

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT	1 – 3
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	4 – 10
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION	11
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	12
FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	13
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION	14
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	15
RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	16
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION – PROPRIETARY FUNDS	17
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION – PROPRIETARY FUNDS	18
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS – PROPRIETARY FUNDS	19 – 20
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION – FIDUCIARY FUNDS	21
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION – FIDUCIARY FUNDS	22
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	23 – 52
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET TO ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND	53
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET TO ACTUAL – SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	54

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

TABLE OF CONTENTS – CONTINUED

	<u>PAGE</u>
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – CONTINUED	
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS	55
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS	56
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	57
SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL MONEY-WEIGHTED RATE OF RETURN ON INVESTMENTS	58
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE CITY’S NET OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATOS	59
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS – OPEB	60
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS – OPEB	61
OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	62
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	63
DETAIL SCHEDULE OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES- ELECTRIC, WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM	64
SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE COVERAGE	65
OTHER REPORTS	
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>	66 – 67
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND STATE PROJECT AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL	68 – 70
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS	71 – 72
MANAGEMENT LETTER	73 – 74
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT ON INVESTMENT COMPLIANCE	75

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
OFFICIALS**

**City of Wauchula, Florida
Principal City Officials**

September 30, 2024

CITY COMMISSION

Richard Nadaskay, Jr., Mayor
Neda Cobb, Mayor Pro-Tem
Sherri Albritton, Commissioner
Gary Smith, Commissioner
Russell Graylin Smith, Commissioner

CITY MANAGER

Olivia Minshe

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

John M. Eason

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Sandee Braxton

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable City Commission
City of Wauchula, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Wauchula, Florida (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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information 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 the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *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.

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 Responsibility 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

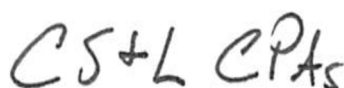
Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis; budgetary comparison information; schedules of changes in net pension liability and related ratios, contributions, notes to required supplementary information, annual money-weighted rate of return on investments; schedules of changes in the City's net other post-employment benefit liability and related ratios, contributions, and investment returns as listed in the table of contents 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements. The accompanying other supplementary information as listed in the table of contents, and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* and the Florida Single Audit Act and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the other supplementary information and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 16, 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 solely 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 the effectiveness of the City's 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.

Handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "CS&L CPAs".

CS&L CPAs, P.A.

June 16, 2025
Bradenton, Florida



MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the City of Wauchula, Florida (the City), we offer readers of the City's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the City for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the basic financial statements.

Financial Highlights

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the City exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$60,162,986 (net position).
- The government's total net position increased by \$12,492,109 during the year.
- The net post-employment benefit plan liability recognized under GASB Statement No. 75, *Financial Reporting and Accounting for Post-employment Benefit Plans Other Than Pensions* continues to impact the City. The net OPEB liability at year end is \$3,824,579, which decreased \$631,332 over prior year. The liability is based on an actuarially calculated amount. During 2016, the City established an Other Post-employment Benefit (OPEB) Trust Fund to reduce the related liability over time. At September 30, 2024, the trust fund balance was \$704,965.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the City's governmental funds reported ending fund balances of \$4,642,793, an increase of \$1,143,444 in comparison with the prior year. Of this amount, unassigned fund balance represents \$2,718,249.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the City's basic financial statements. The City's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the City's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all of the City's assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported in a manner similar to the approach used by private-sector business in that revenues are recognized when earned or established criteria are satisfied and expenses reported when incurred. Accordingly, revenues are reported even when they may not be collected for several months after the end of the year and expenses are reported even though they may not have used cash during the current fiscal year.

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the City that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities).

The governmental activities of the City include general government, police department, highways and streets and culture/recreation. The business-type activities of the City include the electric, water, sewer, and sanitation services, as well as the airport operations.

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 11 and 12 of this report.

Fund financial statements: Funds are a group of self-balancing accounts. Funds are used to account for specific activities of the City. The City, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the City can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The governmental funds used by the City are the general fund and a special revenue fund. Information is presented separately in the governmental funds balance sheet and in the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the general fund and special revenue fund.

The City adopts an annual appropriated budget for its governmental funds. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for these funds to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements, including reconciliations, can be found on pages 13 through 16 of this report.

Proprietary funds: The City utilizes enterprise funds. Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The City's enterprise funds consist of the electric, water and sewer fund, airport fund, and the sanitation fund.

The basic proprietary fund financial statements can be found on pages 17 through 20 of this report.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the City's own programs.

The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found on pages 21 and 22 of this report.

Notes to the financial statements: The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes should be read in conjunction with the financial statements.

Other information: In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the City's general fund and special revenue fund budgetary comparisons, as well as pension and other post-employment benefits information. Required supplementary information is listed in the table of contents.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

The following table presents a condensed statement of net position as of September 30, 2024 with comparative totals as of September 30, 2023.

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Current and other assets	\$ 8,983,717	\$ 7,083,667	\$ 14,709,950	\$ 14,594,394	\$ 23,693,667	\$ 21,678,061
Capital assets (net of depreciation)	14,151,199	12,729,137	38,480,744	28,555,965	52,631,943	41,285,102
Total assets	23,134,916	19,812,804	53,190,694	43,150,359	76,325,610	62,963,163
Deferred outflows of resources	2,052,300	2,777,090	2,127,492	2,768,415	4,179,792	5,545,505
Long-term liabilities outstanding						
Debt	73,313	125,044	3,176,537	2,805,843	3,249,850	2,930,887
Lease liability	5,280	9,416	-	36,688	5,280	46,104
Compensated absences	230,439	216,227	198,986	227,499	429,425	443,726
OPEB liability	1,896,730	2,252,522	1,927,849	2,203,389	3,824,579	4,455,911
	2,205,762	2,603,209	5,303,372	5,273,419	7,509,134	7,876,628
Other liabilities	1,612,382	2,136,024	3,341,811	4,498,822	4,954,193	6,634,846
Total liabilities	3,818,144	4,739,233	8,645,183	9,772,241	12,463,327	14,511,474
Deferred inflows of resources	4,329,897	3,641,283	3,549,192	2,685,034	7,879,089	6,326,317
Net position:						
Net investment in capital assets	14,077,628	12,603,518	33,916,159	25,494,678	47,993,787	38,098,196
Restricted	1,905,434	1,126,738	2,023,328	2,020,186	3,928,762	3,146,924
Unrestricted	1,056,113	479,122	7,184,324	5,946,635	8,240,437	6,425,757
Total Net Position	\$ 17,039,175	\$ 14,209,378	\$ 43,123,811	\$ 33,461,499	\$ 60,162,986	\$ 47,670,877

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the City, assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$60,162,986 at the close of September 30, 2024.

The City's net position include net investment in capital assets of \$47,993,787, which reflect its capital assets (e.g., land, buildings and improvements in infrastructure, machinery, and equipment), net of depreciation, less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The City uses these capital assets to provide services to its citizens; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending. Although the City's investment in 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. An additional portion of the City's net position, \$3,928,762, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The balance of *unrestricted net position* is \$8,240,437.

The following is a summary of the changes in net position for the year ended September 30, 2024, with comparative totals for the year ended September 30, 2023.

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenues:						
Program Revenues:						
Charges for services	\$ 293,123	\$ 320,312	\$ 13,086,686	\$ 13,410,755	\$ 13,379,809	\$ 13,731,067
Operating grants and contributions	93,116	115,602	-	698,728	93,116	814,330
Capital grants and contributions	2,046,997	1,150,102	9,511,155	9,547,123	11,558,152	10,697,225
General revenues:						
Taxes	3,523,917	3,280,709	-	-	3,523,917	3,280,709
Transfers	1,966,821	1,786,000	(1,966,821)	(1,786,000)	-	-
Other	92,959	193,057	456,519	995,807	549,478	1,188,864
Total revenues	8,016,933	6,845,782	21,087,539	22,866,413	29,104,472	29,712,195
Expenses:						
General government	2,167,553	1,987,490	-	-	2,167,553	1,987,490
Police department	1,863,082	2,081,730	-	-	1,863,082	2,081,730
Highways and streets	563,439	531,033	-	-	563,439	531,033
Culture and recreation	588,500	513,556	-	-	588,500	513,556
Interest on long-term debt	4,562	6,399	-	-	4,562	6,399
Water	-	-	1,540,621	1,650,701	1,540,621	1,650,701
Sewer	-	-	1,808,822	1,950,345	1,808,822	1,950,345
Electric	-	-	6,402,505	7,738,513	6,402,505	7,738,513
Airport	-	-	689,000	717,612	689,000	717,612
Sanitation	-	-	984,279	862,460	984,279	862,460
Total expenses	5,187,136	5,120,208	11,425,227	12,919,631	16,612,363	18,039,839
Change in Net Position	2,829,797	1,725,574	9,662,312	9,946,782	12,492,109	11,672,356
Net Position - Beginning	14,209,378	12,483,804	33,461,499	23,514,717	47,670,877	35,998,521
Net Position - Ending	\$ 17,039,175	\$ 14,209,378	\$ 43,123,811	\$ 33,461,499	\$ 60,162,986	\$ 47,670,877

Governmental activities: Governmental activities increased the City's net position by \$2,829,797. Compared to the prior year, revenues increased \$1,171,151, primarily due to increases in capital grants and contributions of \$896,895 and taxes of \$243,208. Expenses increased over the prior year by \$66,928.

Business-type activities. Business-type activities decreased the City's net position by \$9,662,312. Revenues decreased by \$1,778,874. Charges for services decreased by \$324,069 and operating and capital grants and contributions decreased by \$734,696. Additionally, the City received hurricane related insurance settlements during 2023 of approximately \$850,000 which decreased by approximately \$664,000 in 2024.

Expenses decreased by \$1,494,404 compared to the prior year. The decrease was largely due to decreased purchased power needs which decreased the expense by \$1,217,789.

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the City uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of the City's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the City's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the City's general fund reported an ending fund balance of \$2,796,211, an increase of \$369,035 in comparison with the prior year. \$2,718,249 of total fund balance constitutes unassigned fund balance. The remainder of fund balance is either non-spendable for inventory or restricted to indicate that it is not available for new spending because it has already been restricted for the police department, culture/recreation, and storm disaster.

Activity during the current fiscal year included the following key components:

- Total general fund revenues increased by \$219,880 as a result of an increase in taxes of \$137,375 and grant revenues of \$76,395.
- The general fund expenditures increased by \$441,912 due mainly to increases in general government expenditures of \$154,613, culture/recreation of \$110,841, and capital outlay largely related to grants of \$83,202.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the City's special revenue fund (CRA) reported an ending fund balance of \$1,846,582, an increase of \$774,409 from the prior year. All of the fund balance is restricted to activities of the Community Redevelopment Agency. Total revenues increased \$874,640 as a result of an increase in grants of \$798,014 and taxes of \$116,472. Expenditures decreased \$371,806 due to capital outlay related to projects within the CRA area.

Proprietary funds. The City's proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the business-type activities of the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail. See the discussions above for the business-type activities.

Fiduciary funds. The City's pension trust include defined benefit pension plans and the OPEB trust fund. At year end, assets totaled \$29,754,692, which is an increase from the prior year of \$4,609,004. This was mainly due to market results in 2024 compared to 2023. For more information on these plans see Notes 4 and 5.

Governmental Fund Budgetary Highlights

General Fund

The original budgeted revenues were \$2,987,111, which were amended to \$3,701,074. The increase was related to expected grant revenues. The original budgeted expenditures were \$4,493,442, which were amended to \$5,207,405. The increase was related largely to capital outlay based on expected grant revenues. Total other financing sources (uses) were budgeted at \$1,506,331 and were not amended.

Actual revenues were greater than budgeted revenues by \$266,837 which was largely due to investment income. Actual expenditures were less than budget by \$67,119 due to general capital outlay being less than anticipated by \$75,455. Actual other financing sources were \$35,079 greater than budgeted.

Special Revenue Fund

The original budgeted revenues of the CRA were \$4,883,994 and were not amended during the year. Original budgeted expenditures also \$6,344,652 and were not amended during the year. The budgeted difference were other financing sources of \$1,460,658, which were not amended during the year.

Actual revenues were under budget by \$2,725,592 due to grant revenues that were not realized in the current year. Similarly, actual expenditures were less than budgeted by \$3,897,258 due mainly to grant related capital outlay expenditures. Transfers in/out were less than the original and final budget by \$397,257.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital assets. The City's capital assets for its governmental-type and business-type activities as of September 30, 2024, amounted to \$52,631,943 (net of accumulated depreciation). Capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, electrical distribution system, sewer system improvements, water system improvements, machinery and equipment, and construction in progress.

Capital Assets (Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Land	\$ 731,652	\$ 731,652	\$ 1,184,493	\$ 1,184,493	\$ 1,916,145	\$ 1,916,145
Building and improvements	11,164,028	6,523,375	7,382,029	2,453,865	18,546,057	8,977,240
Electrical distribution system	-	-	3,150,250	1,568,614	3,150,250	1,568,614
Water system improvements	-	-	8,925,487	9,549,170	8,925,487	9,549,170
Machinery and equipment	1,120,224	1,052,695	2,654,878	2,426,262	3,775,102	3,478,957
Construction in progress	1,135,295	4,421,415	15,183,607	11,373,561	16,318,902	15,794,976
Total	\$ 14,151,199	\$ 12,729,137	\$ 38,480,744	\$ 28,555,965	\$ 52,631,943	\$ 41,285,102

Additional information on the City's capital assets can be found in note 3.

Long-Term Debt. At the end of the current fiscal year, the City had total long-term debt outstanding of \$3,255,130. The City's debt represents bonds and revenue notes secured solely by specified revenue sources, as well as notes payable and lease liabilities.

Long-Term Debt

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Bonds payable (net of deferred charges)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,220,000	\$ 1,449,000	\$ 1,220,000	\$ 1,449,000
Notes payable	73,313	125,044	1,956,537	1,356,843	2,029,850	1,481,887
Lease liabilities	5,280	9,416	-	36,688	5,280	46,104
Total	\$ 78,593	\$ 134,460	\$ 3,176,537	\$ 2,842,531	\$ 3,255,130	\$ 2,976,991

Additional information on the City's long-term debt can be found in note 3.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

The following factors were considered in preparing the City of Wauchula's budget for the 2025 fiscal year:

- An increase in taxable assessed values of over 10% generating \$96,359 in additional ad valorem revenue
- The property tax millage rate will be the roll-back rate at 5.186 mills in 2025
- Annual indexing of rates for solid waste services
- Year 1 of 5-year plan increasing water and sewer rates
- Year 3 of a 3-year plan increasing electric rates
- The City of Wauchula is restricted in assessing ad valorem tax on only 52% of total property values. Due to government, educational, hospital and other tax-exempt entity property owners, 48% of the properties included in the City limits are not assessed property taxes. Ad valorem tax revenues collected and spent in the General Fund provide only 20% of the monies needed to operate the police department, maintain roads, streets, parks, code enforcement, community redevelopment needs, and other administrative expenses budgeted in the general fund.

With the previous factors considered, the City of Wauchula's budgeted revenue and expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025 are \$23,649,655. The total budget for the previous fiscal year end September 30, 2024 was \$25,938,761. The transfer amount to the general fund increased by just under \$16,000 for the budget year 2024-25. There are no discernible or detectable deficiencies reported in level of services provided to the City of Wauchula customers while maintaining the level of this traditionally significant transfer.

