BOROUGH OF CALIFON COUNTY OF HUNTERDON STATE OF NEW JERSEY

REPORT OF AUDIT DECEMBER 31, 2023

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PART I REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023





ARDITO & COMPANY LLC

1110 Harrison Street, Suite C Frenchtown, New Jersey 08825-1192 908-996-4711 Fax: 908-996-4688 e-mail: anthony@arditoandcompany.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable Mayor and
Members of the Borough Council
Borough of Califon
P.O. Box 368
County of Hunterdon, Califon, New Jersey 07830

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets - regulatory basis of the various funds and account group of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the related statement of operations and changes in fund balance - regulatory basis for the years then ended, and the related statement of revenues - regulatory basis and statement of expenditures - regulatory basis of the various funds for the year ended December 31, 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Borough's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the regulatory basis balance sheets and account group as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the regulatory basis statements of operations for the years then ended and the regulatory basis statements of revenues and expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2023 in accordance with the basis of financial reporting prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey as described in Note 1.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Borough as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, or changes in financial positions for the years then ended.

-Continued-

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; audit requirements prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey; 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 Borough, 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 opinions.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Borough prepares its financial statements on the basis of the financial reporting provisions prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey; 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.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, audit requirements prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, 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, audit requirements prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, 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.

-Continued-

- 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 Borough'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 Borough'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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Borough's basic financial statements-regulatory basis. The supplementary information listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements-regulatory basis.

The supplementary information exhibits are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements-regulatory basis. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements-regulatory basis 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-regulatory basis, or to the basic financial statements-regulatory basis themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplemental information listed in the table of contents is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the regulatory basis 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 April 15, 2024, on our consideration of the Borough's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the 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 Borough's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

ARDITO & COMPANY LLC

ardito & Company LLC

Frenchtown, New Jersey April 15, 2024

Anthony Ardito

Anthony Ardito
Certified Public Accountant
Registered Municipal Accountant No.524
ARDITO & COMPANY LLC
Frenchtown, New Jersey
April 15, 2024



A

ASSETS	<u>REF.</u>	BALANCE 12/31/23	BALANCE 12/31/22
Cash and Cash Equivalents:			
Cash - Treasurer	A-4	\$ 2,186,935	\$ 2,145,872
Due From State of New Jersey-Veterans and Sr. Citizens Deductions	A-17	283	533
Subtotal	11 17	2,187,218	2,146,405
Subtotal		2,107,210	2,140,403
Receivables And Other Assets With Full Reserves:			
Delinquent Property Taxes Receivable	A-6	98,365	96,509
Amount Due from Other Trust Fund	В	29,929	13,808
Amount Due from Animal Control Fund	В	8,816	6,062
Subtotal	2	137,110	116,379
Subtotal		137,110	110,377
Subtotal - Current Fund		2,324,328	2,262,784
Federal And State Grant Fund:			
State Grants Receivable	A-19	178,608	127,608
Amount Due From Current Fund	A	386,986	476,133
Subtotal	7.	565,594	603,741
Subtotal		303,394	003,741
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 2,889,922	<u>\$ 2,866,525</u>
LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities:	1 2.0	¢ 115 200	e 115.225
Appropriation Reserves Reserve for Encumbrances	A-3:8 A-9	\$ 115,386	\$ 115,325 104
Amount Due To Federal And State Grant Fund	A-9 A	386,986	476,133
Amount Due To Pederal And State Grant Fund Amount Due To Other Trust Fund	В	1,991	686
Amount Due To General Capital Fund	С	361,046	387,258
Taxes Collected In Advance	A-10	11,259	14,550
Tax Overpayments	A-10 A-11	27,535	27,361
Payroll Deductions Payable	A-11 A-12	1,175	1,098
Amount Due County For Added Taxes	A-12	364	7,140
Local School Taxes Payable	A-13 A-14	174,621	132,972
Regional High School Taxes Payable	A-14 A-15	375,775	396,911
Amount Due To Other Trust Fund - Municipal Open Space Tax	A-16	20,522	21,720
Reserve for Deposits	A-18	20,322	66
Subtotal	11 10	1,476,866	1,581,324
Subtotal		1,470,600	1,361,324
Reserve For Receivables And Other Assets	A	137,110	116,379
Fund Balance	A-1	710,352	565,081
Subtotal - Current Fund		2,324,328	2,262,784
Federal And State Grant Fund:			
Reserve For State Grants	A 20	565 504	549 000
	A-20	565,594	548,999
Reserve For State Grants-Unappropriated	A-21		54,742
Subtotal		565,594	603,741
TOTAL LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE		\$ 2,889,922	\$ 2,866,525

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE

A-1

REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED	REF.	YEAR 2023	YEAR <u>2022</u>
Fund Balance Utilized	A-2	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000
Miscellaneous Revenue Anticipated	A-2	324,844	363,060
Receipts From Delinquent Taxes	A-2 A-2	108,229	96,456
Receipts from Current Taxes	A-2 A-2	5,345,487	5,321,408
Non-Budget Revenues	A-2 A-2	44,062	
Other Credits To Income:	A-2	44,002	25,068
Interfund Receivables Returned	B/C		26.525
		76.096	36,535
Unexpended Balance Of Appropriation Reserves	A-8	76,986	67,255
Tax Overpayments Canceled	A-11		3,348
Total Income		6,019,608	6,033,130
EXPENDITURES			
Budget and Emergency Appropriations: Appropriations Within "CAP": Operations:			
•	4.2	214 410	211 442
Salaries and Wages	A-3	214,410	211,443
Other Expenses	A-3	395,467	389,818
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures	A-3	36,396	33,888
Appropriations Excluded From "CAP":			
Operations:		466.460	550 455
Other Expenses	A-3	466,469	559,455
Capital Improvements	A-3	30,000	46,500
Debt Service	A-3	172,431	97,585
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures	A-3	-	30,100
County Taxes	A-13	651,312	589,829
Amount Due County For Added and Omitted Taxes	A-13	364	7,140
Local District School Taxes	A-14	2,543,167	2,524,532
Regional High School Taxes	A-15	1,182,688	1,224,960
Municipal Open Space	A-16	29,814	29,865
Interfund Advances	A-4	18,870	-
Refund of Prior Year Revenue	A-4	12,949	
Total Expenditures		5,754,337	5,745,115
Excess in Revenue		265,271	288,015
Statutory Excess to Fund Balance		265,271	288,015
Fund Balance January 1	Α	565,081	397,066
ř		830,352	685,081
Decreased by:			,
Utilization as Anticipated Revenue	A-1	120,000	120,000
Fund Balance December 31	A	<u>\$ 710,352</u>	\$ 565,081

