

CITY OF WHEATON, ILLINOIS

MANAGEMENT LETTER

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2019**



May 20, 2020

The Honorable Mayor
Members of the City Council
City of Wheaton, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the City of Wheaton (the City), Illinois, for the year ended December 31, 2019, we considered its internal control structure in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure.

We do not intend to imply that our audit failed to disclose commendable aspects of your system and structure. For your consideration, we herein submit our comments and suggestions which are designed to assist in effecting improvements in internal controls and procedures. Those less-significant matters, if any, which arose during the course of the audit, were reviewed with management as the audit field work progressed.

The accompanying comments and recommendations are intended solely for the information and use of Members of the City Council, management, and others within the City of Wheaton, Illinois.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed many of these comments and suggestions with various City personnel. We would be pleased to discuss our comments and suggestions in further detail with you at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to review the procedures necessary to bring about desirable changes.

We commend the finance department for the well prepared audit package and we appreciate the courtesy and assistance given to us by the entire City staff.

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP

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PRIOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. RECORDING OF UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE RETIREMENTS

Comment

During our current and prior year-end audit procedures, we noted that the Water Fund and Sanitary Sewer Fund do not record retirements of infrastructure as these items are replaced. This can result in the carrying value of capital assets and the related accumulated depreciation becoming overstated.

Recommendation

We recommended that management evaluate the value of their current system as they have added assets, but have not had disposals. The impact is not considered to be material as most of the assets that should have been disposed of are likely fully depreciated.

Management Response

The comment was only a recommendation by the auditors and was not an internal control deficiency. The Finance Department is looking to the new Public Works software system to assist in the record keeping of water mains, sanitary sewers and storm sewers. A detailed history and inventory of infrastructure assets has not been readily available in a format needed for the Finance Department to effectively account for the disposition of these assets. Once the software is fully implemented, the Finance Department will be able to identify the cost and accumulated depreciation of assets that are retired and account for these transactions. Staff will work on eliminating this recommendation in the near future.