Pension and OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits)

Both General Employee and Police Pension Funds experienced an increase in portfolio balances at fiscal year-end September 30, 2024. The balances are \$24,975,443 and \$3,953,037 respectively. Contributions to the General Fund Employee Pension Fund are from employees and the City (employer) as well as the profits from investment strategies in the fund's portfolio. The contributions to the Police Pension Fund are from the Casualty Loss Premium Tax payment from the state and profitable investment strategies in the pension fund's portfolio.

Although there is currently no requirement to fund the OPEB liability, the City has decided to divert funds, when budget allows, to this fund to begin to reduce the unfunded liability. The only contributions to the OPEB trust at this time are employer contributions from the City. The City contributed \$139,323 to the OPEB trust in fiscal year 2023-2024. During fiscal year 2019-2020 the City began using the funds in the OPEB trust to pay retiree benefits. The total disbursed for 2023-2024 fiscal year was \$142,396. Including gains and the prior year balance, the OPEB trust has a funded balance of \$704,965 as of September 30, 2024.

In order to maintain the funding status of the General Employee Pension Plan at 96%, the annual required contribution computed by Southern Actuarial Services will be 9.34% for fiscal year 2025. 0% will be deposited into the OPEB trust fund.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the City of Wauchula, Florida finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances.

Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the City of Wauchula, 126 South 7th Avenue, Wauchula, Florida 33873.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Activities
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,514,298	\$ 2,569,667	\$ 5,083,965
Receivables, net	273,707	2,014,792	2,288,499
Due from other governments	1,475,615	3,957,255	5,432,870
Inventory	19,110	1,148,316	1,167,426
Restricted assets:			
Cash	1,972,445	3,164,848	5,137,293
Net pension assets	1,825,129	1,855,072	3,680,201
Lease interest receivables	2,240	-	2,240
Lease receivables	896,151	-	896,151
Right-to-use assets	5,022	-	5,022
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)			
Land	731,652	1,184,493	1,916,145
Buildings and improvements	11,164,028	7,382,029	18,546,057
Electrical distribution system	-	3,150,250	3,150,250
Water system improvements	-	8,925,487	8,925,487
Machinery and equipment	1,120,224	2,654,878	3,775,102
Construction in progress	1,135,295	15,183,607	16,318,902
Total Assets	23,134,916	53,190,694	76,325,610
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred outflows of pension resources	1,439,359	1,462,974	2,902,333
Deferred outflows related to OPEB	612,941	622,998	1,235,939
Deferred charge on refunding of debt	-	41,520	41,520
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	2,052,300	2,127,492	4,179,792
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	278,479	2,182,723	2,461,202
Accrued interest	-	17,568	17,568
Rate stabilization funds	-	353,564	353,564
Unearned revenue	1,333,903	-	1,333,903
Liabilities payable from restricted assets	-	787,956	787,956
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Due within one year	229,080	529,732	758,812
Due in more than one year	1,976,682	4,773,640	6,750,322
Total Liabilities	3,818,144	8,645,183	12,463,327
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred inflows of pension earnings	2,177,886	2,213,617	4,391,503
Deferred inflows related to OPEB	1,314,015	1,335,575	2,649,590
Lease-related inflows of resources	837,996	-	837,996
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	4,329,897	3,549,192	7,879,089
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	14,077,628	33,916,159	47,993,787
Restricted	1,905,434	2,023,328	3,928,762
Unrestricted	1,056,113	7,184,324	8,240,437
Total Net Position	\$ 17,039,175	\$ 43,123,811	\$ 60,162,986

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

<u>Functions/Programs</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Contributions</u>
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 2,167,553	\$ 90,028	\$ -	\$ 326,725
Police department	1,863,082	74,466	88,506	-
Highways and streets	563,439	127,545	4,610	209,371
Culture and recreation	588,500	1,084	-	1,510,901
Interest on long-term debt	4,562	-	-	-
Total Governmental activities	<u>5,187,136</u>	<u>293,123</u>	<u>93,116</u>	<u>2,046,997</u>
Business-type activities:				
Electric	6,402,505	7,343,937	-	643,406
Water	1,540,621	1,415,966	-	2,547,916
Sewer	1,808,822	2,575,699	-	4,573,072
Airport	689,000	257,009	-	1,746,761
Sanitation	984,279	1,494,075	-	-
Total Business-type activities	<u>11,425,227</u>	<u>13,086,686</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,511,155</u>
Total government	<u>\$ 16,612,363</u>	<u>\$ 13,379,809</u>	<u>\$ 93,116</u>	<u>\$ 11,558,152</u>

General revenues:

Property taxes
Franchise taxes
Local option gas tax
Hardee County TIF
One cent sales tax
Sales tax
Other state revenue sharing
Unrestricted investment earnings
Other revenues (expense)
Total general revenues
Transfers
Total general revenues and transfers
Change in net position

Net Position – beginning

Net Position – ending

**Net (expense) Revenue and
changes in Net Position**

Governmental Activities	Business –type Activities	Total
\$ (1,750,800)	\$ –	\$ (1,750,800)
(1,700,110)	–	(1,700,110)
(221,913)	–	(221,913)
923,485	–	923,485
(4,562)	–	(4,562)
<u>(2,753,900)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(2,753,900)</u>
–	1,584,838	1,584,838
–	2,423,261	2,423,261
–	5,339,949	5,339,949
–	1,314,770	1,314,770
–	509,796	509,796
<u>–</u>	<u>11,172,614</u>	<u>11,172,614</u>
<u>(2,753,900)</u>	<u>11,172,614</u>	<u>8,418,714</u>
917,387	–	917,387
641,043	–	641,043
118,204	–	118,204
779,010	–	779,010
558,840	–	558,840
223,826	–	223,826
285,607	–	285,607
144,897	94,523	239,420
(51,938)	361,996	310,058
<u>3,616,876</u>	<u>456,519</u>	<u>4,073,395</u>
<u>1,966,821</u>	<u>(1,966,821)</u>	<u>–</u>
<u>5,583,697</u>	<u>(1,510,302)</u>	<u>4,073,395</u>
<u>2,829,797</u>	<u>9,662,312</u>	<u>12,492,109</u>
14,209,378	33,461,499	47,670,877
<u>\$ 17,039,175</u>	<u>\$ 43,123,811</u>	<u>\$ 60,162,986</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,514,298	\$ -	\$ 2,514,298
Accounts receivables (net of allowance)	58,345	-	58,345
Other receivables	28,862	186,500	215,362
Due from other governmental units	330,328	1,145,287	1,475,615
Inventory	19,110	-	19,110
Restricted Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	1,222,755	749,690	1,972,445
Total assets	<u>\$ 4,173,698</u>	<u>\$ 2,081,477</u>	<u>\$ 6,255,175</u>
LIABILITIES			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 175,384	\$ 63,507	\$ 238,891
Accrued expenses	38,200	1,388	39,588
Unearned revenue	1,163,903	170,000	1,333,903
Total liabilities	<u>1,377,487</u>	<u>234,895</u>	<u>1,612,382</u>
FUND BALANCES:			
Non-spendable	19,110	-	19,110
Spendable:			
Restricted	58,852	1,846,582	1,905,434
Unassigned	2,718,249	-	2,718,249
Total fund balances	<u>2,796,211</u>	<u>1,846,582</u>	<u>4,642,793</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	<u>\$ 4,173,698</u>	<u>\$ 2,081,477</u>	<u>\$ 6,255,175</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Fund Balance – Governmental Fund	\$ 4,642,793
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	14,151,199
Lease assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	
Lease interest receivables	2,240
Lease receivables	896,151
Right-to-use assets	5,022
Long-term liabilities, including notes payable, compensated absences, and other post-employment benefits are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	
Notes payable from direct borrowings	(73,313)
Lease liability	(5,280)
Compensated absences	(230,439)
Other postemployment benefits (OPEB)	(1,896,730)
Long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. This amount represents net pension assets.	1,825,129
Deferred outflows of resources related to the pension plan do not utilize current financial resources and, therefore are not reported in the funds.	1,439,359
Deferred inflows of resources related to the pension plan are not available current financial resources and, therefore are not reported in the funds.	(2,177,886)
Deferred outflows of resources related to the OPEB plan do not utilize current financial resources and, therefore are not reported in the funds.	612,941
Deferred inflows of resources related to the OPEB plan are not available current financial resources and, therefore are not reported in the funds.	(1,314,015)
Deferred inflows of resources related to the lease are not available current financial resources and, therefore are not reported in the funds.	(837,996)
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ 17,039,175</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES			
Taxes	\$ 1,676,634	\$ 779,010	\$ 2,455,644
Charges for services	173,301	-	173,301
Fines and forfeitures	70,318	-	70,318
Intergovernmental revenue	1,068,273	-	1,068,273
Interest	108,357	36,540	144,897
Licenses and permits	12,390	-	12,390
Grant revenue	797,372	1,342,741	2,140,113
Miscellaneous revenues	61,266	111	61,377
Total Revenues	<u>3,967,911</u>	<u>2,158,402</u>	<u>6,126,313</u>
Expenditures:			
Current:			
General government	1,552,701	413,718	1,966,419
Police department	1,844,824	-	1,844,824
Highways and streets	300,592	-	300,592
Culture/recreation	507,798	-	507,798
Capital outlay	878,078	2,033,676	2,911,754
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	51,731	-	51,731
Interest	4,562	-	4,562
Total Expenditures	<u>5,140,286</u>	<u>2,447,394</u>	<u>7,587,680</u>
Excess (deficiency) of Revenues (Under) Over Expenditures	(1,172,375)	(288,992)	(1,461,367)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	35,285	602,705	637,990
Transfers in	1,966,821	460,696	2,427,517
Transfers out	(460,696)	-	(460,696)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>1,541,410</u>	<u>1,063,401</u>	<u>2,604,811</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	369,035	774,409	1,143,444
FUND BALANCE – Beginning	<u>2,427,176</u>	<u>1,072,173</u>	<u>3,499,349</u>
FUND BALANCE – Ending	<u><u>\$ 2,796,211</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,846,582</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,642,793</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Net changes in fund balance – total governmental fund	\$ 1,143,444
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.	
Capital additions recorded as expenditures in the governmental funds	2,911,754
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(733,315)
Depreciation expense	(756,377)
	<u>1,422,062</u>
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources as they do not meet the availability criteria and are not reported as revenues in the funds.	
Change in lease interest receivables	(98)
Change in lease receivables	(39,156)
Change in lease-related inflows of resources	58,378
Change in unavailable revenue	(22,705)
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. This amount represents the change in the right-to-use asset.	(3,819)
The repayment of principal of long-term debt consumes current financial resources of governmental funds. However, the transaction has no effect on net position.	51,731
The repayment of lease liabilities consumes current financial resources of governmental funds. However, the transaction has no effect on net position. This amount represents the change in the lease liability.	4,136
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. This amount represents the change in other postemployment benefits.	111,438
The effects of long term accounts and pension resources do not provide current financial resources and as such are not recorded in the governmental funds.	118,598
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. This amount represents the change in compensated absences.	<u>(14,212)</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ 2,829,797</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION – PROPRIETARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Business-Type Activities			Total Enterprise Funds
	Utility	Airport	Sanitation	
ASSETS				
Current Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,865,406	\$ 140,555	\$ 563,706	\$ 2,569,667
Receivables (net of allowance)	1,784,875	16,872	213,045	2,014,792
Due from other governments	3,529,183	428,072	-	3,957,255
Due from other funds	750,000	-	-	750,000
Inventory	1,074,209	37,800	36,307	1,148,316
Total current assets	9,003,673	623,299	813,058	10,440,030
Noncurrent Assets:				
Restricted:				
Cash and cash equivalents	3,164,848	-	-	3,164,848
Total restricted assets	3,164,848	-	-	3,164,848
Net Pension Asset	1,652,301	-	202,771	1,855,072
Capital Assets				
Land	230,084	954,409	-	1,184,493
Buildings and improvements	1,015,930	15,108,944	-	16,124,874
Electrical distribution system improvements	9,031,820	-	-	9,031,820
Water and sewer system Improvements	34,195,646	-	-	34,195,646
Machinery and equipment	5,683,497	510,278	1,669,540	7,863,315
Construction in progress	14,753,213	430,394	-	15,183,607
Less accumulated depreciation	(36,127,541)	(8,155,021)	(820,449)	(45,103,011)
Total capital assets (net)	28,782,649	8,849,004	849,091	38,480,744
Total noncurrent assets	33,599,798	8,849,004	1,051,862	43,500,664
TOTAL ASSETS	42,603,471	9,472,303	1,864,920	53,940,694
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred outflows of pension resources	1,303,062	-	159,912	1,462,974
Deferred outflows related to OPEB	554,900	-	68,098	622,998
Deferred charge on refunding of debt	41,520	-	-	41,520
	1,899,482	-	228,010	2,127,492
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	2,030,373	13,224	52,815	2,096,412
Accrued expense	62,353	19,293	4,665	86,311
Compensated absences	124,772	-	24,467	149,239
Due to other funds	-	750,000	-	750,000
Rate stabilization funds	353,564	-	-	353,564
Total current liabilities	2,571,062	782,517	81,947	3,435,526
Current liabilities payable from restricted assets:				
Accrued interest payable	17,568	-	-	17,568
Customer deposits	787,956	-	-	787,956
Long-term debt payable – current	380,493	-	-	380,493
Total current liabilities payable from restricted assets	1,186,017	-	-	1,186,017
Noncurrent liabilities:				
Compensated absences	41,591	-	8,155	49,746
Net other post-employment benefits liability	1,717,124	-	210,726	1,927,850
Long-term debt payable	2,796,044	-	-	2,796,044
Total noncurrent liabilities	4,554,759	-	218,881	4,773,640
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8,311,838	782,517	300,828	9,395,183
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred inflows of pension earnings	1,971,655	-	241,962	2,213,617
Deferred inflows related to OPEB	1,189,588	-	145,987	1,335,575
	3,161,243	-	387,949	3,549,192
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	24,218,064	8,849,004	849,091	33,916,159
Restricted	2,023,328	-	-	2,023,328
Unrestricted	6,788,480	(159,218)	555,062	7,184,324
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 33,029,872	\$ 8,689,786	\$ 1,404,153	\$ 43,123,811

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Business – Type Activities			Total Enterprise Funds
	Utility	Airport	Sanitation	
Operating Revenues:				
Charges for services and fees				
Electric sales	\$ 7,343,937	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 7,343,937
Water sales	1,415,966	–	–	1,415,966
Sewer sales	2,575,699	–	–	2,575,699
Airport fuel	–	182,107	–	182,107
Hanger rental	–	74,902	–	74,902
Sanitation	–	–	1,494,075	1,494,075
Total Operating Revenues	11,335,602	257,009	1,494,075	13,086,686
Operating Expenses:				
Cost of sales and services				
Personal services	2,399,777	1,490	314,374	2,715,641
Other operating expenses	2,584,197	266,964	514,458	3,365,619
Purchased power	3,068,407	–	–	3,068,407
Amortization	24,443	–	–	24,443
Depreciation	1,625,830	420,546	155,447	2,201,823
Total Operating Expenses	9,702,654	689,000	984,279	11,375,933
Operating Income (Loss)	1,632,948	(431,991)	509,796	1,710,753
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)				
Capital grants and contributions	7,764,394	1,746,761	–	9,511,155
Interest income	67,695	417	26,411	94,523
Interest expense	(49,294)	–	–	(49,294)
Gain on disposal of capital assets	52,382	–	–	52,382
Other income (expense)	240,698	68,916	–	309,614
Total Non-Operating Items	8,075,875	1,816,094	26,411	9,918,380
Income (Loss) Before Transfers	9,708,823	1,384,103	536,207	11,629,133
Transfers				
Transfers in	–	421,740	–	421,740
Transfers out	(1,876,727)	–	(511,834)	(2,388,561)
Net Transfers	(1,876,727)	421,740	(511,834)	(1,966,821)
Change In Net Position	7,832,096	1,805,843	24,373	9,662,312
Net Position – Beginning	25,197,776	6,883,943	1,379,780	33,461,499
Net Position – Ending	\$ 33,029,872	\$ 8,689,786	\$ 1,404,153	\$ 43,123,811