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>STATEMENT OF REVENUES</u>

A-2 Sheet 1

	REF.	ANTICIPATED BUDGET				EX <u>REALIZED</u> <u>D</u>	
Fund Balance Anticipated	A-2	\$	120,000	<u>\$</u>	120,000		
Miscellaneous Revenues:							
Local Revenues:							
Licenses:							
Alcoholic Beverages	A-7		5,000		5,063	\$	63
Interest and Costs On Taxes	A-5		14,000		17,809		3,809
Interest on Investments	A-7		1,125		64,161		63,036
Total Local Revenues			20,125		87,033		66,908
State Aid:							
Energy Receipts Tax	A-7		116,048		116,048		_
Municipal Relief Fund Aid	A-7		_		12,021		12,021
Total State Aid			116,048		128,069		12,021
Special Items Of Revenue Anticipated With Prior							
Written Consent of Local Government Services-							
Public and Private Revenues:							
Clean Communities Grant	A-19		4,000		4,000		
American Rescue Plan - Firefighter	A-19		51,000		51,000		
American Rescue Plan - Prior yr unapprop.	A-19		54,742		54,742		
Total Special Items Of Revenues			109,742		109,742		-
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	A-2		245,915		324,844		78,929
Receipts From Delinquent Taxes	A-2		37,500		108,229		70,729
Amount to be Raised by Taxes for							
Support of Municipal Budget:							
Local Tax For Municipal Purposes	A-2		1,062,638		1,075,453		12,815
Total General Revenues			1,466,053		1,628,526		162,473
Other Non-Budget Revenues	A-2				44,062		44,062
		\$	1,466,053	\$	1,672,588	\$	206,535
			A-3				

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>STATEMENT OF REVENUES</u>

A-2 Sheet 2

ANALYSIS OF REALIZED REVENUES	<u>REF.</u>	
Allocation Of Current Tax Collections:		
Revenue from Collections	A-6	\$ 5,340,737
State of New Jersey, Senior Citizens and		
Veterans Deductions	A-6	4,750
	A-1	5,345,487
Allocated To:		
School, County, and Municipal Open Space Taxes	A-6	4,407,345
Balance for Support Of Municipal Budget Appropriations		938,142
Add by: Appropriation "Reserve For Uncollected Taxes"	A-3	137,311
Amount For Support Of Municipal Budget Appropriations	A-2	\$ 1,075,453

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>STATEMENT OF REVENUES</u>

A-2 Sheet 3

ANALYSIS OF NON-BUDGET REVENUES	REF.		
Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated:			
Food Licenses		\$ 2,455	
T.V. Cable Franchise Tax		3,824	
Perc Tests		190	
Business Registrations		900	
Zoning Permits		525	
Fire Inspections		2,389	
Payroll Deductions		5,900	
Miscellaneous		2,366	
Stormwater Reimbusement		25,000	
Rental Permits		40	
Road Openings		240	
Vital Statistics		<u>133</u>	
Treasurer	A-4		\$ 43,962
Collector	A-5		100
			\$ 44,062

A-3 Sheet 1

						Sheet 1
		<u>APPRC</u>	<u>PRIATION</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>		
			BUDGET AFTER	PAID OR		
OPERATIONS-Within "CAPS"	<u>BU</u>	<u>DGET</u>	<u>MODIFICATION</u>	<u>CHARGED</u>	<u>RESERVED</u>	<u>CANCELLED</u>
GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS:						
General Administration:						
Salaries and Wages	\$	42,774	\$ 42,774	\$ 41,226	\$ 1,548	
Other Expenses:						
Legal Advertising		4,000	4,000	4,000		
Miscellaneous Other Expenses		19,000	19,000	13,276	5,724	
Human Resources (Personnel):						
Education Program for Employees		1,500	1,500	824	676	
Mayor and Council:						
Salaries and Wages		8,500	8,500	8,500	-	
Municipal Clerk:						
Salaries and Wages		56,100	56,100	56,100	-	
Financial Administration (Treasury):						
Salaries and Wages		39,947	36,096	30,573	5,523	
Other Expenses		500	500	-	500	
Audit Services:						
Other Expenses		23,936	23,937	23,937	-	
Computerized Data Processing:						
Other Expenses		15,155	15,824	15,824	-	
Revenue Administration (Tax Collection):						
Salaries and Wages:						
Salaries and Wages - All Other		12,434	12,434	12,434	-	
Other Expenses		900	900	25	875	
Tax Assessment Administration:						
Salaries and Wages		16,565	16,565	16,269	296	
Other Expenses:						
Other Professional, Consultant & Spec. Serv.		500	500	-	500	
Miscellaneous Other Expenses		500	500	-	500	
Legal Services (Legal Dept.):						
Other Expenses		29,000	29,000	19,445	9,555	
Engineering Services:		-2,000	22,000	25,115	2,000	
Other Expenses		6,000	6,000	3,240	2,760	
Historical Sites Office:		0,000	2,000	2,210	2,.00	
Other Expenses		700	700	_	700	
Other Empondes		, 00	700	_	,00	

A-3 Sheet 2

OPERATIONS-Within "CAPS"	<u>APPRO</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	DPRIATION BUDGET AFTER MODIFICATION	EXPENDED PAID OR CHARGED	RESERVED	CANCELLED
LAND USE ADMINISTRATION:					
Planning Board:					
Salaries and Wages	9,078	9,078	7,754	1,324	
Other Expenses:					
Legal Services	0	0	-	-	
Other Professional, Consultant & Spec. Serv.	0	0	-	-	
Miscellaneous Other Expenses	5,500	5,500	4,609	891	
Zoning Board of Adjustment(Zoning Officer):					
Salaries and Wages	10,264	10,264	10,264	-	
Other Expenses	150	150	-	150	
INSURANCE:					
Liability Insurance	21,236	21,877	21,877	_	
Worker Compensation Insurance	17,011	17,011	17,011	_	
Employee Group Insurance	30,313	30,313	30,313	-	
Unemployment Insurance	1,200	1,200	839	361	
PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:					
Police Department:					
Salaries and Wages:					
Temporary and Seasonal	19,149	19,149	17,411	1,738	
Other Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	
Office of Emergency Management:	ŕ	,		ŕ	
Other Expenses	1,500	1,500	-	1,500	
Aid to Volunteer Fire Companies	29,400	29,400	29,400	· -	
Contribution to First Aid Organizations	8,500	8,500	8,500		
Fire Department:	•	•	•		
Salaries and Wages			-		
Other Expenses:					
Fire Hydrant Services	16,500	16,599	16,599	-	

A-3 Sheet 3

	APPRO	<u>PRIATION</u>	EXPENDED		
		BUDGET AFTER	PAID OR		
OPERATIONS-Within "CAPS"	<u>BUDGET</u>	MODIFICATION	<u>CHARGED</u>	RESERVED	CANCELLED
PUBLIC WORKS FUNCTIONS:					
Streets and Road Maintenance:					
Salaries and Wages	100	100	-	100	
Other Expenses	91,224	91,224	61,755	29,469	
Solid Waste Collection(Recycling Program):					
Other Expenses	8,500	8,500	4,200	4,300	
Buildings and Grounds:					
Other Expenses	20,000	20,000	11,066	8,934	
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FUNCTIONS:					
Public Health Services(Board Of Health):					
Salaries and Wages	2,940	2,940	2,940	-	
Other Expenses	2,000	2,000	650	1,350	
Environmental Health Services:					
Salaries and Wages	410	410	408	2	
Other Expenses	500	500	375	125	
Animal Control Services:					
Other Expenses	1,700	4,124	4,124	-	
Contribution to Social Services Agencies:					
Miscellaneous Other Expenses	700	700	-	700	
PARK AND RECREATION FUNCTIONS:					
Recreation Services and Programs:					
Other Expenses	3,000	3,000	1,907	1,093	
Maintenance of Parks:					
Other Expenses	500	500	-	500	
EDUCATION FUNCTIONS (Includes Library):					
Municipal Library:					
Other Expenses	100	100	-	100	

