators or grantor agencies?
- g. Are there other matters that you believe are relevant to the audit of the financial statements?

Also, is there anything that we need to know about the attitudes, awareness and actions of the governing body concerning:

- a. The entity's internal control and its importance in the entity, including how those charged with governance oversee the effectiveness of internal control?
- b. The detection or the possibility of fraud?

We also need to know if you have taken actions in response to developments in financial reporting, laws, accounting standards, governance practices or other related matters, or in response to previous communications with us.

With regard to the timing of our audit, here is some general information. We will conduct preliminary financial audit work during the spring or later depending on when financial information is available to us. Our final financial fieldwork will be scheduled to best coincide with your readiness. After fieldwork, we wrap up our financial audit procedures at our office and may issue drafts of our report for your review. Final copies of our report and other communications are issued after approval by your staff. This is typically 6-12 weeks after final fieldwork, but may vary depending on a number of factors.

Keep in mind that while this communication may assist us with planning the scope and timing of the audit, it does not change the auditor's sole responsibility to determine the overall audit strategy and the audit plan, including the nature, timing and extent of procedures necessary to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

We realize that you may have questions on what this all means, or wish to provide other feedback. We welcome the opportunity to hear from you.