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS – PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Business – Type Activities			Total Enterprise Funds
	Utility	Airport	Sanitation	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
Receipts from customers and users	\$ 11,131,956	\$ 241,598	\$ 1,474,769	\$ 12,848,323
Payments to suppliers	(7,379,678)	(1,138,399)	(488,030)	(9,006,107)
Payments to employees	(2,583,561)	(1,490)	(324,949)	(2,910,000)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	1,168,717	(898,291)	661,790	932,216
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:				
Advances (to) from other funds	967,500	(967,500)	–	–
Subsidy from other governments	54,957	–	–	54,957
Transfers in (out)	(1,876,727)	421,740	(511,834)	(1,966,821)
Net cash provided (used) by noncapital financing activities	(854,270)	(545,760)	(511,834)	(1,911,864)
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:				
Payment of interest	(46,754)	–	–	(46,754)
Payment of debt principal	(367,367)	–	–	(367,367)
Payment on leases	(36,688)	–	–	(36,688)
Capital grants proceeds received	8,053,967	3,432,488	–	11,486,455
Proceeds from sales of capital assets	52,382	–	–	52,382
Capital expenditures	(8,531,461)	(1,848,382)	(357,633)	(10,737,476)
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	(875,921)	1,584,106	(357,633)	350,552
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:				
Interest received on investments	67,695	417	26,411	94,523
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	67,695	417	26,411	94,523
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(493,779)	140,472	(181,266)	(534,573)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	5,524,033	83	744,972	6,269,088
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 5,030,254	\$ 140,555	563,706	\$ 5,734,515
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,865,406	\$ 140,555	\$ 563,706	\$ 2,569,667
Restricted:				
Cash and cash equivalents	3,164,848	–	–	3,164,848
	\$ 5,030,254	\$ 140,555	563,706	\$ 5,734,515

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS – PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Business – Type Activities			Total Enterprise Funds
	Utility	Airport	Sanitation	
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 1,632,948	\$ (431,991)	\$ 509,796	\$ 1,710,753
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:				
Amortization expense	24,443	–	–	24,443
Depreciation expense	1,625,830	420,546	155,447	2,201,823
Non cash pension (increase) decrease	(136,687)	–	(20,850)	(157,537)
Non cash OPEB expense (increase) decrease	(18,818)	–	9,099	(9,719)
(Increase) decrease in assets:				
Accounts receivable	(259,758)	(15,411)	(19,306)	(294,475)
Inventory	(225,836)	(10,005)	4,923	(230,918)
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:				
Accounts payable	(1,513,599)	(865,755)	21,505	(2,357,849)
Accrued expenses	12,361	4,325	1,411	18,097
Customer deposits	56,112	–	–	56,112
Compensated absences	(28,279)	–	(235)	(28,514)
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 1,168,717	\$ (898,291)	\$ 661,790	\$ 932,216

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Pension Trust Funds
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 72
Investments	29,625,753
Employer receivables	115,462
Employee receivables	13,405
TOTAL ASSETS	29,754,692
NET POSITION	
Held in trust for pension benefits	29,049,727
Restricted for post-employment benefits other than pension	704,965
	\$ 29,754,692

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Pension Trust Funds
ADDITIONS	
Contributions:	
Employer	\$ 571,933
Plan members	361,678
Other income	63,065
Total Contributions	<u>996,676</u>
Investment earnings:	
Net increase in the fair value of investments	4,938,180
Total Investment Earnings	<u>4,938,180</u>
Total Additions	5,934,856
 DEDUCTIONS	
Pension benefits paid	1,117,456
OPEB refunds	142,396
Administrative expenses	66,000
Total Deductions	<u>1,325,852</u>
 Change in Net Position	 4,609,004
 Net Position – Beginning	 <u>25,145,688</u>
 Net Position – Ending	 <u><u>\$ 29,754,692</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

REPORTING ENTITY

The City of Wauchula, Florida (the City) was incorporated May 22, 1907, by the laws of Florida 1907, Chapter 5864. The City operates under a City Manager form of government and provides the following services as authorized by its charter: public safety (police), highway and streets, sanitation, health and social services, culture and recreation, education, public improvements, planning and zoning, electric and water systems, and general administrative services.

The City, for financial purposes, includes all of the funds and account groups relevant to the operations of the City of Wauchula, Florida. The Wauchula Municipal Airport Authority is considered a part of the primary government, as the City retains the corporate powers of the Authority. The operations of the Airport Authority are included in an enterprise fund. The City has established a Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). The City Commission is the governing board of the CRA. As such, the CRA is considered part of the primary government. It is included in these financial statements as a special revenue fund. The CRA is responsible for carrying out the rehabilitation, conservation, and redevelopment of the Community Redevelopment Program. Unspent balances at year-end are included in restricted fund balance. The financial statements presented herein do not include agencies which have been formed under applicable state laws or separate and distinct units of government apart from the City.

The financial statements of the City include those of separately administered organizations that are controlled by or dependent on the City. Control or dependence is determined on the basis of budget adoption, taxing authority, funding, and appointment of the respective governing board. No other potential component units exist.

The accounting policies of the City of Wauchula conform to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applicable to governments.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the City. For the most part, the effect of inter-fund activity has been removed from these statements. Government-wide financial statements include a statement of net position and a statement of activities. The statement of net position reports all financial and capital resources of the City's governmental and business-type activities. It is presented in a net position format (assets and deferred outflows less liabilities and deferred inflows equal net position) and shown with three components: net investment in capital assets, restricted net position and unrestricted net position. 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. The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for the governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds. All governmental and enterprise funds are considered major funds and are presented as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

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 collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government 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. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, franchise taxes, licenses, 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 and available only when cash is received by the government.

As a general rule the effect of inter-fund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. Exceptions to this general rule are payments-in-lieu of taxes and other charges between the City's business-type activities and governmental activities. Elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the various functions concerned.

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

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the City's utility fund, sanitation fund and airport fund are charges to customers for sales and services. The City also recognizes as operating revenue the portion of tap fees intended to recover the cost of connecting new customers to the system. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

The City reports the following fund types:

Governmental Funds

General Fund

The general fund is the City's general operating fund. All general tax revenues and other receipts that are not allocated by law or contractual agreement to another fund are accounted for in this fund. From the fund are paid the general operating expenditures, the fixed charges, and the budgeted capital improvement and debt service costs not paid through other funds.

Special Revenue Fund

The special revenue fund is used to account for the revenues and expenditures of the CRA, which are restricted for rehabilitation, conservation, and redevelopment of the Community Redevelopment Program.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION – CONTINUED

Proprietary Funds

The proprietary funds are used to account for the operation of the City's electric, water, sewer, sanitation and airport operations. Proprietary Funds are used for activities a) that are financed with debt secured solely by a pledge of the net revenues from fees and charges of the activity, b) if laws and regulations require that the activity's costs of providing services, including capital costs, be recovered with fees and charges, rather than with taxes or similar revenues, or c) the pricing policies of the activity establish fees and charges designed to recover its costs, including capital costs. The City reports the following proprietary funds:

Utility Fund

The utility fund accounts for the operation of the City's electric, water, and sewer system.

Sanitation Fund

The sanitation fund accounts for the activities of the City's garbage operations.

Airport Fund

The airport fund accounts for the activities of the City's airport authority.

Fiduciary Funds

Trust Funds

Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the City in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, other governments, and/or other funds. These include pension and OPEB trust funds. Pension and OPEB trust funds are accounted for essentially the same as a proprietary fund since capital maintenance is critical. The City uses Fiduciary Funds for the City of Wauchula – Employee Pension Plan, the City of Wauchula Police Pension Trust Fund and the OPEB Trust Fund.

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The City invests in certificates of deposit and short-term investments such as money market accounts. All cash and investment accounts are with financial institutions qualified under laws and regulations of the State of Florida. Deposits whose values exceeded the limits of Federal depository insurance were entirely insured or collateralized pursuant to Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes. The City does not have a formal investment policy that limits its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. However, at September 30, 2024, the City had only time deposits, demand deposits and short-term money market accounts.

State statutes section 218.415 authorizes the City to invest its surplus public funds in the following:

- Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund or any intergovernmental investment pool authorized through the Florida Inter-local Cooperation Act.
- S.E.C. registered money market funds with the highest credit equality rating from a nationally recognized rating company.
- Interest bearing time deposits or savings accounts in state-certified Qualified Public Depositories as defined in Section 280.02 Florida Statutes.
- Direct Obligations of the U.S. Treasury.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

FAIR VALUE

The City uses fair value measurements to record fair value adjustments to certain assets and liabilities. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value is best determined based upon quoted market prices. However, in certain instances, there are no quoted market prices for certain assets or liabilities. In cases where quoted market prices are not available, fair values are based on estimates using present value or other valuation techniques. Those techniques are significantly affected by the assumptions used, including the discount rate and estimates of future cash flows. Accordingly, the fair value estimates may not be realized in an immediate settlement of the asset or liability.

Fair value measurements focus on exit prices in an orderly transaction (that is, not a forced liquidation or distressed sale) between market participants at the measurement date under current market conditions. If there has been a significant decrease in the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability, a change in valuation technique or the use of multiple valuation techniques may be appropriate.

In such instances, determining the price at which willing market participants would transact at the measurement date under current market conditions depends on the facts and circumstances and requires the use of significant judgment.

The three categories within the hierarchy are as follows:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, interest rates and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, implied volatilities, credit spreads, and market-corroborated inputs.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs shall be used to measure fair value to the extent that relevant observable inputs are not available, thereby allowing for situations in which there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability at the measurement date. Level 3 assets and liabilities include financial instruments whose value is determined using pricing models, discounted cash flows methodologies, or similar techniques, as well as instruments for which the determination of fair value requires significant management judgement.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows all checking, savings, money market investments and any cash held with a fiscal agent are considered to be cash and cash equivalents. The City's policy is to consider all certificates of deposit to be investments.

INVENTORIES

Inventories are stated on a basis, which approximates cost determined by the first-in, first-out method. A physical count is completed annually. Inventory in the general fund consists of expendable supplies held for consumption. The cost is recorded as an expenditure at the time individual inventory items are requisitioned by the operating department.

RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangement outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (i.e., the current portion of inter-fund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (i.e., the non-current portion of inter-fund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported 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."

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES – CONTINUED

All trade receivables are shown net of allowance for doubtful accounts. At September 30, 2024 the reserve for bad debts in the general fund was \$5,702, the utility fund was \$151,453, the airport fund was \$2,295 and the sanitation fund was \$28,389.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated life of greater than one year. If purchased or constructed, assets are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The City has elected to report general infrastructure assets on a prospective basis only.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are expensed as incurred.

Property, plant, and equipment of the primary government is depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Years</u>
Buildings and improvements	20 – 50
Machinery and equipment	5 – 15
Electrical distribution system	20 – 50
Water system improvements	20 – 50

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

In addition to assets, the statement of net position includes a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. Three items qualify for reporting in this category. The deferred charge on refunding is reported in the government-wide and proprietary fund statement of net position. A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the shorter of the life of the refunded or refunding debt. In addition, a deferred outflow of pension resources and OPEB resources are reflected in the government-wide and proprietary fund statement of net position.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position includes a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The City has three items that qualifies for reporting in this category. A deferred inflow of pension earnings and OPEB resources are reported in the government-wide and proprietary fund statement of net position. Additionally, lease-related inflows of resources are reported in the government-wide statement of net position.

On the governmental funds' balance sheet, unavailable revenue is also classified as deferred inflows of resources. This represents funds which did not meet the availability criteria under the modified accrual basis of accounting and therefore are considered to be deferred charges until available. There was not unavailable revenue as of September 30, 2024.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The City's personnel policy provides for the payment of accrued vacation, sick and comp time pay upon separation of its employees. A liability for this amount is recorded in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements. A liability for these amounts is recorded in the governmental funds only if they have matured. Liquidation of these liabilities is made through either the general fund or the utility fund.

LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position. Debt issuance cost are recognized as an expense in the period incurred.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as debt issuance costs, during the period incurred. The face amount of the debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the OPEB Trust Fund and additions to/deductions from the OPEB Trust Fund's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the City. For this purpose, the City recognizes benefit payments when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

NET POSITION

The elements of net position are reported in three parts as applicable: net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available, restricted resources are used first, and then unrestricted resources, as they are needed.

FUND BALANCE

The City follows Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 54. GASB 54 established fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds. Fund balance classifications are non-spendable and spendable. Spendable is then further classified as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned. These classifications reflect not only the nature of funds, but also provide clarity to the level of restriction placed upon fund balance. Fund balance can have different levels of restraint, such as external versus internal compliance requirements. Unassigned fund balance is a residual classification within the general fund. The general fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned balance.

The City classified governmental fund balances are as follows:

Non-spendable – includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual requirements.

Spendable Fund Balance:

- Restricted – includes amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of State or Federal laws or enabling legislation, or which are externally restricted by providers, such as creditors or grantors.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

FUND BALANCE – CONTINUED

- Committed – includes amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes that are approved by a formal action of the City Commissioners through a resolution or the budget process.
- Assigned – includes amounts designated for a specific purpose by the City Commissioners through a resolution or the budget process, which are neither restricted nor committed.
- Unassigned – includes residual positive fund balance within the General Fund which has not been classified within the other above mentioned categories. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.

The City uses restricted amounts first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance are available, unless there are legal documents or contracts that prohibit doing this, such as in grant agreements requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the City would first use committed, then assigned, and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made. The City does have a formal minimum fund balance policy to maintain general fund reserves at a minimum of 17% of general fund operating expenditure appropriations.

	General Fund	CRA Fund	Totals
Non-spendable			
Inventory	\$ 19,110	\$ –	\$ 19,110
Total Non-spendable	<u>19,110</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>19,110</u>
Spendable:			
Restricted:			
Storm disaster	7,495	–	7,495
Law enforcement trust	23,799	–	23,799
Police department	27,558	–	27,558
Community Redevelopment activities	–	1,846,582	1,846,582
Total restricted	<u>58,852</u>	<u>1,846,582</u>	<u>1,905,434</u>
Committed	–	–	–
Assigned	–	–	–
Unassigned	2,718,249	–	2,718,249
Total fund balance	<u>\$ 2,796,211</u>	<u>\$ 1,846,582</u>	<u>\$ 4,642,793</u>

PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied on November 1 of each year and are due and payable upon receipt of the notice of levy. The Hardee County, Florida Tax Collector's Office bills and collects property taxes on behalf of the City. The tax rate to finance general governmental services and general obligation debt service for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 was 5.2042 per \$1,000 of assessed taxable property value. Property tax revenues are recognized currently in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. On May 1 of each year, unpaid taxes become a lien on the property. The past due tax certificates are sold at public auction and the proceeds thus collected are remitted to the City.