A-3 Sheet 4

	APPRO	<u>PRIATION</u>	EXPENDED		
		BUDGET AFTER	PAID OR		
OPERATIONS-Within "CAPS"	<u>BUDGET</u>	MODIFICATION	<u>CHARGED</u>	RESERVED	CANCELLED
OTHER COMMON OPERATING FUNCTIONS(Unclassified):					
Celebration of Public Events					
Other Expenses	3,000	3,000	54	2,946	
UTILITY EXPENSES AND BULK PURCHASES:					
Electricity	3,800	3,800	2,774	1,026	
Street Lighting	9,000	9,000	8,539	461	
Telephone (excluding equipment acquisition)	6,701	6,701	6,046	655	
Water	190	207	207	_	
Gas (natural or propane)	2,700	2,700	2,371	329	
Municipal Court:					
Other Expenses	4,000	4,000	3,419	581	
Total Operations - Within "CAPS "	609,877	609,877	521,085	88,792	
Detail:					
Salaries and Wages	218,261	214,410	203,879	10,531	-
Other Expenses	391,616	395,467	317,206	78,261	
DEFERRED CHARGES AND STATUTORY					
EXPENDITURES Within "CAPS":					
Statutory Expenditures :					
Social Security System (O.A.S.I.)	14,432	14,432	12,395	2,037	
Contribution to PERS	20,364	20,364	20,364	-	
DCRP Retirement Program	1,600	1,600	1,543	57	
Total Deferred Charges and Statutory					
Expenditures-within "CAPS"	36,396	36,396	34,302	2,094	
Total General Appropriations for					
Municipal Purposes Within "CAPS"	646,273	646,273	555,387	90,886	

A-3 Sheet 5

	<u>APPRO</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	DPRIATION BUDGET AFTER MODIFICATION	EXPENDED PAID OR CHARGED	RESERVED	CANCELLED
OPERATIONS-EXCLUDED from " CAPS"					
Fire Department:					
Other Expenses (LOSAP)	23,500	23,500	-	23,500	
Total Other Operations-Excluded from "CAPS"	23,500	23,500	0	23,500	
Interlocal Municipal Service Agreements:					
Police Department:					
Other Expenses	333,227	333,227	332,227	1,000	
Total Interlocal Municipal Service Agreements:	333,227	333,227	332,227	1,000	-
Public and Private Programs					
Offset by Revenues:					
Clean Communities Program:					
Other Expenses:	4,000	4,000	4,000	-	
NJDOT Grant - River Rd Improvements			-	-	
American Rescue Plan (ARP)	54,742	54,742	54,742	-	
American Rescue Plan (ARP) - Firefighter	51,000	51,000	51,000	-	
Total Public and Private Programs Offset					
by Revenues-Excluded from "CAPS"	109,742	109,742	109,742	-	
Total Operations-Excluded from "CAPS"	466,469	466,469	441,969	24,500	-
Detail:					
Other Expenses	466,469	466,469	441,969	24,500	

A-3 Sheet 6

	В	BUDGET		OGET AFTER		PAID OR HARGED	RESERVED	CA	NCELLED
Capital Improvements-Excluded from "CAPS"	=	<u> </u>	1,101	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	<u>resserves</u>	<u></u>	- (CLLLLL
Capital Improvement Fund		30,000		30,000		30,000	_		
Total Capital Improvements-Excluded from "CAPS"		30,000		30,000		30,000			
Municipal Debt Service:									
Payment of Notes		100,600		100,600		87,500		\$	13,100
Payment of Interest on Notes		10,800		10,800		10,545		Ψ	255
NJEIT Loan-Repaymnt Prin and Int		74,600		74,600		74,386			214
Total Municipal Debt Service		186,000		186,000		172,431			13,569
Deferred Charges- Municipal Excluded from "CAPS"									
Emergency Authorizations		0		0		0			
Total Deferred Charges- Municipal Excluded from "CAPS"		0		0		0			0
Total General Appropriations for Municipal									
Purposes Excluded from "CAPS"		682,469		682,469		644,400	24,500		13,569
•						<u> </u>			
Subtotal General Appropriations		1,328,742		1,328,742		1,199,787	115,386		13,569
Reserve For Uncollected Taxes		137,311		137,311		137,311			
TOTALS	\$	1,466,053	\$	1,466,053	\$	1,337,098	115,386	\$	13,569
REF.							A		A-1
Original Budget			\$	1,466,053					
			\$	1,466,053					
				DEE					
Reserve for State Grants				<u>REF.</u> A-20	\$	109,742			
Deferred Charges				A-20 A-22	Ф	109,742			
Capital Improvement Fund				A-22 C-7		30,000			
Reserve for Encumbrances				C-7 A-9		1,060,045			
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes				A-9 A-2		137,311			
Reserve for Officonfected Taxes				A-2	\$	1,337,098			
					Φ	1,337,098			

$\frac{\text{TRUST FUND}}{\text{COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET}}$

В

ASSETS	REF.	BALANCE 12/31/23	BALANCE 12/31/22
Dog License Fund: Cash and Cash Equivalents Total Dog License Fund	B-2	\$ 10,733 10,733	\$ 8,693 8,693
Other Trust Funds: Cash and Cash Equivalents Amount Due From Current Fund Total Other Trust Funds TOTAL ASSETS	B-2 B-6	498,496 79,913 578,409 \$ 589,142	388,391 79,806 468,197 \$ 476,890
LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE			
Dog License Fund:			
Amount Due To Current Fund	B-5	\$ 8,816	\$ 6,062
Due State Of New Jersey	B-4	1.017	- 2 (21
Reserve for Dog Fund Expenditures	B-3	1,917	2,631
Total Dog License Fund		10,733	8,693
Other Trust Fund:			
Amount Due to Current Fund	B-6	87,329	71,208
Reserve for Escrow Deposits	B-7	193,324	102,366
Reserve for COAH Deposits	B-8	62,700	62,669
Reserve for LOSAP Deposits	B-9	35,517	35,499
Reserve for Open Space Deposits	B-10	140,148	138,369
Reserve for Recreation Trust Deposits	B-11	1,991	686
Reserve for Tax Sale Premiums	B-12	57,400	57,400
Total Other Trust Fund		578,409	468,197
TOTAL LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE		\$ 589,142	\$ 476,890

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

C

	REF.		ALANCE 12/31/23	ALANCE 12/31/22
ASSETS				
Accounts Receivable	C-3	\$	89,689	\$ 89,689
Amount Due Current Fund	C-4		361,046	387,258
Deferred Charges To Future Taxation:				
Funded	C-5		888,704	955,515
Unfunded	C-6		1,025,600	 1,113,100
TOTAL ASSETS		\$	2,365,039	\$ 2,545,562
LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE				
Capital Improvement Fund	C-7	\$	245,109	\$ 215,109
Bond Anticipation Notes	C-9		1,025,600	1,113,100
New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Loan	C-10		822,193	889,004
Improvement Authorizations - Funded	C-8		69,096	81,139
Improvement Authorizations - Unfunded	C-8		201,482	245,651
Capital Fund Balance	C-1	_	1,559	 1,559
TOTAL LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE		\$	2,365,039	\$ 2,545,562

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND SCHEDULE OF FUND BALANCE

C-1

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	C	\$ 1,559
Balance December 31, 2023	C	\$ 1,559

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

E

BALANCE BALANCE REF. 12/31/23 12/31/22

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents E-1 <u>\$ 12,901</u> <u>\$ 12,895</u>

LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

Reserve for Public Assistance \$ 12,901 \$ 12,895

GENERAL FIXED ASSETS STATEMENT OF GENERAL FIXED ASSETS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

F

	BALANCE	BALANCE
	<u>12/31/22</u>	<u>12/31/23</u>
General Fixed Assets:		
Land	\$ 209,300	\$ 209,300
Buildings	646,115	646,115
Machinery and Equipment	33,072	33,072
Total General Fixed Assets	\$ 888,487	\$ 888,487



Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Reporting Entity

GASB Statement No.14 established criteria to be used to determine which component units should be included in the financial statements of the oversight entity. The Division requires the financial statements of the Borough to be reported separately.

The financial statements of the Borough of Califon include every board, body, officer or commission supported and maintained wholly or in part by funds appropriated by the Borough, as The financial statements of the Borough do not include the operations of the Board of Education.

B. Description of Funds

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The GASB Codification establishes fund types and account groups to be used by governmental units when reporting financial position and results of operations in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

The accounting policies of the Borough of Califon conform to the accounting principles applicable to municipalities which have been prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey. Such principles and practices are designed primarily for determining compliance with legal provisions and budgetary restrictions and as a means of reporting on the stewardship of public officials with respect to public funds. Under this method of accounting, the Borough of Califon accounts for its financial transactions through the following separate funds, which differ from the fund structure required by GAAP.

Current Fund

Resources and expenditures for governmental operations of a general nature, including State grants for operations.

Trust Funds

Records the receipts, disbursement and custodianship of monies in accordance with the purpose for which each account was established.

General Capital Fund

The receipts and disbursement of funds for the acquisition of general infrastructure and other capital facilities, other than those acquired in the Current Fund. General bonds and notes payable are recorded in this fund offset by deferred charges to future taxation.

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

B. Description of Funds (Continued)

Public Assistance Fund

Receipt and disbursements of funds that provide assistance to certain residents of the Borough pursuant to the provisions of Title 44 of New Jersey statutes.

General Fixed Assets Account Group

To account for all fixed assets of the Borough. The Borough's infrastructure is not reported in the group.

C. Basis of Accounting

The accounting principles and practices prescribed for municipalities by the State of New Jersey differ in certain respects from generally accepted accounting principles applicable to local government units. The more significant policies in New Jersey follow.

A modified accrual basis of accounting is followed with minor exceptions.

Revenues—are recorded as received in cash except for certain amounts which are due from other governmental units. Receipts from State grants are realized as revenue when anticipated in the Borough budget. Receivables for property taxes are recorded with offsetting reserves on the balance sheet of the Borough's Current Fund; accordingly, such amounts are not recorded as revenue until collected. Other amounts that are due the Borough which are susceptible of accrual are also recorded as receivables with offsetting reserves and recorded as revenue when received.

<u>Expenditures</u>—are recorded on the "budgetary" basis of accounting. Generally expenditures are recorded when an amount is encumbered for goods or services through the issuance of a purchase order in conjunction with the Encumbrance Accounting System. Outstanding encumbrances at December 31, are reported as a cash liability in the financial statements and constitute part of the Township's statutory Appropriation Reserve balance. Appropriation reserves covering unexpended appropriation balances are automatically created at December 31st of each year and recorded as liabilities, except for amounts which may be cancelled by the governing body.

Appropriation reserves are available, until lapsed at the close of the succeeding year, to meet specific claims, commitments or contracts incurred during the preceding fiscal year. Lapsed appropriation reserves are recorded as income. Appropriations for principal payments on outstanding general capital and utility bonds and notes are provided on the cash basis; interest on general capital indebtedness is on the cash basis, whereas interest on utility indebtedness is on the accrual basis.

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting (Continued)

Property Tax Revenue--Real property taxes are assessed locally, based upon the assessed value of the property. The tax bill includes a levy for Municipal, County, Open Space and School purposes. The bills are mailed annually in June for that calendar year's levy. Taxes are payable in four quarterly installments on February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1.

The amounts of the first and second installments are determined as one quarter of the total tax levied against the property for the preceding year. The installment due the third and fourth quarters is determined by taking the current year levy less the amount previously charged for the first and second installments, with the remainder being divided equally.

If unpaid on these dates, the amount due becomes delinquent and subject to interest at 8% per annum, or 18% on any delinquency amount in excess of \$1,500. The school levy is turned over to the Board of Education as expenditures are incurred, and the balance, if any, must be transferred as of June 30, of each fiscal year. County taxes are paid to the County by the Township quarterly on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15. The Open Space Levy is paid quarterly to the Township's other trust funds on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15.

When unpaid taxes or any municipal lien, or part thereof, on real property remains in arrears after the eleventh day of the eleventh month in the year in which they are due, the collector in the municipality shall, subject to provisions of the New Jersey Statutes, enforce the lien by placing the property on a tax sale. Annual in rem tax foreclosure proceedings are instituted to enforce the tax collection or acquisition of title to the property by the Township.

In accordance with the accounting Principles prescribed by the State of New Jersey, current and delinquent taxes are realized as revenue when collected. Since delinquent taxes and liens are fully reserved, no provision has been made to estimate that portion of the taxes receivable and tax title liens that are uncollectible. GAAP required tax revenues to be recognized in the accounting period when they become susceptible to accrual, reduced by an allowance for doubtful accounts.

<u>Deferred School Taxes</u>--A portion of the school taxes collected at December 31 relating to the period January 1 to June 30 of the subsequent year have been included in fund balance. GAAP requires such revenue to be deferred and recognized in the accounting period when it becomes susceptible to accrual.

<u>Foreclosed Property</u>--Foreclosed property is recorded in the Current Fund at the assessed valuation when such property was acquired and is fully reserved.

<u>Interfunds</u>--Interfund receivables in the Current Fund are recorded with offsetting reserves which are created by charges to operations. Income is recognized in the year the receivables are liquidated. Interfund receivables in the other funds are not offset by reserves.

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting (Continued)

<u>Inventories</u> of <u>Supplies</u>--The cost of inventories of supplies for all funds are recorded as expenditures at the time individual items are purchased. The cost of inventories are not included on the various balance sheets.

<u>General Fixed Assets</u>-In accordance with Technical Accounting Directive No. 85-2, Accounting for Governmental Fixed Assets, as promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, which differs in certain respects from generally accepted accounting principles, the municipality develops a fixed asset accounting and reporting system.

Fixed assets used in governmental operations (general fixed assets) are accounted for in the General Fixed Assets Account Group. Public domain ("infrastructure") general fixed assets consisting of certain improvements other than buildings, such as roads, bridges, curbs and gutters, streets and sidewalks and drainage systems are not capitalized.

All fixed assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available except for land which is valued at estimated market value.

No depreciation is to be provided for in the financial statements. Expenditures for construction in progress are recorded in the Capital Funds until such time as the construction is completed and put into operation.

Expenditures for construction in progress are recorded in the Capital Funds until such time as the construction is completed and put into operation.