No accrual for the property tax levy becoming due in November 2023 is included in the accompanying financial statements since taxes do not meet the necessary criteria.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

The property tax calendar is as follows:

July 1	Assessment roll validated
September 30	Millage resolution approved
October 1	Beginning of fiscal year for which tax is to be levied.
November 1	Tax bills rendered and due
November 1 – March 31	Property taxes due with various discount rates
April 1	Taxes delinquent
May 31	Tax certificates sold by County

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for the governmental funds. Expenditures should not exceed total appropriations. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal yearend. Budget amendments are approved by the City Commission.

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

1. The City Manager submits to the City Commission a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing October 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. The budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance.
4. The City Manager is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts within a department; however, any revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund or department must be approved by the City Commission. Appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year.
5. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund, CRA Fund, Electric, Water and Sewer System, and Airport Fund.
6. Budgets for the General Fund, CRA Fund and Enterprise Funds are adopted on the accrual basis.

The legal level of budgetary control is at the fund level.

INSURANCE

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties including participation in various risk sharing pools. All significant accrued losses have been funded.

ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles required management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

At year-end, the City's carrying amount of deposits was \$10,221,258 and the bank balance was \$10,520,071. All deposits were in State Certified Qualified Public Depositories.

RESTRICTED ASSETS

Restricted assets are cash and cash equivalents (all of which are held in Qualified Public Depositories), as provided for by resolutions adopted by the City for the issuance of Revenue Bonds and as designated by the Commission or imposed by the source of proceeds. Restricted assets held at September 30, 2024 included the following:

General Fund:	
Storm disaster contributions	\$ 7,495
Law enforcement trust	23,799
Police department	27,558
ARPA	1,163,903
Total General Fund	<u>\$ 1,222,755</u>
Special revenue fund:	
Community redevelopment fund	\$ 749,690
Total special revenue fund	<u>\$ 749,690</u>
Utility fund:	
Impact fees	\$ 527,964
Debt service	259,700
Capital improvement	1,235,664
Rate stabilization	353,564
Utility deposits	787,956
Total utility fund	<u>\$ 3,164,848</u>

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

CAPITAL ASSETS

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

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Capital assets, not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 731,652	\$ –	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 731,652
Construction in progress	4,421,415	2,446,921	(733,315)	(4,999,726)	1,135,295
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>5,153,067</u>	<u>2,446,921</u>	<u>(733,315)</u>	<u>(4,999,726)</u>	<u>1,866,947</u>
Capital assets, being depreciated:					
Buildings and improvements	14,526,316	132,496	–	4,999,726	19,658,538
Machinery and equipment	2,981,835	332,337	(227,229)	–	3,086,943
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>17,508,151</u>	<u>464,833</u>	<u>(227,229)</u>	<u>4,999,726</u>	<u>22,745,481</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings and improvements	(8,002,941)	(491,569)	–	–	(8,494,510)
Machinery and equipment	(1,929,140)	(264,808)	227,229	–	(1,966,719)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(9,932,081)</u>	<u>(756,377)</u>	<u>227,229</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(10,461,229)</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>7,576,070</u>	<u>(291,544)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>4,999,726</u>	<u>12,284,252</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 12,729,137</u>	<u>\$ 2,155,377</u>	<u>\$ (733,315)</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ 14,151,199</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to the City's governmental activities as follows:

General government	\$ 255,869
Police department	132,923
Highway and streets	280,840
Culture and recreation	86,745
	<u>\$ 756,377</u>

Lease activity for governmental activities for the year ended September 30, 2024 was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Modifications and Remeasurements</u>	<u>Subtractions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Lease assets					
Equipment	\$ 21,097	\$ –	\$ –	\$ (12,340)	\$ 8,757
Copiers	4,106	–	–	–	4,106
Total lease assets	<u>25,203</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(12,340)</u>	<u>12,863</u>
Less accumulated amortization					
Equipment	(15,078)	(2,793)	–	12,340	(5,531)
Copiers	(1,284)	(1,026)	–	–	(2,310)
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>(16,362)</u>	<u>(3,819)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>12,340</u>	<u>(7,841)</u>
Right-to-use assets	<u>\$ 8,841</u>	<u>\$ (3,819)</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ 5,022</u>

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

CAPITAL ASSETS – CONTINUED

Capital asset activity for business-type activities for the year ended September 30, 2024 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Ending Balance
Capital assets, not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 1,184,493	\$ –	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 1,184,493
Construction in progress	11,373,561	10,967,261	–	(7,157,215)	15,183,607
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	12,558,054	10,967,261	–	(7,157,215)	16,368,100
Capital assets, being depreciated:					
Buildings and improvements	10,715,249	–	–	5,409,625	16,124,874
Electrical distribution system	7,237,846	65,936	–	1,728,038	9,031,820
Water System improvements	33,643,220	532,874	–	19,552	34,195,646
Machinery and equipment	7,302,784	560,531	–	–	7,863,315
Total capital assets being depreciated	58,899,099	1,159,341	–	7,157,215	67,215,655
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings and improvements	(8,261,384)	(481,461)	–	–	(8,742,845)
Electrical distribution system	(5,669,232)	(212,338)	–	–	(5,881,570)
Water System improvements	(24,094,050)	(1,176,109)	–	–	(25,270,159)
Machinery and equipment	(4,876,522)	(331,915)	–	–	(5,208,437)
Total accumulated depreciation	(42,901,188)	(2,201,823)	–	–	(45,103,011)
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	15,997,911	(1,042,482)	–	7,157,215	22,112,644
Business-type activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 28,555,965</u>	<u>\$ 9,924,779</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ 38,480,744</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to the City’s business-type activities as follows:

Utility Fund	1,625,830
Sanitation	155,447
Airport	420,546
	<u>2,201,823</u>

Lease activity for business-type activities for the year ended September 30, 2024 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Modifications and Remeasurements	Subtractions	Ending Balance
Lease assets					
Vehicle	\$ 108,246	\$ –	\$ –	\$ (108,246)	\$ –
Total lease assets	108,246	–	–	(108,246)	–
Less accumulated amortization					
Vehicle	(83,803)	(24,443)	–	108,246	–
Total capital assets being depreciated	(83,803)	(24,443)	–	108,246	–
Right-to-use assets	<u>\$ 24,443</u>	<u>\$ (24,443)</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>

INTER-FUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS

Due to and from accounts represent amounts paid for by one fund on behalf of another. This is due to certain purchases being paid for out of the general fund, which are then reimbursed by the appropriate funds. In addition, the Airport Fund has borrowed monies from the Utility Fund in previous periods for capital improvements. The outstanding balance is \$750,000 as of September 30, 2024.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

INTER-FUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS – CONTINUED

Inter-fund transfers represent payments in lieu of taxes and insurance proceeds received in the general fund, which were then transferred to the appropriate fund. The composition of inter-fund balances as of September 30, 2024 are as follows:

	Transfers in:		
	General	CRA	Airport
Transfers out:			
General Fund	\$ –	\$ 460,696	\$ –
Utility	1,454,987	–	421,740
Sanitation	511,834	–	–
	<u>\$ 1,966,821</u>	<u>\$ 460,696</u>	<u>\$ 421,740</u>

LESSOR LEASE AGREEMENTS

The City is engaged in three lease agreements allowing lessees to lease space on City towers or utility poles.

The first lease agreement commenced in January 2012 with an initial lease term of five years with one additional five-year renewal. The lease, which was renewed after the initial lease term expires in December 2023 and monthly rental revenue is \$2,253 over the remaining lease periods. Effective January 2023, the lease terms are subject to an annual renewal period with the right for the City or lessee to terminate the agreement with a thirty-day written notice.

The second lease agreement commenced in April 2018 with an initial lease term of five years with four additional five-year renewals. The lease, including all renewal periods expire in June 2056 and monthly rental revenue ranges from \$1,450 to \$2,002 over the total lease periods.

The third lease agreement commenced in June 2021 with an initial lease term of five years with six additional five-year renewals. The lease, including all renewal periods expire in June 2056 and monthly rental revenue ranges from \$1,450 to \$3,354 over the total lease periods.

The City also entered into a lease agreement for space in the City’s Historic City Hall, which commenced on October 1, 2022. The initial lease term is for three years, with two additional one year renewal periods. Monthly rent is \$1,650.

Lease-related revenue for governmental activities for the year ended September 30, 2024 was as follows:

	<u>Year Ending September 30, 2024</u>
Lease revenue	
Equipment	\$ 39,418
Office space	18,960
Total lease revenue	<u>58,378</u>
Interest revenue	27,350
Variable and other revenue	–
Total lease-related revenue	<u>\$ 85,728</u>

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

LESSOR LEASE AGREEMENTS – CONTINUED

Expected future minimum reductions of the lease receivable are as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 33,416	\$ 26,428	\$ 59,844
2026	15,012	25,684	40,696
2027	17,461	25,193	42,654
2028	18,182	24,661	42,843
2029	19,004	24,103	43,107
2030–2034	114,953	110,991	225,944
2035–2039	153,738	90,999	244,737
2040–2044	166,070	65,254	231,324
2045–2049	121,601	45,398	166,999
2050–2054	168,181	23,869	192,050
2055–2056	68,533	1,901	70,434
	<u>\$ 896,151</u>	<u>\$ 464,481</u>	<u>\$ 1,360,632</u>
Total future receipts			

LONG-TERM DEBT

Governmental Activities – Notes Payable from Direct Borrowings

2020 Patrol Cars

On August 19, 2020, the City borrowed \$150,096 from First National Bank of Wauchula to finance the purchase of three police vehicles. The note bears interest at 3.99% per annum and is due in annual payments of \$33,707, which includes interest. The note matures in August 2025 and is secured by the vehicles. At September 30, 2024, the principal balance outstanding was \$32,429.

2021 Patrol Cars

On August 31, 2021, the City borrowed \$100,516 from First National Bank of Wauchula to finance the purchase of two police vehicles. The note bears interest at 3.99% per annum and is due in annual payments of \$22,585, which includes interest. The note matures in August 2026 and is secured by the vehicles. At September 30, 2024, the principal balance outstanding was \$40,884.

Governmental Activities – Notes Payable from Direct Borrowings – Future Maturities

Future maturities of all governmental notes payable from direct borrowings are as follows:

<u>Year Ending September 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 53,278	\$ 4,274	\$ 57,552
2026	20,035	889	20,924
Total	<u>\$ 73,313</u>	<u>\$ 5,163</u>	<u>\$ 78,476</u>

The City's vehicle loans describe events of default as failure to make required payments. In event of default, creditors may declare the total balance outstanding due on demand. The creditor may also repossess the collateralized property and seek any other remedies as allowed by law.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

LONG-TERM DEBT – CONTINUED

Governmental Activities – Lease Liability

The City has entered into various lease agreements as a lessee for financing copiers and equipment.

The first lease agreement commenced in July 2020 for a postage meter with a lease term of five years. The lease expires in June 2026 and requires monthly payments of \$168. The lease liability is determined using a discount rate of 4.00%.

The second lease agreement commenced in November 2020 for laptops with a lease term of four years. The lease expired in November 2023 and required annual payments of \$5,842. The lease liability was determined using a discount rate of 7.95%.

The third lease agreement commenced in July 2022 for a copier with a lease term of four years. The lease expires in June 2026 and requires monthly payments of \$92. The lease liability is determined using a discount rate of 4.00%.

Lease expense was reported as follows:

	<u>Year Ending September 30, 2024</u>
Lease expense	
Equipment	\$ 2,793
Copier	<u>1,026</u>
Total amortization expense	3,819
Interest on lease liabilities	273
Variable lease expense	<u>-</u>
Total lease expense	<u><u>\$ 4,092</u></u>

The maturity schedule is as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 2,973	\$ 157	\$ 3,130
2026	<u>2,307</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>2,346</u>
Total future payments	<u><u>\$ 5,280</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 196</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,476</u></u>

Business-Type Activities – Bonds

Utility Refunding Revenue Bond, Series 2016

On October 3, 2016, the City issued Series 2016 Utility Refunding Revenue Note for \$2,732,000. The purpose of the note was to refund the Utility Refunding Revenue Bond, Series 2011 which refunded Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2001A and Series 2001B. The bond and the interest thereon are payable from and secured by a prior lien and pledge of the net revenues derived by the City from the operation of its combined water, sewer and electric system. Interest on the bond is payable semi-annually at 2.02%.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

LONG-TERM DEBT – CONTINUED

Maturities vary from \$202,000 to \$254,000 from October 1, 2018 to October 1, 2028. The reacquisition price exceeded the net carrying amount of the old debt by \$124,560, which was reported as a deferred outflow of resources and amortized over the life of the new debt. The refunding resulted in a reduction of \$166,674 in future debt service costs and an economic gain of \$145,519 in net present value savings between the Utility Refunding Revenue Bond, Series 2011 and the Series 2016 Utility Refunding Revenue Note.

The bonds require the use of a sinking fund, of which is included in restricted cash. Failure to make timely payments will result in default. In addition to any remedies available to the creditor by law, upon default the City is required to pay interest due on unpaid amounts plus an additional 2% per annum from and five days after the date due until such overdue amount is paid. The City is also required to pay all costs of collection.

Future maturities of the revenue bonds are as follows:

<u>Year Ending September 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 234,000	\$ 24,644	\$ 258,644
2026	239,000	19,917	258,917
2027	244,000	15,089	259,089
2028	249,000	10,160	259,160
2029	254,000	5,131	259,131
Total	<u>\$ 1,220,000</u>	<u>\$ 74,941</u>	<u>\$ 1,294,941</u>

Business-Type Activities – Notes Payable from Direct Borrowings

State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Loan WW62419P

In September 2005, the City Commission passed resolution 2005-41, authorizing the City to obtain financing from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), which is available through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. The purpose of the financing is the improvement and expansion of the City's wastewater facilities.

During 2006 and 2007, the City borrowed \$509,883 in accordance with the loan agreement. Payments began in July of 2009 and are due in semi-annual amounts of \$21,906 including interest of 0.71% per annum. The total amount outstanding, including capitalized interest, at September 30, 2024 is \$124,645.

State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Loan WW250201

Pursuant to Resolution 2009-20, the City entered into a construction loan agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to finance or refinance the construction of public water systems, specifically for:

1. Water System Improvements – Well Number 5
2. Water System Improvements – Wellhead and Water Treatment Plant

The loan was also to assist the City in paying down the Series 2008 Water System Revenue Bond (Bridge Loan).

On February 9, 2010, the original agreement was amended to increase project funding to \$3,652,106. Of this amount, \$2,550,000 is "Principal Forgiveness" by the state and federal governments. The City drew funds under the agreement in 2011, 2012, and 2013. The semi-annual loan payments of \$37,966, include interest at 2.82%, 2.57%, and 1.86% for each draw. Payments started on June 15, 2011 and continue until all amounts

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

LONG-TERM DEBT – CONTINUED

have been fully paid. The outstanding balance at September 30, 2024 is \$451,294. The City has pledged the revenues of the system for the repayment of the loan.

State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Loan WW250200

On October 29, 2010, the City entered into a financing agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the completion of the improvements noted above (companion loan). Semi-annual payments of \$13,647 (including interest at 2.61%) started on June 15, 2011, and will continue until the loan is fully repaid in 2031. The outstanding balance at September 30, 2024 is \$160,942. The City has pledged the revenues of the system for the repayment of the loan.