Fixed assets acquired through grants in aid or contributed capital have not been accounted for separately.

<u>Budget and Budgetary Procedures</u>—The foundation of the New Jersey local finance system is the annual cash basis budget required under the Local Budget Law (N.J.S.A.40A:4-1, et seq.). Every local unit must adopt a budget in the form required by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey (the "Division"). Certain items of revenue and appropriation are regulated by law and the proposed budget must be certified by the Director of the Division ("Director") prior to final adoption. The normal budget calendar begins early in the fiscal year with introduction, public advertisement and after state approval, budget adoption. The cash basis for revenues and budgetary basis for expenditures is the budget basis of accounting.

The Borough is not required to adopt budgets for the following funds:

General Capital Fund Public Assistance Fund Trust fund

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting (Continued)

The governing body shall introduce and approve the annual budget not later than February 10, of the fiscal year. The budget shall be adopted not later than March 20, and prior to adoption, must be certified by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey. The Director of the Division of Local Government Services, with the approval of the Local Finance Board, may extend the introduction and approval and adoption dates of the municipal budget. The budget is prepared by fund, function, activity and line item (salary or other expense) and includes information on the previous year. The legal level of control for appropriations is exercised at the individual line item level for all operating budgets adopted. Emergency appropriations, those made after the adoption of the budget and determination of the tax rate, may be authorized by the governing body of the municipality.

During the last two months of the fiscal year, the governing body may, by a 2/3 vote, amend the budget through line item transfers. Management has no authority to amend the budget without the approval of the Government Body. Expenditures may not legally exceed budgeted appropriations at the line item level.

<u>Expenditures</u>--Are recorded on the "budgetary" basis of accounting. Generally, expenditures are recorded when an amount is encumbered for goods or services through the issuance of a purchase order in conjunction with an encumbrance accounting system. Outstanding encumbrances at December 31, are reported as a cash liability in the financial statements. Unexpended or uncommitted appropriations at December 31, are reported as expenditures through the establishment of appropriations reserves unless cancelled by the governing body. GAAP requires expenditures to be recognized in the accounting period in which the fund liability is incurred, if measurable, except for unmatured interest on general long-term debt, which should be recognized when due.

<u>Tax Appeals and Other Contingent Losses</u>—Losses which arise from tax appeals and other contingent losses are recognized at the time an unfavorable decision is rendered by an administrative or judicial body.

<u>Deferred Charges to Future Taxation Funded and Unfunded</u>--Upon the authorization of capital projects, the Borough establishes deferred charges for the costs of the capital projects to be raised by future taxation. Funded deferred charges relate to permanent debt issued, whereas unfunded deferred charges relate to temporary or non-funding of the authorized cost of capital projects. According to N.J.S.A.40A:2-4, the Borough may levy taxes on all taxable property within the local unit to repay the debt. Annually, the Borough raises the debt requirements for that particular year in the current budget. As the funds are raised by taxation, the deferred charges are reduced.

<u>Comparative Data</u> - Comparative data for the prior year has been presented in the accompanying balance sheets and statements of operations in order to provide an understanding of changes in the municipality's financial position and operations. However, comparative data have not been presented in all statements because their inclusion would make certain statements unduly complex and difficult to understand.

<u>Use</u> <u>of</u> <u>Estimates</u>--The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions. This will affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting (Continued)

<u>Departures</u> <u>from Generally Accepted Accounting Principles</u>--The accounting principles and practices followed by the Borough differ generally accepted accounting principles applicable to local government units. The more significant differences are as follows:

- Taxes and other receivables are fully reserved.
- Interfund receivables in the Current Fund are fully reserved.
- Unexpended and uncommitted appropriations are reflected as expenditures.
- Overexpended appropriations and emergency appropriations are deferred to the succeeding years' operations.
- Undetermined contributions to state-administered pension plans applicable to the six months ended December 31 are not accrued.
- Estimated losses arising from tax appeals and other contingencies are not recorded when it is
 probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of such loss can be reasonably
 estimated

It was not practicable to determine the effect of such difference.

Regulatory-Basis Financial Statements—The GASB Codification also defines the financial statements of a governmental unit to be presented to be in accordance with GAAP. The Borough of Califon presents the financial statements listed in the table of contents which are required by the Division and which differ from the financial statements required by GAAP. In addition, the Division requires the financial statements listed in the table of contents to be referenced to the supplementary schedules. This practice differs from GAAP.

Note 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Deposits:

New Jersey statutes require that municipalities deposit public funds in public depositories located in New Jersey, which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, or by any other agency of the United States that insures deposits made in public depositories. Municipalities are also permitted to deposit public funds in the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

Note 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (Continued)

New Jersey statutes require public depositories to maintain collateral for deposits of public funds that exceed depository insurance limits as follows:

The market value of the collateral must equal at least 5% of the average daily balance of collected public funds on deposit.

In addition to the above collateral requirement, if the public funds deposited exceed 75% of the capital funds of the depository, the depository must provide collateral having a market value at least equal to 100% of the amount exceeding 75%.

All collateral must be deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, or a banking institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and has capital funds of not less than \$25,000,000.

Pursuant to GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures" ("GASB 40"), the municipality's accounts are profiled in order to determine exposure, if any, to Custodial Credit Risk (risk that in the event of failure of the counterparty the municipality would not be able to recover the value of its deposits or investment). Deposits are considered to be exposed to Custodial Credit Risk if they are: uncollateralized or collateralized with securities held by the financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the government's name. At December 31, 2023, all of the municipality's deposits were collateralized by securities held in its name and, accordingly, not exposed to custodial credit risk. The municipality does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

As of December 31, 2023, cash and cash equivalents of the municipality consisted of the following:

	Cash and Cash <u>Equivalents</u>	<u>Total</u>
Checking	\$ 2,709,065 \$ 2,709,065	\$ 2,709,065 \$ 2,709,065

The carrying amount of the municipality's cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2023, was \$2,709,065 and the bank balance was \$3,119,013. All bank balances were covered by federal depository insurance and/or covered by a collateral pool maintained by the banks as required by New Jersey statutes. Of these bank balances, \$250,000 was covered by federal depository insurances and \$2,869,013 was covered by collateral pool.

Note 3: LONG-TERM DEBT

The Local Bond Law governs the issuance of bonds and notes to finance general municipal expenditures. All bonds issued by the Borough are general obligation bonds, backed by the full faith and credit of the Borough. Bond anticipation notes, which are issued by temporarily finance capital projects, must be paid off within ten years or retired by issuance of bonds.

The Borough debt is summarized as follows:

Summary of Municipal Debt

<u>, </u>				
		YEAR	YEAR	YEAR
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Issued				
General:				
Bonds and Notes	\$	1,847,793	\$ 2,002,104	\$ 1,687,415
Total Deductions		NONE	 NONE	 NONE
Net Debt Issued	<u>\$</u>	1,847,793	\$ 2,002,104	\$ 1,687,415
Authorized But Not Issued				
Total Authoirzed But Not Issued	\$	66,511	\$ 66,511	\$ 466,511
Net Bonds and Notes Issued				
and Authorized But Not Issued	<u>\$</u>	1,914,304	\$ 2,068,615	\$ 2,153,926

Summary of Statutory Debt Condition - Annual Debt Statement

The summarized statement of debt condition which follows is prepared in accordance with the required method of setting up the Annual Debt Statement and indicates a statutory net debt of 1.132%.

	Gross Debt	Deductions	Net Debt
Local School District Debt	None	None	None
Regional School District Debt	236,784	236,784	-
General Debt	1,914,304		1,914,304
	\$ 2,151,088	\$ 236,784	\$ 1,914,304

Net Debt \$ 1,914,304 Divided by Equalized Valuation Basis per N.J.S.A. 40A:2-2 as amended, \$ 169,140,947 = 1.132%

Note 3: LONG-TERM DEBT - (Continued)

Borrowing Power Under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-6 As Amended

3 1/2% of Equalized Valuation Basis (Municipal)	\$	5,919,933
Net Debt	_	1,914,304
Remaining Borrowing Power	\$	4,005,629

General Obligation Loans

General Obligation Loan-Main Street Storm Water Management System-dated May 26, 2016 with the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Financing Program in the original amount of \$1,018,949. This loan is payable in semi-annual installments ranging from \$17,270 to \$34,541 through August 1, 2035. This loan is an interest free loan. The remaining balance as of December 31, 2023, was \$592,193. Outstanding loan principal and interest is paid from the Current Fund budget.

General Obligation Loan-Main Street Storm Water Management System-dated May 26, 2016 with the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Financing Program in the original amount of \$325,000. This loan is payable in annual principal installments ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 through August 1, 2035. Interest is calculated at 2.0% - 5.00% and is payable in semi-annual installments. The remaining balance as of December 31, 2023, was \$230,000. Outstanding loan principal and interest is paid from the Current Fund budget.

Bond Anticipation Notes

The Borough has outstanding at December 31, 2023, bond anticipation notes in the amount of \$1,025,600 payable to Amboy Bank. These notes mature on March 26, 2024. The interest rate on the notes are 4.20% per annum. Principal and interest on this note is paid from the current fund budget.

	Debt
	Outstanding
General Obligation Loans Above	\$ 822,193
Bond Anticipation Notes Above	1,025,600
Total Debt Issued and Outstanding	\$ 1,847,793

Note 3: LONG-TERM DEBT - (Continued)

B. Debt Service Requirements:

Debt Service requirements on loans payable at December 31, 2023, is as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	<u>Principal</u>		<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>		
2024	\$	66,811	\$ 6,825	\$	73,636	
2025		66,811	6,225		73,036	
2026		66,811	5,625		72,436	
2027		66,811	4,825		71,636	
2028		66,811	4,025		70,836	
Thereafter		488,138	 15,675		503,813	
	\$	822,193	\$ 43,200	\$	865,393	

Note 4: GENERAL FIXED ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in the general fixed assets:

	Balance			Adjustments/		Balance
		1/1/23	Additions	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>1</u>	12/31/23
T 1	¢.	200 200			ď	200 200
Land	\$	209,300			\$	209,300
Buildings		646,115				646,115
Equipment		33,072				33,072
	\$	888,487	-	-	\$	888,487
		Balance		Adjustments/		Balance
		1/1/22	Additions	<u>Deletions</u>	1	12/31/22
Land	\$	209,300			\$	209,300
Buildings		646,115				646,115
Equipment		33,072				33,072
	\$	888,487	-	-	\$	888,487

Note 5: FUND BALANCES APPROPRIATED

Fund Balances at December 31, 2023, which were appropriated and included as anticipated revenue in their own respective funds for the year ending December 31, 2024, were as follows:

Current Fund - \$120,000*

^{*}Approved (Introduced) Budget

Note 6: DEFERRED CHARGES TO BE RAISED IN SUCCEEDING BUDGETS

Certain expenditures are required to be deferred to budgets of succeeding years. At December 31, 2023 there were no deferred charges that are required to be raised in succeeding budgets.

Note 7: SCHOOL TAXES

Regulations provide for the deferral of not more than 50% of the annual levy when school taxes are raised for a school year and have not been requisitioned by the school district.

The Borough of Califon had elected in 1975 to raise local district school taxes on a calendar year basis.

Local District Tax and Regional High School Tax have been raised and liabilities deferred by statute (under provisions of C.63, P.L.1991, as amended), resulting in the school taxes payable set forth in the Current Fund liabilities as follows:

	TOTAL	LOCAL	DISTRICT	STRICT TOTAL			REGIONAL			
	DEFERRED	SCHO	OL TAX	DE	FERRED	HIGH SCHOOL TAX				
	TAX	BALANCE	BALANCE		TAX	В	ALANCE	B	ALANCE	
	12/31/23	12/31/23	12/31/22	1	2/31/22		12/31/23	12/31/22		
Balance of Tax		\$ 174,621	132,972			\$	591,342	\$	612,478	
Deferred		<u>NONE</u>	<u>NONE</u>				215,567		215,567	
Tax Payable		<u>\$ 174,621</u>	132,972			\$	375,775	\$	396,911	
Tax Deferred	\$ 215,567			\$	215,567					

Note 8: PENSION PLANS

<u>Description of Plans</u> - All required employees of the municipality are covered by either the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), the Police and Fireman's Retirement System (PFRS), or the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (DCRP) which have been established by state statute and are administered by the New Jersey Division of Pension and Benefits (Division). According to the State of New Jersey Administrative Code, all obligations of both Systems will be assumed by the State of New Jersey should the Systems terminate. The Division issues a publicly available financial report that includes the financial statements and required supplementary information for the Public Employees Retirement System. These reports may be obtained by writing to the Division of Pension and Benefits, PO Box 295, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625 or on the internet at http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/annrprts.shtml.

Note 8: PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

<u>Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS)</u> - The Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) was established as of January 1, 1955 under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:15A to provide retirement, death, disability and medical benefits to certain qualified members. The Public Employees' Retirement System is a cost-sharing multiple-employer plan. Membership is mandatory for substantially all full-time employees of the State of New Jersey or any county, municipality, school municipality, or public agency, provided the employee is not required to be a member of another state-administered retirement system or other state or local jurisdiction.

<u>Vesting and Benefit Provisions</u> -The vesting and benefit provisions are set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A. PERS provides retirement, death and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service, except for medical benefits, which vest after 25 years of service or under the disability provisions of PERS.

The following represents the membership tiers for PERS:

Tier Definition

- 1 Members who were enrolled prior to July 1,2007
- 2 Members who were eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008
- 3 Members who were eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010
- 4 Members who were eligible to enroll on or after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011
- 5 Members who were eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011

Service retirement benefits of 1/55th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, tiers 3 and 4 before age 62 with 25 or more years of service credit and tier 5 with 30 or more years of service credit before age 65. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the age at which a member can receive full early retirement benefits in accordance with their respective tier. Tier 1 members can receive an unreduced benefit from age 55 to age 60 if they have at least 25 years of service. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective tier.

The PERS provides for specified medical benefits for members who retire after achieving 25 years of qualified service, as defined, or under the disability provisions of the System. Members are always fully vested for their own contributions and, after three years of service credit, become vested for 2% of related interest earned on the contributions. In the case of death before retirement, members' beneficiaries are entitled to full interest credited to the members' accounts.