State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Loan WW250150

On October 29, 2010, the City entered into a financing agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the planning phase of drinking water improvements. The original agreement had project funding of \$180,000 of which \$75,000 is principal forgiveness by state and federal governments. During 2020, the original agreement was amended to include design activities. Amendment 1 increased the total project funding to \$721,600 and total principal forgiveness of \$360,800. Semi-annual payments of \$20,265 (including interest at 1.64%) commence on February 15, 2023, and will continue until the loan is fully repaid in 2031. The outstanding balance at September 30, 2024 is \$64,657. The City has pledged the revenues of the system for the repayment of the loan and a loan debt service account is required.

State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Loan CW250160

On March 18, 2023, the City entered into a financing agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the construction of a new concrete aerobic digester with a blower and sludge transfer facility. The original agreement had project funding of \$6,729,200 of which \$5,383,360 is principal forgiveness by state and federal governments. During 2023, the original agreement was amended which increased the total project funding to \$8,628,000 and total principal forgiveness of \$6,904,400. Semi-annual payments of \$38,636 (including interest at 0.39%) commence on August 15, 2025, and will continue until the loan is fully repaid. The outstanding balance at September 30, 2024 is \$1,016,230. The City has pledged the revenues of the system for the repayment of the loan.

State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Loan DW250151

On March 16, 2023 the City entered into a financing agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the repairs of the water distribution system and to construct a 150,000 gallon elevated storage tank. The original agreement had project funding of \$6,125,520 of which \$5,512,968 is principal forgiveness by state and federal governments. Semi-annual payments of \$14,123 (including interest at 0.89%) commence on April 15, 2026, and will continue until the loan is fully repaid. The outstanding balance at September 30, 2024 is \$138,769. The City has pledged the revenues of the system for the repayment of the loan.

Default Remedies on State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Loans

Loans by the State of Florida Department Environmental Protection (SRF Revolving Loans) define events of default as failure to make any monthly loan deposits or semi-annual loan payments for a period of 30 days; failure to comply with the loan agreement; bankruptcy or insolvency; or failure to give immediate written notice of default when a default has continued for 30 days. State Revolving Fund loans provide for a number of remedies providing finance-related consequences in an event of default. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection may:

- Establish rates and collect fees and charges for the use of the City's Utility System.
- Intercept the delinquent amount plus six percent, as expressed as an annual interest rate from any unobligated funds due to the City under any revenue or tax sharing fund established by the State. Penalty interest shall accrue on any amount due and payable beginning on the 30th day following the date upon which payment is due.
- Notify financial market credit ratings agencies and potential creditors.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

LONG-TERM DEBT – CONTINUED

- Sue for payment of amounts due, as well as interest on overdue payments and associated costs.
- Accelerate the repayment schedule or increase the interest rate on the unpaid principal to as much as 1.667 times the original rate.

Business-Type Activities – Notes Payable from Direct Borrowings – Future Maturities

Future maturities of all notes payable from direct borrowings are as follows:

<u>Year Ending September 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 146,493	\$ 20,344	\$ 166,837
2026	176,018	19,957	195,975
2027	182,272	16,368	198,640
2028	196,552	13,368	209,920
2029	159,494	10,453	169,947
2030 – 2034	447,433	22,509	469,942
2035 – 2039	278,826	12,556	291,382
2040 – 2044	284,889	6,493	291,382
2045 – 2049	50,971	2,151	53,122
2050 – 2054	25,664	985	26,649
2055 – 2056	7,925	69	7,994
Total	<u>\$ 1,956,537</u>	<u>\$ 125,253</u>	<u>\$ 2,081,790</u>

Business-Type Activities – Lease Liability

The City has entered into a lease agreement as a lessee for financing vehicles. The lease agreement commenced in April 2019 with a lease term of five years. The lease expired in April 2024 and required annual payments of \$37,770. The lease liability was determined using a discount rate of 2.91%.

Lease expense was reported as follows:

	<u>Year Ending September 30, 2024</u>
Lease expense	
Vehicles	\$ 24,443
Total amortization expense	24,443
Interest on lease liabilities	635
Variable lease expense	–
Total lease expense	<u>\$ 25,078</u>

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2 – DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS – CONTINUED

LONG-TERM DEBT – CONTINUED

Long-term liability activity for the year ended September 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
Notes payable from direct borrowings					
2020 Dodge Chargers	63,573	–	(31,144)	32,429	32,429
2021 Patrol Cars	61,471	–	(20,587)	40,884	20,849
Total	125,044	–	(51,731)	73,313	53,278
Lease liability	9,416	–	(4,136)	5,280	2,973
Compensated absences	216,227	182,809	(168,597)	230,439	172,829
Other post employment benefits	2,252,522	336,828	(692,620)	1,896,730	–
Governmental activity					
Long term liabilities	<u>\$ 2,603,209</u>	<u>\$ 519,637</u>	<u>\$ (917,084)</u>	<u>\$ 2,205,762</u>	<u>\$ 229,080</u>
Business-type activities					
Notes payable from direct borrowings					
SRF Revolving Loan WW62419P	\$ 151,283	\$ –	\$ (26,638)	\$ 124,645	\$ 28,041
SRF Revolving Loan WW250201	514,225	–	(62,931)	451,294	64,480
SRF Revolving Loan WW250200	183,382	–	(22,440)	160,942	23,420
SRF Revolving Loan WW250150	72,159	–	(7,502)	64,657	7,562
SRF Revolving Loan CW250160	278,169	738,061	–	1,016,230	22,990
SRF Revolving Loan DW250151	157,625	–	(18,856)	138,769	–
Total	1,356,843	738,061	(138,367)	1,956,537	146,493
Bonds payable:					
Utility Revenue Bond Refunding					
Series 2016	1,449,000	–	(229,000)	1,220,000	234,000
Lease liability	36,688	–	(36,688)	–	–
Compensated absences	227,499	134,592	(163,105)	198,986	149,239
Other post employment benefits	2,203,389	260,853	(536,393)	1,927,849	–
Business-type activity					
Long term liabilities	<u>\$ 5,273,419</u>	<u>\$ 1,133,506</u>	<u>\$ (1,103,553)</u>	<u>\$ 5,303,372</u>	<u>\$ 529,732</u>

NOTE 3 – RETIREMENT PLANS

The City has two defined benefit pension plans.

- The City of Wauchula Employee Pension Plan (WEPP)
- The City of Wauchula Police Pension Trust Fund (WPPP)

Plan Description and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

WEPP – The Plan is a single employer, defined benefit public employee retirement system. Participation is mandatory for full time employees and employees are eligible on the date of hire. Benefit provisions and employer and employee contributions are authorized by the City Commission and trustees. The Plan was amended and restated pursuant to Ordinance 2014–3.

The Plan is accounted for in the accompanying financial statements as a pension trust fund. A separate financial statement is not issued for the Plan. Plan administrative costs are paid by the Plan. The Advisory Committee administers the Plan with final authority residing in the City Commission with powers to amend or extend the provisions of the Plan.

WPPP – The Plan is a single employer, defined benefit public employee retirement system plan. The City has established a special pension trust fund into which shall be paid all monies received by the City under the provisions of Chapter 185, Florida Statutes. Total contributions to the WPPP in 2024 were \$63,065, all of which are from the State.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 3 –RETIREMENT PLANS – CONTINUED

All police employed by the City who have completed one year of continuous service, are qualified as participants in the Police Pension Trust Fund. Participants are entitled to one share in the fund for each full year of service. Participants vest after ten years of service.

The total monies received, including interest earned, any gifts and the credits forfeited by the participants (all of which constitute income to the fund during each fiscal year), shall be allocated and the value of the respective participants' shares shall be determined as follows:

- (a) The Board of Trustees shall pay all costs and expenses of management and operation for the fiscal year.
- (b) The Board of Trustees shall set aside as much income as it considers advisable as a reserve for expenses for the then current fiscal year.
- (c) After deducting the monies called for by Subsection (a) and (b), the remaining monies shall be allocated and credited to the share accounts of the respective participants.

The number of shares to which each and every participant is entitled as of the close of each fiscal year shall be added together and the total number of shares thus determined shall be divided into the net amount of money available to be allocated and credited to the respective share accounts. The amount to be credited to the account of each participant will then be obtained by multiplying the value determined for one share by the total number of shares to which each participant is entitled.

An individual account shall be established for each participant, and the amount to which each participant is entitled shall be credited to his account as of the end of each fiscal year.

Plan Membership

At the October 1, 2023 valuation date membership consisted of:

Active	68
Retirees	44
Terminated with deferred vested pensions	<u>20</u>
Total	<u>132</u>

Basis of Accounting

The Pension Plans use the accrual basis of accounting. Plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. Employer contributions to each plan are recognized when due and the employer has made a formal commitment to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of each plan.

Asset Valuation

Investments are reported at market value based on quoted prices (Note 1). Investment income is recognized when earned. Gains and losses on sales and exchanges of securities are recognized on the transaction date.

Benefit Provisions–WEPP

Effective May 17, 2010, normal retirement is age 60 with 6 years of service, or any age with 30 years of service. The pension benefit is 2.50% of average earnings for each year of service up to 40 years. Benefits are available for early retirement at age 50 with at least 6 years of service. The pension benefit is reduced by 1% for each year down to age 55 and further reduced by 2% for each year down to age 60.

Death and disability benefits are also available under the Plan. In service disability benefits are calculated at the larger of the basic pension formula or 50% of average earnings. Non–service disability is calculated as the larger of the basic pension formula or 25% of average final compensation. Pre–retirement death benefits are calculated at 50% of the basic pension formula beginning at the earliest retirement age,

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 3 – RETIREMENT PLANS – CONTINUED

and payable to the spouse of a vested participant for life. In addition, the beneficiary of any participant or retiree receives \$25,000, reduced by 10% for each year of service less than 10 years.

Vesting occurs after 6 years of service for general employees and 10 years for police officers. Participants who retire at age 50 or later with at least 6 years of service receive a \$100 monthly supplemental life annuity.

Contribution Information

WEPP members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary. The City is required to contribute the greater of an actuarially determined rate or 10%. Total employer contributions were \$432,610 which were less than the required contributions for the year ended September 30, 2024, on covered payroll of \$3,427,583.

Plan Investments

Plan assets are held with the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund (FMPTF), an agent multiple employer pension plan administered by the FMPTF Board of Trustees. The FMPTF issues a publicly available report that includes the combined financial statements of all plan members which can be obtained from their website. Separate accounts are maintained for each employer group.

The plan follows the investment policies of the FMPTF. The Master Trustees of the FMPTF have the exclusive authority and discretion to manage and control the assets of the FMPTF. The City has selected to participate in the FMPTF 60/40 Target Fund. The maximum target asset allocation for equities is 60%. The following was the adopted asset allocation policy as of September 30, 2024:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Total Allocation</u>
Equities	60%
Large Cap	25%
Small Cap	14%
International	21%
Fixed Income	40%
Core Bonds	15%
Core Plus	15%
Core Real Estate	10%

All employee pension plan assets with the FMPTF are included in the trust's master Trust Fund. Employee pension plan assets of the defined benefit type are invested by the FMPTF through the Florida Municipal Investment Trust (FMIvT) for the benefit of the participating employers, participating employees and beneficiaries. The FMIvT is a Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) and, therefore, considered an external investment pool. The plans have a beneficial interest in shares in the FMIvT portfolios listed below. The plan's investment is the beneficial interest in the FMIvT portfolio, not the individual securities held within each portfolio.

As of September 30, 2024, the asset allocations for the various investment models were as follows:

<u>Asset Allocation and Model/Percentage</u>	<u>WEPP/WPPP</u>
	<u>60/40</u>
Cash and Money Market	1.4%
FMIvT Broad Market High Quality Bond	14.4%
FMIvT Diversified Large Cap	24.9%
FMIvT Diversified Small to Mid Cap Equity	14.5%
FMIvT Core Real Estate	9.4%
FMIvT International Equity	20.5%
FMIvT Core Plus Fixed Income	14.9%
	<u>100.0%</u>

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 3 – RETIREMENT PLANS – CONTINUED

Credit Risk – Credit risk exists when there is a possibility that the issuer or other counterparty to an investment may be unable to fulfill its obligations.

The FMIvT Broad Market High Quality Bond Fund has a Fitch Rating of AAf/S4. The FMIvT Core Plus Fixed Income Fund and the equities portfolios are not rated.

Interest Rate Risk – Interest rate exists when there is a possibility that changes in interest rates could adversely affect an investment’s fair value.

The FMIvT Broad Market High Quality Bond Fund has a weighted average maturity of 7.10 years. The FMIvT Core Plus Fixed Income Fund has a weighted average to maturity of 6.66 years.

Foreign Currency Risk – Participating employer’s investments in the FMIvT are not subject to foreign currency risk.

Rate of Return – For the year ended September 30, 2024 the annual money-weighted rate of return on Pension Plan Investments, net of pension plan investment expense, was 19.83% for the WEPP. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

The components of the net pension liability (asset) of the City at September 30, 2024 were as follows:

Total pension liability	\$ 21,363,575
Less fiduciary position	(25,043,776)
Net pension liability (asset)	<u>\$ (3,680,201)</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability (asset)	117.23%

Net Pension Liability (Asset)–WEPP

	Total Pension Liability (a)	Fiduciary Net Position (b)	Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a – b)
Balance as of September 30, 2023	\$ 20,277,411	\$ (21,225,168)	\$ (947,757)
Change due to:			
Service cost	910,621	–	910,621
Expected interest growth	1,448,391	(1,473,553)	(25,162)
Unexpected investment income	–	(2,699,882)	(2,699,882)
Demographic experience	(155,392)	–	(155,392)
Employer contributions	–	(445,257)	(445,257)
Employee contributions	–	(368,046)	(368,046)
Benefit payments & refunds	(1,117,456)	1,117,456	–
Administrative expenses	–	50,674	50,674
Changes in benefit terms	–	–	–
Assumption changes	–	–	–
Balance as of September 30, 2024	<u>\$ 21,363,575</u>	<u>\$ (25,043,776)</u>	<u>\$ (3,680,201)</u>

The Sponsor’s net pension liability (asset) was measured as of September 30, 2024.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 3 – RETIREMENT PLANS – CONTINUED

Actuarial Assumptions–WEPP

The total pension liability, net pension liability (asset), and certain sensitivity information are based on an actuarial valuation performed as of October 1, 2023. The total pension liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date to the plan's fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. The total pension liability was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement.

Investment rate of return (2.62% for inflation)	7.00%
Projected salary increases	5.00% per annum
COLA	None assumed

For eligible police officers, 20% are assumed to retire at each of ages 55 through 57, 30% are assumed to retire each of ages 58 and 59, and 100% are assumed to retire at age 60. For all other eligible participants, 10% are assumed to retire at each of ages 55 through 59 and 100% are assumed to retire at age 60. Regardless of the foregoing, participants who have earned at least 30 years of service are assumed to retire immediately and deferred vested participants are assumed to commence benefits at their normal retirement age.

Pre-retirement mortality is based on the sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Headcount-Weighted Below Median Employee Mortality Table for general employees, with full generational improvements in mortality using Scale MP-2018 and with male ages set back one year; post-retirement mortality is based on the sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Headcount-Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree Mortality Table for general employees, with full generational improvements in mortality using Scale MP-2018 and with male ages set back one year.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expenses and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included the pension plan's target asset allocation as of September 30, 2024 are summarized in the following table:

Actuarial Assumptions–WEPP – Continued

Long-Term Expected Asset Class	Real Rate of Return
Equities	
Large Cap	4.60%
Small Cap	5.50%
International	6.70%
Fixed Income	
Core Bonds	1.60%
Core Plus	2.10%
Core Real Estate	5.00%
Total or weighted arithmetic average	4.38%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability (asset) was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that sponsor contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 3 – RETIREMENT PLANS – CONTINUED

Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability (asset).