<u>Contribution Requirements</u> - The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A, Chapter 62, P.L. of 1994, Chapter 115, P.L. of 1997 (PERS) requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. Plan member and employer contributions may be amended by State of New Jersey legislation. PERS provides for employee contributions of 6.5% of employees' annual compensation, as defined. Employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate in the PERS. The current PERS rate is 6.5% of covered payroll.

Note 8: PENSION PLANS (Continued)

<u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> - New Jersey's municipalities and counties do not follow GASP accounting principles and, as such, do not follow GASP requirements with respect to recording the net pension liability or related deferred outflows or inflows of resources on their balance sheets, or related plan pension expense. However, N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.1(c)(2) requires municipalities and counties to disclose GASP 68 information in the Notes to the Financial Statements. Accordingly, the municipality's portion of the net pension liability, related outflows and inflows of resources, and pension expense are for disclosure purposes only and do not effect the municipality's regulatory basis fund balance, statement of revenues and expenditures, or operations. For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense as required by GASP No. 68, information about the fiduciary net position of the PERS and additions to/deductions from PERS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERS.

<u>Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u>

At June 30, 2023, the municipality disclosed a liability of \$243,703 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2022. This is a departure from generally accepted accounting principles, as the measurement date is to be no more than twelve months before the municipality's fiscal year end of December 31, 2023. The municipality's proportion of the net pension liability is based on the ratio of the contributions as an individual employer to total contributions to the PERS during the years ended June 30, 2022 and 2021. At June 30, 2022, the municipality's proportion was 0.00162% which was a increase of 0.00007% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the State fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the municipality's portion of the plan's pension expense/(benefit) was (\$28,056). At June 30, 2022, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources for PERS relating to the municipality's proportionate share are from the following sources:

	$\underline{\mathbf{D}}$	eferred	<u>I</u>	Deferred
	Ou	tflows of	<u>Ir</u>	flows of
	Re	esources	<u>R</u>	esources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	1,759	\$	1,551
Changes of assumptions		755		36,492
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		10,087		-
Changes in proportion and differences between municipality contributions and proportionate share of contributions		10,061		27,521
Total	\$	22,662	\$	65,564

Note 8: PENSION PLANS (Continued)

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

	Year Ended June 30:
2023	\$35,250
2024	17,959
2025	8,758
2026	-19,107
2027	<u>42</u>
Total	\$42,902

6/20/2022

6/20/2023

	0/30/2022	0/30/2023
Collective deferred outflows of resources	\$1,164,738,169	\$1,660,772,008
Collective deferred inflows of resources	8,339,123,762	3,236,303,935
Collective net pension liability (Non State - Local Group)	\$11,972,782,878	\$15,031,343,079
municipality's proportionate share of net pension liability	\$183,486	\$243,703
municipality's proportion %	0.00153253%	0.00162130%

Actuarial assumptions - The collective total pension liability for the June 30, 2022 measurement date was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2022. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation: 2.75% Price, 3.25% Wage

Salary Increases: 2.75%-6.55% based on years of service

Investment Rate of Return: 7.00%

Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Employee mortality table with an 82.2% adjustment for males and 101.4% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Healthy Retiree mortality table with a 91.4% adjustment for males and 99.7% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Disability retirement rates used to value disabled retirees were based on the Pub-2010 Non-Safety Disabled Retiree mortality table with a 127.7% adjustment for males and 117.2% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Mortality improvement is based on Scale MP-2021

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2021 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Note 8: PENSION PLANS (Continued)

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return - In accordance with State statute, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments (7.00% at June 30, 2022) is determined by the State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the Division of Investment and Division of Pensions and Benefits, the board of trustees and the actuaries. The long-term expected rate of return was determined using a building block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan 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 rates of return for each major · asset class included in PERS's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2022 are summarized in the following table:

		Long-Term Expected Real
Asset Class	Target Allocation	Rate of Return
U.S. Equity	27.00%	8.12%
Non-U.S. develop markets equity	13.50%	8.38%
Emerging markets equity	5.50%	10.33%
Private Equity	13.00%	11.80%
Real Estate	8.00%	11.19%
Real Assets	3.00%	7.60%
High Yeild	4.00%	4.95%
Private Credit	8.00%	8.10%
Investment Grade Credit	7.00%	3.38%
Cash Equivalents	4.00%	1.75%
US Treasuries	4.00%	1.75%
Risk Mitigation Strategies	3.00%	4.91%

Discount rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers and the nonemployer contributing entity will be based on 100% of the actuarially determined contributions for the State employer and 100% of actuarially determined contributions for the local employers. Based on those assumptions, the 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 plan investments was applied to all projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate - The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability measured as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension 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 rate:

			Current			
	19	% Decrease	Discount Rate	1%	Increase	
		(6.00%)	<u>(7.00%)</u>	(8.00%)		
Municipality's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$	313,085	\$243,703	\$	184,654	

Note 8: PENSION PLANS (Continued)

<u>Pension plan fiduciary net position</u> - Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued State of New Jersey Divisions of Pensions and Benefits financial report at http://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/financial-rprts-home.shtml.

<u>Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (DCRP)</u> - The Defined Contribution Retirement Program (DCRP) was established as of July 1, 2007 under the provisions of Chapter 92, P.L. 2007 and Chapter 103, P.L. 2007 (N.J.S.A. 43:15C-1 et seq.). The DCRP is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined contribution pension fund. The DCRP provides eligible members, and their beneficiaries with a tax-sheltered, defined contribution retirement benefit, along with life insurance and disability coverage. Vesting and benefit provisions are established by N.J.S.A. 43:15C-1 et. seq.

The contribution requirements of plan members are determined by state statute. In accordance with Chapter 92, P.L. 2007 and Chapter 103, P.L. 2007, plan members are required to contribute 5.5% of their annual covered salary. The State Treasurer has the right under current law to make temporary reductions in member rates based on the existence of surplus plan assets in the retirement system; however statute also requires the return to the normal rate when such surplus pension assets no longer exist.

<u>Significant Legislation</u> - Chapter 78, P.L. 2011, effective June 28, 2011 made various changes to the manner in which the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and the Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS) operate and to the benefit provisions of those systems.

Chapter 78's provisions impacting employee pension and health benefits include:

□ New members of the PERS hired on or after June 28, 2011 (Tier 5 members) will need 30 years of

creditable service and age 65 for receipt of the early retirement benefit without a reduction of ¼ of 1% for
each month that the member is under age 65. The eligibility age to qualify for a service retirement in the
PERS is increased from age 63 to 65 for Tier 5 members. The annual benefit under special retirement for
new PFRS members enrolled after June 28, 2011 (Tier 3 members), will be 60% instead of 65% of the
member's final compensation plus 1% for each year of creditable service over 25 years but not to exceed 30
years. □ Increases in active member contribution rates. PERS active member rates increase from 5.5% of
annual compensation to 6.5% plus an additional 1% phased-in over 7 years; PFRS active member rate
increase from 8.5% to 10%. For fiscal year 2012, the member contribution rates increased in October 2011.
The phase-in of the additional incremental member contribution rates for PES members will take place in
July of each subsequent fiscal year.
□ The payment of automatic cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) additional increases to current and future retirees and beneficiaries is suspended until reactivated as permitted by this law. □ New employee contribution requirements towards the cost of employer-provided health benefit coverage. Employees are required to contribute a certain percentage of the cost of coverage. The rate of contribution is determined based on the employee's annual salary and the selected level of coverage. The increased employee contributions will be phased in over a 4-year period for those employed prior to Chapter 78'sceffective date with a minimum contribution required to becat least 1.5% of salary. □ In addition, this new legislation changes the method for amortizing the pension systems' unfunded accrued liability (from a level percent of pay method to a level dollar of pay).