Sensitivity of the net pension liability (asset) to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the City, calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well 1% higher and 1% lower than the current rate:

	1% Decrease 6.00%	Current Discount Rate 7.00%	1% Increase 8.00%
Net pension liability (asset)	\$ (882,775)	\$ (3,680,201)	\$ (5,980,727)

Changes of Assumptions

There were no changes of assumptions since the prior measurement date.

Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

For the year ended September 30, 2024 the City recognized pension expense of \$169,102. At September 30, 2024 the City reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Balance as of September 30, 2023	\$ 4,220,866	\$ (3,253,747)
Amortization payments	(1,318,533)	1,717,518
Investment gain/loss	–	(2,699,882)
Demographic gain/loss	–	(155,392)
Assumption changes	–	–
Total change	–	–
Balance as of September 30, 2024	<u>\$ 2,902,333</u>	<u>\$ (4,391,503)</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Year ended September 30:</u>	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
2025	\$ 1,217,566	\$ (1,607,441)
2026	1,214,045	(1,065,150)
2027	271,122	(942,778)
2028	170,976	(717,610)
2029	25,558	(49,958)
Thereafter	3,066	(8,566)

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 3 – RETIREMENT PLANS – CONTINUED

The following financial statements present the combining statement of fiduciary net position by pension trust fund as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024.

COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION				
	Employee Pension Fund	Police Pension Fund	OPEB Trust Fund	Total
ASSETS				
Cash	\$ –	\$ 72	\$ –	\$ 72
Investments	24,975,443	3,953,037	697,273	29,625,753
Receivable – Employer	44,705	63,065	7,692	115,462
Receivable – Employee	13,405	–	–	13,405
Total assets	<u>\$ 25,033,553</u>	<u>\$ 4,016,174</u>	<u>\$ 704,965</u>	<u>\$ 29,754,692</u>
NET POSITION				
Held in trust for pension benefits	\$ 25,033,553	\$ 4,016,174	\$ –	\$ 29,049,727
Restricted for OPEB benefits	–	–	704,965	704,965
Total net position	<u>\$ 25,033,553</u>	<u>\$ 4,016,174</u>	<u>\$ 704,965</u>	<u>\$ 29,754,692</u>

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION				
	Employee Pension Fund	Police Pension Fund	OPEB Trust Fund	Total
ADDITIONS				
Contributions:				
Employer	\$ 432,610	\$ –	\$ 139,323	\$ 571,933
Plan members	361,678	–	–	361,678
Other income	–	63,065	–	63,065
Total contributions	<u>794,288</u>	<u>63,065</u>	<u>139,323</u>	<u>996,676</u>
Investment earnings:				
Net change in the fair value of investments	4,173,435	655,490	109,255	4,938,180
Total additions	<u>4,967,723</u>	<u>718,555</u>	<u>248,578</u>	<u>5,934,856</u>
DEDUCTIONS				
Pension benefits paid	1,117,456	–	–	1,117,456
OPEB refunds	–	–	142,396	142,396
Administrative expenses	50,674	8,178	7,148	66,000
Total deductions	<u>1,168,130</u>	<u>8,178</u>	<u>149,544</u>	<u>1,325,852</u>
Change in net position	<u>3,799,593</u>	<u>710,377</u>	<u>99,034</u>	<u>4,609,004</u>
Net Position – beginning	21,233,960	3,305,797	605,931	25,145,688
Net Position – ending	<u>\$ 25,033,553</u>	<u>\$ 4,016,174</u>	<u>\$ 704,965</u>	<u>\$ 29,754,692</u>

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 3 – RETIREMENT PLANS – CONTINUED

Fair Value Measurements

The City categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles which are measured on a recurring basis (Note 1). The pension plans have the following recurring fair value measurements as of September 30:

	September 30, 2024	Quoted Prices In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Investments by fair value level				
Mutual funds / short-term investments	\$ 405,696	\$ 405,696	\$ –	\$ –
FMIvT Broad market high quality bond	4,303,064	–	4,303,064	–
FMIvT Core plus fixed income	4,451,890	–	–	4,451,890
FMIvT diversified large cap	7,358,683	–	7,358,683	–
FMIvT Diversified small to mid cap	4,271,330	–	4,271,330	–
FMIvT International equity	6,053,058	–	6,053,058	–
FMIvT Core real estate	2,782,032	–	–	2,782,032
Total investments	\$ 29,625,753	\$ 405,696	\$ 21,986,135	\$ 7,233,922

Mutual funds and short-term investments classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using prices quoted in active markets for those securities. Investments held with Florida Municipal Investment Trust (FMIvT) are held in a Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) which are classified as either Level 2 or Level 3. Level 2 investments are invested in funds or portfolios in which the underlying asset values are based on quoted prices or market-corroborated inputs, however, the net asset value of the portfolio is not publicly quoted. FMIvT Core Plus Fixed Income and FMIvT Core Real Estate are funds classified as Level 3 since the shares of the funds are not publicly quoted and the underlying funds invest in a variety of financial instruments.

The City did not have any assets or liabilities included in the pension or OBEP plans that are not measured at fair value.

NOTE 4 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLAN

Plan Description

Plan Administration – The City of Wauchula administers a single employer defined benefit plan (Plan) that is used to provide post-employment benefits other than pensions (OPEB), through the City’s Personnel Rules and Regulations with the following provisions:

Employees hired prior to January 1, 1999:

- Entitled to participate in the City’s group medical insurance plan until becoming eligible for Medicare, and thereafter in the City approved Medicare Supplement, if the City has approved one, at their own expense unless prior to retirement of a particular employee, the City Commission decides otherwise.
- Retirees must pay a monthly premium as determined by the insurance carrier, less any explicit subsidies that are provided by the City. The premium varies depending on whether the retiree elects single, spousal, or family coverage.

Employees hired after January 1, 1999:

- Entitled to participate in any City plan upon retirement but at the employee’s own expense.

The Plan is vested and subject to change by approval of the City Commissioners. Separate financial statements of the Plan are not available.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 4 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLAN – CONTINUED

Benefits Provided – For employees hired prior to January 1, 1999, the City provides an explicit health insurance subsidy equal to the premium for single coverage under the City’s health insurance plan, less \$100 per month which is provided under the City-sponsored pension plan. The subsidy is provided regardless of whether the retiree elects coverage under the City-sponsored health insurance plan, and the subsidy is provided for life. The City also provides a \$30 monthly utility subsidy. The utility subsidy is provided to the retiree for life and to the retiree’s spouse for life after the retiree’s death

Plan Membership – At September 30, 2024, membership in the Plan consisted of the following:

Current Retirees	28
Active Employees	<u>56</u>
	<u>84</u>

Contributions – Through 2015, the City’s OPEB benefits were unfunded. Effective October 1, 2015, the City established an Other Post-Employment Benefit Trust (Trust) of which the assets are held with the Florida Municipal Pension Trust (FMPT). Annual contributions to the OPEB Trust are not required and are determined annually by the City Commissioners. During the year ended September 30, 2024, the City contributed \$139,323 to the OPEB Trust. For the year ended September 30, 2024, the City’s average contribution rate was 4.94 percent of covered-employee payroll of \$2,699,152. Plan members are not required to contribute to the Plan.

Investments

Investment Policy – Plan assets are held with the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund (FMPTF) an agent multiple employer pension plan administered by the FMPTF Board of Trustees. The Plan follows the investment policies of the FMPTF. The Master Trustees of the FMPTF have the exclusive authority and discretion to manage and control the assets of the FMPTF. The ultimate subsidies that are not financed with assets in the trust, are financed directly by general assets of the City, which are invested in qualified public depositories. Payments for benefits or contributions to the OPEB Trust come from the City’s General Fund.

The City has selected to participate in the FMPTF OPEB 50/50 Fund. The following was the adopted asset allocation policy as of September 30, 2024:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Total Allocation</u>
Equities	50%
Large Cap	29%
Small Cap	8%
International	13%
Fixed Income	50%
Core Bonds	20%
Core Plus	20%
Core Real Estate	10%

As of September 30, 2024, the asset allocations for the various investment models were as follows:

<u>Asset Allocation and Model/Percentage</u>	<u>OPEB 50/50</u>
Cash and Money Market	1.4%
FMLvT Broad Market High Quality Bond	14.4%
FMLvT Core Plus Fixed Income	14.9%
FMLvT Diversified Large Cap	24.9%
FMLvT Diversified Small to Mid Cap Equity	14.5%
FMLvT International Equity	20.5%
FMLvT Core Real Estate	<u>9.4%</u>
	<u>100.0%</u>

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 4 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLAN – CONTINUED

There were no changes in the investment policy during the year ended September 30, 2024. For all other investment disclosures, including fair value and risk, see Note 3.

Concentrations – The Plan did not hold investments in any one organization that represents 5 percent of more of the Plan’s fiduciary net position.

Rate of Return – For the year ended September 30, 2024, the annual money-weighted rate of return on investments, net of investment expense, was 15.39 percent. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

Receivables

As of September 30, 2024, the Plan did not have any receivables.

Allocated Insurance Contracts

As of September 30, 2024, the Plan did not have any allocated insurance contracts.

Reserves

As of September 30, 2024, the Plan did not have any reserves.

Net OPEB Liability

The components of the net OPEB liability of the City at September 30, 2024, were as follows:

Total OPEB liability	\$ 4,521,852
Plan fiduciary net position	(697,273)
City's net OPEB liability	<u>\$ 3,824,579</u>

Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability 15.42%

The City’s net OPEB liability was measured as of September 30, 2024, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of October 1, 2023.

Actuarial Assumptions –The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of October 1, 2023 in which the individual entry age normal cost method was used. The actuarial valuation’s determination of the OPEB liability, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

- Discount Rate: 4.21% per annum; this rate was used to discount all future benefit payments and is based on a blend of the expected long-term return on assets (for benefits payments during the first eight years after the valuation date) and a yield on 20-year Grade AA/Aa or higher municipal bonds of 4.06% per annum (for benefit payments beyond the first eight years after the valuation date); the expected long-term return on assets was determined by the Asset Consulting Group and the municipal bond yield is based on the return on the S&P Municipal Bond 20-year High Grade Index as of the measurement date.
- Expected Long-Term Return on Assets: 6.50% per annum (2.62% per annum is attributable to long-term inflation).
- Salary Increases: 3.00% per annum.
- Cost-of-Living Increases: Retiree contributions and health insurance premiums have been assumed to increase in accordance with the healthcare cost trend rates.
- Healthcare Cost Trend Rates: Increases in healthcare costs are assumed to be 6.50% for the 2024–25 fiscal year graded down by 0.50% per year to 5.00% for the 2027–28 and later fiscal years.
- Age-Related Morbidity: Healthcare costs are assumed to increase at the rate of 3.50% for each year of age.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 4 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLAN – CONTINUED

- Mortality basis: Sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Mortality Table (without income adjustments) for general and public safety employees, with full generational improvements in mortality using Scale MP-2020.
- Retirement: 10% of eligible general employees are assumed to retire at each of ages 55 through 59 and 100% of eligible general employees are assumed to retire at age 60; 20% of eligible police officers are assumed to retire at each of ages 55 through 57, 30% of eligible police officers are assumed to retire at each of ages 58 and 59, and 100% of eligible police officers are assumed to retire at age 60; regardless of the foregoing, employees who have earned at least 30 years of service are assumed to retire immediately.
- Disability: Assumed disability uses age and gender based rates; general employee disability rates range from 0.075% (males) and 0.035% (females) at age 25, 0.096% (males) and 0.054% (females) at age 35, and 0.162% (males) and 0.085% (females) at age 45, to 0.400% (males) and 0.180% (females) at age 55; police officer disability rates range from 0.179% (males) and 0.075% (females) at age 25, 0.290% (males) and 0.096% (females) at age 35, and 0.795% (males) and 0.162% (females) at age 45, to 1.030% (males) and 0.040% (females) at age 55.
- Employment Termination: Assumed withdrawal uses age-based rates; general employee withdrawal rates range from 7.10% at age 25, 4.20% at age 35, 1.80% at age 45, and 0.80% at age 55 to 0.00% at age 60; police officer withdrawal rates range from 5.00% at age 25 and 3.00% at age 35, to 0.00% at age 45.
- Coverage Election: 25% of eligible employees are assumed to elect medical coverage under the City's health insurance plan for life upon retirement or disability and 80% of those electing coverage are also assumed to elect coverage for their spouse.
- Spouses and Dependents: Husbands are assumed to be three years older than wives; retirees are not assumed to have any dependent children.
- COBRA: Future healthcare coverage provided solely pursuant to COBRA was not included in the OPEB valuation; because the COBRA premium is determined periodically based on plan experience, the COBRA premium to be paid by the participant is assumed to fully cover the cost of providing healthcare coverage during the relevant period.
- Changes in Implied Monthly Subsidy: The implied monthly subsidy at age 60 for the 2023-24 fiscal year was changed from \$483.75 to \$450.00 for the retiree and from \$618.12 to \$575.00 for the retiree's spouse.
- Changes in Assumptions: Since the prior measurement date, the discount rate was decreased from 4.96% per annum to 4.21% per annum.

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of September 30, 2024 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Core Bonds	1.60% per annum
Core Real Estate	5.00% per annum
Core Plus	2.10% per annum
U.S. Large Cap Equities	4.60% per annum
U.S. Small Cap Equities	5.50% per annum
Non-U.S. Equities	6.70% per annum

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 4 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLAN – CONTINUED

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 4.21 percent (decreased from 4.96% in the prior year). The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that City contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rates. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.

Changes in the Net OPEB Liability

	<u>Total OPEB Liability</u>	<u>Fiduciary Net Position</u>	<u>Net OPEB Liability</u>
Balance as of September 30, 2023	\$ 5,060,027	\$ (604,116)	\$ 4,455,911
Changes due to:			
Service cost	72,593	–	72,593
Expected interest growth	212,407	(38,753)	173,654
Unexpected investment income	–	(70,502)	(70,502)
Differences between expected and actual experience	(1,025,064)	–	(1,025,064)
Employer contributions	–	(133,447)	(133,447)
Employee contributions	–	–	–
Benefit payments & refunds	(142,396)	142,396	–
Administrative expenses	–	7,149	7,149
Changes in benefit terms	–	–	–
Assumption changes	344,285	–	344,285
Balance as of September 30, 2024	<u>\$ 4,521,852</u>	<u>\$ (697,273)</u>	<u>\$ 3,824,579</u>

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the City, as well as what the City's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1–percentage point lower or 1–percentage–point higher than the current discount rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	<u>3.21%</u>	<u>4.21%</u>	<u>5.21%</u>
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 4,445,422	\$ 3,824,579	\$ 3,317,687

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the City, as well as what the City's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1–percentage–point lower or 1–percentage–point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
		<u>6.50% graded down to 5.00%</u>	
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 3,350,511	\$ 3,824,579	\$ 4,393,340

The financial statements of the OPEB Trust Fund are included in Note 3.

Payable to the OPEB Plan

At September 30, 2024, the City did not have any outstanding contributions payable to the Plan required for the year ended September 30, 2024.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 4 – OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLAN – CONTINUED

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended September 30, 2024, the City recognized OPEB expense of \$12,289. At September 30, 2024, the City reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Balance as of September 30, 2023	\$ 1,272,719	\$ (2,176,196)
Change due to:		
Amortization payments	(381,065)	622,172
Investment gain/loss	–	(70,502)
Demographic gain/loss	–	(1,025,064)
Assumption changes	–	–
Total change	344,285	–
Balance as of September 30, 2024	<u>\$ 1,235,939</u>	<u>\$ (2,649,590)</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

<u>Year ended September 30:</u>	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
2025	\$ 380,995	\$ (622,171)
2026	380,997	(606,140)
2027	288,454	(501,978)
2028	53,840	(418,120)
2029	43,976	(218,704)
Thereafter	87,677	(282,477)

NOTE 5 – CONTINGENCIES

From time to time, the City is involved in litigation with various parties. The outcome of these matters and potential losses to the City cannot be determined. As a result, no liability has been recorded in these financial statements. However, it is at least reasonably possible that a liability could result in the near term.

NOTE 6 – COMMITMENTS

The City has entered into long term construction contracts for the completion of various projects. The total commitment at September 30, 2024 is \$16,040,044, of which \$13,391,025 has been completed by September 30, 2024. Of the remaining balance, \$2,566,831 is expected to be funded by grant awards the City has received.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Taxes	\$ 1,625,943	\$ 1,625,943	\$ 1,676,634	\$ 50,691
Charges for services	170,665	170,665	173,301	2,636
Fines and forfeitures	30,700	30,700	70,318	39,618
Intergovernmental revenue	1,039,430	1,039,430	1,068,273	28,843
Interest	6,000	6,000	108,357	102,357
Licenses and permits	12,000	12,000	12,390	390
Grant revenue	52,073	766,036	797,372	31,336
Miscellaneous revenues	50,300	50,300	61,266	10,966
Total Revenues	2,987,111	3,701,074	3,967,911	266,837
Expenditures				
General government	1,628,654	1,657,877	1,552,701	105,176
Police department	1,740,992	1,750,699	1,844,824	(94,125)
Highways and streets	297,520	297,520	300,592	(3,072)
Culture/recreation	491,436	491,436	507,798	(16,362)
Capital outlay	278,500	953,533	878,078	75,455
Debt service	56,340	56,340	56,293	47
Total expenditures	4,493,442	5,207,405	5,140,286	67,119
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,506,331)	(1,506,331)	(1,172,375)	333,956
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Proceeds from sales of assets	–	–	35,285	35,285
Transfers In	1,966,821	1,966,821	1,966,821	–
Transfers Out	(460,490)	(460,490)	(460,696)	(206)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,506,331	1,506,331	1,541,410	35,079
Net Change in Fund Balances	–	–	369,035	369,035
Fund Balance – October 1, 2023	2,427,176	2,427,176	2,427,176	–
Fund Balance – September 30, 2024	\$ 2,427,176	\$ 2,427,176	\$ 2,796,211	\$ 369,035

Note 1 – Budgetary Basis

The general fund budget is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
BUDGET TO ACTUAL – SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 778,664	\$ 778,664	\$ 779,010	\$ 346
Interest	10,000	10,000	36,540	26,540
Grant revenue	4,056,289	4,056,289	1,342,741	(2,713,548)
Miscellaneous revenues	39,041	39,041	111	(38,930)
Total Revenues	4,883,994	4,883,994	2,158,402	(2,725,592)
EXPENDITURES				
General government	493,384	493,384	413,718	79,666
Capital outlay	5,851,268	5,851,268	2,033,676	3,817,592
Total Expenditures	6,344,652	6,344,652	2,447,394	3,897,258
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(1,460,658)	(1,460,658)	(288,992)	1,171,666
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds from sales of assets	480,000	480,000	602,705	122,705
Transfers in	980,658	980,658	460,696	(519,962)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,460,658	1,460,658	1,063,401	(397,257)
Net change in Fund Balances	–	–	774,409	774,409
FUND BALANCE – October 1, 2023	1,072,173	1,072,173	1,072,173	–
FUND BALANCE – September 30, 2024	<u>\$ 1,072,173</u>	<u>\$ 1,072,173</u>	<u>\$ 1,846,582</u>	<u>\$ 774,409</u>

Note 1 – Budgetary Basis

The special revenue fund budget is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION (ASSET) LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
WEPP
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total pension liability										
Service cost	\$ 397,481	\$ 632,364	\$ 644,200	\$ 685,722	\$ 716,988	\$ 695,964	\$ 734,403	\$ 750,905	\$ 857,684	\$ 910,621
Expected interest growth	1,189,323	823,513	1,024,605	1,074,934	1,116,945	1,201,329	1,257,637	1,311,129	1,344,851	1,448,391
Demographic gain/loss	(1,115,993)	(580,470)	(856,549)	(339,093)	(115,371)	(265,122)	110,449	(801,206)	181,972	(155,392)
Employee contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benefit payments, including refunds	(846,093)	(929,139)	(849,400)	(814,712)	(903,232)	(844,451)	(1,030,634)	(890,759)	(920,896)	(1,117,456)
Administrative expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Changes in benefit terms	-	-	-	-	406,441	-	-	-	-	-
Assumption changes	(1,180,305)	2,906,292	707,505	-	-	-	(326,442)	-	-	-
Net change in total pension liability	(1,555,587)	2,852,560	670,361	606,851	1,221,771	787,720	745,413	370,069	1,463,611	1,086,164
Total pension liability – Beginning	13,114,642	11,559,055	14,411,615	15,081,976	15,688,827	16,910,598	17,698,318	18,443,731	18,813,800	20,277,411
Total pension liability – Ending (a)	<u>\$ 11,559,055</u>	<u>\$ 14,411,615</u>	<u>\$ 15,081,976</u>	<u>\$ 15,688,827</u>	<u>\$ 16,910,598</u>	<u>\$ 17,698,318</u>	<u>\$ 18,443,731</u>	<u>\$ 18,813,800</u>	<u>\$ 20,277,411</u>	<u>\$ 21,363,575</u>
Plan fiduciary net position										
Contributions – Employer	262,201	13,515	277,978	208,949	133,519	4,783	155,637	229,950	7,765	445,257
Contributions – Employee	262,201	271,126	-	293,056	304,838	322,149	328,953	360,424	386,114	368,046
Investment Income	21,493	1,283,244	2,169,961	1,344,711	1,001,891	1,263,532	3,890,857	(3,081,357)	1,726,692	4,173,435
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(1,108,162)	(929,139)	(849,400)	(814,712)	(903,232)	(844,451)	(1,030,634)	(890,759)	(920,896)	(1,117,456)
Administrative expense	(47,753)	(49,123)	(41,040)	(48,967)	(43,798)	(42,731)	(47,839)	(48,819)	(47,853)	(50,674)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	(610,020)	589,623	1,557,499	983,037	493,218	703,282	3,296,974	(3,430,561)	1,151,822	3,818,608
Plan fiduciary net position – Beginning	16,490,294	15,880,274	16,469,897	18,027,396	19,010,433	19,503,651	20,206,933	23,503,907	20,073,346	21,225,168
Plan fiduciary net position – Ending (b)	<u>\$ 15,880,274</u>	<u>\$ 16,469,897</u>	<u>\$ 18,027,396</u>	<u>\$ 19,010,433</u>	<u>\$ 19,503,651</u>	<u>\$ 20,206,933</u>	<u>\$ 23,503,907</u>	<u>\$ 20,073,346</u>	<u>\$ 21,225,168</u>	<u>\$ 25,043,776</u>
Net pension liability (asset) – Ending (a) – (b)	<u>\$ (4,321,219)</u>	<u>\$ (2,058,282)</u>	<u>\$ (2,945,420)</u>	<u>\$ (3,321,606)</u>	<u>\$ (2,593,053)</u>	<u>\$ (2,508,615)</u>	<u>\$ (5,060,176)</u>	<u>\$ (1,259,546)</u>	<u>\$ (947,757)</u>	<u>\$ (3,680,201)</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability (asset)	137.38%	114.28%	119.53%	121.17%	115.33%	114.17%	127.44%	106.69%	104.67%	117.23%
Covered employee payroll	\$ 2,483,561	\$ 2,590,078	\$ 2,537,297	\$ 2,685,252	\$ 2,817,015	\$ 2,775,343	\$ 2,944,531	\$ 2,999,018	\$ 3,342,507	\$ 3,427,583
Net pension liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS
WEPP
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 144,844	\$ 195,961	\$ 198,198	\$ 94,657	\$ 133,084	\$ 160,430	\$ 152,963	\$ –	\$ 504,265	\$ 480,668
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contributions	262,201	13,515	–	208,949	133,519	4,783	155,637	229,950	7,765	445,257
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ (117,357)</u>	<u>\$ 182,446</u>	<u>\$ 198,198</u>	<u>\$ (114,292)</u>	<u>\$ (435)</u>	<u>\$ 155,647</u>	<u>\$ (2,674)</u>	<u>\$ (229,950)</u>	<u>\$ 496,500</u>	<u>\$ 35,411</u>
Covered employee payroll	2,483,561	2,590,078	2,537,297	2,685,252	2,817,015	2,775,343	2,944,531	2,999,018	3,342,507	3,427,583
Contributions as a percentage of covered employee payroll	10.56%	0.52%	0.00%	7.78%	4.74%	0.17%	5.29%	7.67%	0.23%	12.99%

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
WEPP

Employers reporting date: September 30, 2024
Measurement date: September 30, 2024
Valuation Date: October 1, 2023

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of October 1, prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

Actuarial assumptions

Discount rate: 7.00% per annum (2.62% per annum is attributable to long-term inflation): this rate was used to discount all future benefit payments.

Salary increases: 5.00% per annum. Average pay is increased by 5.00% to reflect anticipated lump sum compensation payments upon termination.

Cost-of-living increases: None assumed

Mortality basis: Pre-retirement mortality is based on the sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Headcount-Weighted Below Median Employee Mortality Table for general employees, with full generational improvements in mortality using Scale MP-2018 and with male ages set back one year; post-retirement mortality is based on the sex-distinct rates set forth in the PUB-2010 Headcount-Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree Mortality Table for general employees, with full generational improvements in mortality using Scale MP-2018 and with male ages set back one year.

Retirement: For eligible police officers, 20% are assumed to retire at each of ages 55 through 57, 30% are assumed to retire each of ages 58 and 59, and 100% are assumed to retire at age 60. For all other eligible participants, 10% are assumed to retire at each of ages 55 through 59 and 100% are assumed to retire at age 60. Regardless of the foregoing, participants who have earned at least 30 years of service are assumed to retire immediately and deferred vested participants are assumed to commence benefits at their normal retirement age.

Other decrements: Assumed employment termination is based on age; for police officers, termination rates range from 5.00% at age 25 to 0.00% at age 45; for all other participants, termination rates range from 7.10% at age 25 to 0.00% at age 60.
Assumed disability is based on gender and age; for police officers, disability rates range from 0.179% for males and 0.075% for females at age 25 to 1.03% for males and 0.04% for females at age 55, with 80% of disabilities assumed to be service-related; for all other participants, disability rates range from 0.075% for males and 0.035% for females at age 25 to 0.40% for males and 0.18% for females at age 55, with 20% of disabilities assumed to be service related.

Marriage assumption: 80% of non-retired participants are assumed to be married, with husbands three years older than wives.

Form of payment: Future married retirees are assumed to select the 50% joint and contingent annuity; future unmarried police retirees are assumed to select the 10-year certain and life annuity; all other future unmarried retirees are assumed to select the single life annuity.

Non-investment expenses: 1.75% of covered payroll

Future contributions: Contributions from the employer and employees are assumed to be made as legally required.

Changes of assumptions: There were no changes of assumptions since the prior measurement date.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL MONEY-WEIGHTED RATE
OF RETURN ON INVESTMENTS
WEPP

SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL MONEY-WEIGHTED RETURN ON INVESTMENTS – LAST TEN YEARS

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
09/30/24	19.83%
09/30/23	8.73%
09/30/22	-13.21%
09/30/21	19.54%
09/30/20	6.57%
09/30/19	5.34%
09/30/18	7.53%
09/30/17	13.42%
09/30/16	8.26%
09/30/15	0.13%

The annual money weighted return on investments is net of investment expense.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE CITY'S NET OPEB LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
AVAILABLE FISCAL YEARS *

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total OPEB liability								
Service cost	\$ 89,281	\$ 91,285	\$ 76,135	\$ 100,915	\$ 109,968	\$ 72,366	\$ 62,392	\$ 72,593
Interest	158,996	191,473	157,853	126,785	167,555	310,942	261,446	212,407
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	-	(871,543)	951,050	193,790	(414,919)	54,170	(314,198)	(1,025,064)
Changes of assumptions	-	(349,655)	(39,687)	1,187,996	147,769	(1,495,762)	(112,817)	344,285
Benefit payments	(122,410)	-	(120,565)	(125,871)	(129,990)	(114,129)	(149,804)	(142,396)
Net change in total OPEB liability	125,867	(938,440)	1,024,786	1,483,615	(119,617)	(1,172,413)	(252,981)	(538,175)
Total OPEB liability – Beginning	4,909,210	5,035,077	4,096,637	5,121,423	6,605,038	6,485,421	5,313,008	5,060,027
Total OPEB liability – Ending	<u>\$ 5,035,077</u>	<u>\$ 4,096,637</u>	<u>\$ 5,121,423</u>	<u>\$ 6,605,038</u>	<u>\$ 6,485,421</u>	<u>\$ 5,313,008</u>	<u>\$ 5,060,027</u>	<u>\$ 4,521,852</u>
Plan fiduciary net position								
Contributions – Employer	\$ 155,734	\$ 84,107	\$ 171,258	\$ 181,903	\$ 121,775	\$ 130,834	\$ 135,363	\$ 133,447
Interest	15,006	23,975	17,409	34,101	14,564	32,131	28,386	38,753
Net investment income	9,152	(2,713)	10,017	(354)	80,159	(119,142)	15,089	70,502
Benefit payments	-	-	(120,565)	(125,871)	(129,990)	(114,129)	(149,804)	(142,396)
Administrative expense	(6,445)	(6,869)	(6,949)	(7,017)	(7,133)	(8,651)	(8,608)	(7,149)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	173,447	98,500	71,170	82,762	79,375	(78,957)	20,426	93,157
Plan fiduciary net position – Beginning	157,393	330,840	429,340	500,510	583,272	662,647	583,690	604,116
Plan fiduciary net position – Ending	<u>\$ 330,840</u>	<u>\$ 429,340</u>	<u>\$ 500,510</u>	<u>\$ 583,272</u>	<u>\$ 662,647</u>	<u>\$ 583,690</u>	<u>\$ 604,116</u>	<u>\$ 697,273</u>
City's net OPEB liability	<u>\$ 4,704,237</u>	<u>\$ 3,667,297</u>	<u>\$ 4,620,913</u>	<u>\$ 6,021,766</u>	<u>\$ 5,822,774</u>	<u>\$ 4,729,318</u>	<u>\$ 4,455,911</u>	<u>\$ 3,824,579</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	6.57%	10.48%	9.77%	8.83%	10.22%	10.99%	11.94%	15.42%
Covered–employee payroll	\$ 2,537,297	\$ 2,685,252	\$ 3,136,162	\$ 2,973,961	\$ 3,038,830	\$ 3,125,689	\$ 3,449,266	\$ 2,699,152
City's net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered–employee payroll	185.40%	136.57%	147.34%	202.48%	191.61%	151.30%	129.18%	141.70%

* GASB No. 74 was adopted in fiscal year 2017 and GASB No. 75 was adopted in fiscal year 2018. Ultimately, this schedule will contain information for the last ten years.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS – OPEB
AVAILABLE FISCAL YEARS ***

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 155,734	\$ 84,107	\$ 171,258	\$ 181,903	\$ 121,775	\$ 130,834	\$ 135,363	\$ 133,447
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	155,734	84,107	171,258	181,903	121,775	130,834	135,363	133,447
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>	<u>\$ –</u>
Covered–employee payroll	\$ 2,537,297	\$ 2,685,252	\$ 3,136,162	\$ 2,973,961	\$ 3,038,830	\$ 3,215,689	\$ 3,449,266	\$ 2,699,152
Contributions as a percentage of covered–employee payroll	6.14%	3.13%	5.46%	6.12%	4.01%	4.07%	3.92%	4.94%

* GASB No. 74 was adopted in fiscal year 2017 and GASB No. 75 was adopted in fiscal year 2018. Ultimately, this schedule will contain information for the last ten years.

Notes to Schedule:
Valuation Date: October 1, 2023
Measurement Date: September 30, 2024

Methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates:

Discount rate	4.21% per annum
Expected long–term return on assets	6.50% per annum (2.62% attributable to long–term inflation)
Salary increases	3.00% per annum
Inflation	Retiree contributions and health insurance premiums have been assumed to increase in accordance with the healthcare cost trend rates
Healthcare cost trend rates	Increases in healthcare costs are assumed to be 6.50% for the 2024/25 fiscal year graded down by 0.50% per year to 5.00% for the 2027/28 and later fiscal years
Age–related morbidity	Healthcare costs are assumed to increase at the rate of 3.50% for each year of age
Mortality	Sex–distinct rates set forth in the PUB–2010 Mortality Table (without income adjustments) for general and public safety employees, with full generational improvements in mortality using Scale MP–2020
Retirement	10% of eligible general employees are assumed to retire at each ages of 55 through 59 and 100% of eligible general employees are assumed to retire at age 60; 20% of eligible police officers are assumed to retire at each of ages 55 through 57, 30% of eligible police officers are assumed to retire at each of ages 58 and 59, and 100% of eligible police officers are assumed to retire at age 60; regardless of the foregoing, employees who have earned at least 30 years of service are assumed to retire immediately
Disability	Assumed disability uses age and gender based rates: general employee disability rates range from 0.075% (males) and 0.035% (females) at age 25, 0.096% (males) and 0.054% (females) at age 35, and 0.162% (males) and 0.085% (females) at age 45, to 0.400% (males) and 0.180% (females) at age 55; police officer disability rates range from 0.179% (males) and 0.075% (females) at age 25, 0.290% (males) and 0.096% (females) at age 35, and 0.795% (males) and 0.162% (females) at age 45, to 1.030% (males) and 0.040% (females) at age 55
Employment termination	Assumed withdrawal uses age–based rates; general employee withdrawal rates range from 7.10% at age 25, 4.20% at age 35, 1.80% as age 45, and 0.80% at age 55 to 0.00% at age 60; police officer withdrawal rates range from 5.00% at age 25 and 3.00% at age 35 to 0.00% at age 45
Changes in assumptions	Since the prior measurement date, the discount rate was decreased from 4.96% per annum to 4.21% per annum
Changes in implied monthly subsidy	The implied monthly subsidy at age 60 for the 2023/24 fiscal year was changed from \$483.75 to \$450.00 for the retiree and from \$618.12 to \$575.00 for the retiree 's spouse

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS – OPEB
AVAILABLE FISCAL YEARS *

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Annual money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expense	9.90%	5.59%	4.43%	5.15%	14.08%	-15.33%	5.90%	15.62%

* GASB No. 74 was adopted in fiscal year 2017 and GASB No. 75 was adopted in fiscal year 2018. Ultimately, this schedule will contain information for the last ten years.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Grantor / Pass-Through Grantor / Federal Awards / State Project	ALN / CSFA Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipients	Expenditures
FEDERAL AWARDS				
U.S. Department of Justice				
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	16.607	BVP – Bullet Proof Vests	\$ –	\$ 2,131
Passed through the State of Florida, Office of Attorney General		VOCA-2023-Wauchula		
Crime Victim Assistance	16.575	Police Department – 00044	–	52,053
Passed through the State of Florida, Department of Law Enforcement				
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	R7073	–	8,707
Passed through the State of Florida, Department of Law Enforcement				
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	R7041	–	1,000
Total U.S. Department of Justice			–	63,891
Department of Treasury				
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	Y5313	–	326,726
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	G2L79	–	10,600
Total Department of Treasury			–	337,326
U.S. Department of Transportation				
Passed through the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection				
Recreational Trails Program	20.219	T1908	–	109,506
Airport Improvement Program	20.106	3-12-0084-018-2021	–	1,412,703
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			–	1,522,209
Department of Homeland Security				
Passed through the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management				
Disaster Grants – Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036	Z2868	–	40,355
Total Department of Treasury			–	40,355
U.S. Department of Environmental Protection				
Clean Water State Revolving Fund	66.458	WW-250160	–	3,697,134
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	66.468	DE-250151	–	277,107
Total U.S. Department of Environmental Protection			–	3,974,241
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			\$ –	\$ 5,938,022
STATE PROJECTS				
Florida Department of Environmental Protection				
Statewide Water Quality Restoration Projects	37.039	LPA0233	\$ –	\$ 1,195,097
Statewide Water Quality Restoration Projects	37.039	LPA0404	–	1,325,968
Statewide Water Quality Restoration Projects	37.039	LPA0405	–	123,485
Statewide Water Quality Restoration Projects	37.039	LPR0701	–	255,020
Total Statewide Water Quality Restoration Projects			–	2,899,570
Resilient Florida Program	37.098	23PLN112	–	117,910
Total Florida Department of Environmental Protection			–	3,017,480
Florida Department of Transportation				
Local Transportation Projects	55.039	G2M55	–	17,610
Local Transportation Projects	55.039	G2B86	–	20,745
Total Local Transportation Projects			–	38,355
Aviation Grant Programs	55.004	G2858	–	23,357
Aviation Grant Programs	55.004	G2H44	–	270,847
Total Aviation Grant Programs			–	294,204
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	G1U87	–	1,341
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	G2A21	–	83,690
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	G2A53	–	20,120
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	G2A55	–	19,640
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	G2A35	–	21,950
Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)	55.009	G2A54	–	20,920
Total County Outreach Program (SCOP)			–	167,661
Total Florida Department of Transportation			–	500,220
Florida Department of Commerce				
Regional Community Development and Infrastructure	40.042	D0282	–	50,250
Regional Community Development and Infrastructure	40.042	D0176	–	327,393
Total Regional Community Development and Infrastructure			–	377,643
Total Florida Department of Commerce			–	377,643
Florida Department of State and Secretary of State				
Acquisition, Restoration of Historic Properties	45.032	23.h.sc.100.052	–	70,500
Total Florida Department of State and Secretary of State			–	70,500
Total Expenditures of State Financial Assistance			\$ –	\$ 3,965,843

The Independent Auditor's Report should be read in connection with this schedule.

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance includes the federal and state grant activity of the City of Wauchula, Florida (City) and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the 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 the Florida State Single Audit Act and Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida, Chapter 10.550. Some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the basic financial statements. Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the City's operations, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the City.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures reported on the schedule are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance and Chapter 10.550 Rules of the Auditor General wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

The City elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE C – CONTINGENCIES

Grant monies received and distributed by the City are for specific purposes and are subject to review by the grantor agencies. Such audits may result in requests for reimbursement due to disallowed expenditures. Based on prior experience, the City does not believe that such allowances, if any, would have a material effect on the financial position of the City. As of June 16, 2025, there were no material questioned or disallowed costs as a result of grant audits in process or completed.

NOTE D – LOANS

The City has federal loans outstanding issued through the Environmental Protection Agency, under the Capitalization Grants for State Revolving Funds program. Both loans were issued during 2023. The outstanding loan balances as of September 30, 2024 are as follows:

Grant Number	Assistance Listing Number	Program Name	Outstanding Balance at September 30, 2024
CW-250160	66.458	Capitalization Grants for State Revolving Funds	\$ 1,016,230
DW-250151	66.468	Capitalization Grants for State Revolving Funds	\$ 138,769

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
 DETAIL SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES
 ELECTRIC, WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

	<u>ELECTRIC</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Operating Revenues:				
Charges for services and fees	\$ 7,343,937	\$ 1,415,966	\$ 2,575,699	\$ 11,335,602
Total Operating Revenues	<u>7,343,937</u>	<u>1,415,966</u>	<u>2,575,699</u>	<u>11,335,602</u>
Operating Expenses:				
Personal services	1,243,649	543,297	612,831	2,399,777
Other operating expenses	1,264,931	584,867	734,399	2,584,197
Purchased power	3,068,407	-	-	3,068,407
Amortization	12,222	6,111	6,110	24,443
Depreciation	812,915	406,458	406,457	1,625,830
Total Operating Expenses	<u>6,402,124</u>	<u>1,540,733</u>	<u>1,759,797</u>	<u>9,702,654</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	941,813	(124,767)	815,902	1,632,948
Non-operating Revenues (Expenses):				
Capital grants and contributions	643,406	2,547,916	4,573,072	7,764,394
Interest income	-	-	67,695	67,695
Interest expense	(381)	112	(49,025)	(49,294)
Other income (expense)	<u>119,062</u>	<u>59,531</u>	<u>114,487</u>	<u>293,080</u>
Total Non-operating Revenue (Expenses)	<u>762,087</u>	<u>2,607,559</u>	<u>4,706,229</u>	<u>8,075,875</u>
Income (loss) before transfers	1,703,900	2,482,792	5,522,131	9,708,823
Transfers out	<u>(938,364)</u>	<u>(469,182)</u>	<u>(469,181)</u>	<u>(1,876,727)</u>
Change in Net Position	<u><u>\$ 765,536</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,013,610</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,052,950</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,832,096</u></u>

The Independent Auditor's Report should be read in connection with this schedule.

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE COVERAGE**

<u>INSURANCE COMPANY/GROUP</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF COVERAGE</u>	<u>LIMITS OF COVERAGE</u>
World Risk Management, LLC		Per occurrence:
	General liability	\$ 2,000,000
	Personal/Advertising Injury	\$ 2,000,000
	Law enforcement	\$ 2,000,000
	Public officials and errors and omissions Liability	\$ 2,000,000/\$6,000,000 (member aggregate)
	Auto liability	\$ 2,000,000
	Workers' compensation	Florida statutory limits
	Property	Based on valuation with a limit of \$50,582,053
	Employee Benefits Liability	\$ 2,000,000
	Money and securities	\$ 500,000
	Forgery/Alteration	\$ 500,000
	Employee dishonesty	\$ 500,000
	Sexual misconduct	\$ 2,000,000/\$ 3,000,000 (member aggregate)
	Sexual harassment	\$ 2,000,000/\$ 6,000,000 (member aggregate)
	Inverse Condemnation – Per Claim	\$ 100,000/\$ 100,000 (member aggregate)
	Bert Harris Act – Per Claim	\$ 300,000/\$ 300,000 (member aggregate)
	Non-Monetary Damages – Per Claim	\$ 100,000/\$ 100,000 (member aggregate)
	Cyber Liability	\$ 2,000,000
	Terrorism & Sabotage	\$ 25,000,000
	Active Shooter & Malicious Attack	\$ 2,000,000 (occurrence and pool annual aggregate)

Policy Period: For all coverage's listed above, the policy period is October 1, 2023 to October 1, 2024.

OTHER REPORTS

**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 REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND STATE
PROJECT AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM
GUIDANCE AND CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

MANAGEMENT LETTER

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
ON INVESTMENT COMPLIANCE**

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*

To the Honorable City Commission
City of Wauchula, 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, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Wauchula, Florida (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, and have issued our report thereon dated June 16, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City'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 opinions 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.

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 City'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.

Our consideration of 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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

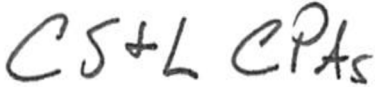
Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. 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*.

- 66 -

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "CS&L CPAs". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted.

CS&L CPAs, P.A.

June 16, 2025
Bradenton, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND
STATE PROJECT AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE
UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND CHAPTER 10.550, RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

To the Honorable City Commission
City of Wauchula, Florida

Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and State Project

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program and State Project

We have audited City of Wauchula, Florida's (City) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and Department of Financial Services' State Projects Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on each of the 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; 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, the Uniform Guidance and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the 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 the 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 the 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.

- 68 -

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 the 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 the 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 the 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 or state project 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 or 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 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.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "CS&L CPAs". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

CS&L CPAs, P.A.

June 16, 2025
Bradenton, Florida

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Section I – Summary of Auditors’ Results

Financial Statements

Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements were prepared in accordance with GAAP:

Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified?

___ yes x no

Significant deficiency(ies) identified?

___ yes x none reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?

___ yes x no

Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance

Internal control over major federal programs or state projects:

Material weakness(es) identified?

___ yes x no

Significant deficiency(ies) identified?

___ yes x none reported

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major federal programs and state projects:

Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516 (a) or Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General?

___ yes x no

Identification of Major Federal Programs:

AL Number

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recover Funds

21.027

Clean Water State Revolving Fund

66.458

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B projects:

\$750,000

Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee?

___ yes x no

Identification of Major State Projects:

CSFA Number

Statewide Water Quality Restoration Projects

37.039

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B projects:

\$750,000

**CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

No matters were reported.

PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

There were no prior audit findings.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs for Federal Awards

No matters were reported.

Section IV – Findings and Questioned Costs for State Projects

No matters were reported.

PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

No summary schedule of prior year findings is required because there were no prior audit findings related to federal programs or state projects.

MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Honorable City Commission
City of Wauchula, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the City of Wauchula, Florida (City) as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated June 16, 2025.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit 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; 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 Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major 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 June 16, 2025, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit 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 annual financial audit report. There were no findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

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 is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Financial Condition and Management

Section 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 of the specific conditions 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 the review of financial information provided by same.

- 73 -

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 such recommendations.

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Programs

As required by Section 10.554(1)(i)6.a., Rules of the Auditor General, a PACE program authorized pursuant to Section 163.081 or Section 163.082, Florida Statutes, did not operate within the City's geographical boundaries during the fiscal year under audit.

Special District Component Units

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.c., Rules of the Auditor General, requires, if appropriate, that we communicate the failure of a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, to provide the financial information necessary for proper reporting of the component unit within the audited financial statements of the county, municipality, or special district in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we did not note any special district component units that failed to provide the necessary information for proper reporting in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes.

Specific Information for a Dependent Special District

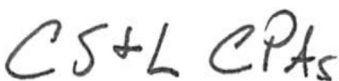
Information required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)7, Rules of the Auditor General is reported in the City of Wauchula Community Redevelopment Agency's audited financial statements.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or fraud, waste, or abuse, that has occurred, or is likely to have occurred, that has an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

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

Handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "CS&L CPAs".

CS&L CPAs, P.A.

June 16, 2025
Bradenton, Florida

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
ON INVESTMENT COMPLIANCE**

**To the Honorable City Commission
City of Wauchula, Florida**

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

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the City complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the City complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the examination engagement.

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 specified requirements for the year ended September 30, 2024.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the City 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "CS&L CPAs".

CS&L CPAs, P.A.

June 16, 2025
Bradenton, Florida