Note 8: PENSION PLANS (Continued)

Three-Year Trend Information for PERS

Year	Annual Pension
<u>Funding</u>	Contribution (PERS)
2023	\$20,364
2022	\$18,139
2021	\$17,159

Note 9: OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

P.L. 1987, c. 384 and P.L. 1990, c.6 required Teachers' Pensions and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), respectively, to fund post-retirement medical benefits for those state employees who retire after accumulating 25 years of credited service or on a disability retirement. P.L. 2007, c.103 amended the law to eliminate the funding of post-retirement medical benefits through the TPAF and PERS. It created separate funds outside of the pension plans for the funding and payment of post-retirement medical benefits for retired state employees and retired educational employees. The cost of these benefits is funded through contributions by the State in accordance with P.L. 1994, c.62. Funding of post-retirement medical benefits changed from a pre-funding basis to a pay-as-you-go basis beginning in Fiscal Year 1994.

The State is also responsible for the cost attributable to P.L. 1992, c.126, which provides employer paid health benefits to members of PERS and the Alternate Benefit Program (APB) who retired from a board of education or county college with 25 years of service (GASB Cod. Sec. 2300.106(g).

GASB Statement No. 75 requires certain disclosures relating to governmental entities obligations for other post-employment benefits (OPEB), which are post-employment benefits other than pensions. The Municipality does not provide post-employment benefits other than pension.

Note 10: LEASES

The Borough has not entered into any long-term lease agreements except for equipment which can be capitalized as installment purchases of fixed assets in accordance with Technical Accounting Directive No. 85-2.

Note 11: ACCRUED SICK AND VACATION BENEFITS

As discussed in Note 1 and in accordance with accounting principles prescribed by the State of New Jersey, the cash basis of accounting is followed for recording the liability related to unused sick pay.

The Borough does not permit employees to annually accrue unused vacation time. In addition, all full-time salaried employees shall be entitled to a maximum of twelve (12) sick days per year and two (2) personal leave days with full salary paid for the day and that sick days cannot be accumulated. In accordance with New Jersey principles, any amounts are not reported as an expenditure or liability in the financial statements.

Note 12: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

GRANT PROGRAMS

The Borough participated in a number of state assisted grant programs administered at the state level. These programs, exclusive of the single audit concept, can be subject to program compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. Accordingly, the Borough's compliance with certain applicable grant requirements will be established at some future date. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time although the Borough expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

LITIGATION

There are pending lawsuits in which the Borough is involved. The municipal attorney estimates that the potential claims against the Borough not covered by insurance resulting from such litigation would not materially affect the financial statements of the Borough.

Note 13: INTERFUND BALANCES

Individual fund interfund receivable and payable balances. All interfund receivable and payable balances outstanding at the beginning of the fiscal period were fully liquidated during the fiscal period, with the following exceptions outstanding at December 31, 2023:

<u>FUND</u>	DUE FROM OTHER FUNDS	DUE TO OTHER FUNDS				
Current Fund	\$ 38,745	\$ 770,545				
Federal and State Grants Fund	386,986	-				
Animal Control Fund	-	8,816				
Other Trust Fund	79,913	87,329				
General Capital Fund	361,046					
	\$ 866,690	\$ 866,690				

Note 13: INTERFUND BALANCES - (Continued)

Cash Activity for the General Capital Fund and the Federal and State Grants Fund is transacted through the current fund bank account, therefore an Interfund receivable is established in the general capital fund and the Federal and State Grants Fund from the Current Fund.

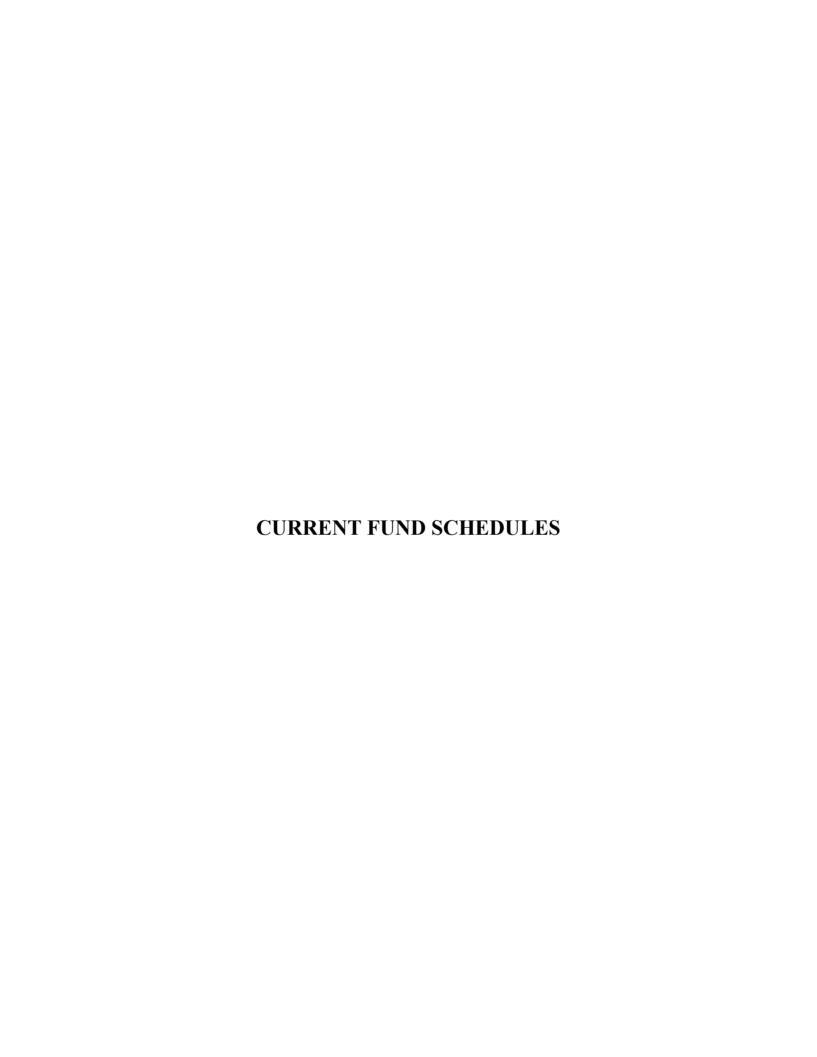
Note 14: RISK FINANCING

The Borough is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from coverage in the prior year.

Note 15: TAX ABATEMENTS

As defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), a tax abatement is an agreement between a government and an individual or entity in which the government promises to forgo tax revenues and the individual or entity promises to subsequently take a specific action that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the government or its citizens. The municipality has not entered into any tax abatement agreements.

PART I I SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>SCHEDULE OF CASH-TREASURER</u>

	REF.		
Balance December 31, 2022	A		\$ 2,145,872
Increased by Receipts:			
Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated	A-2	\$ 43,962	
Collector	A-5	5,463,758	
Revenue Accounts Receivable	A-7	197,293	
Payroll Deductions	A-12	37,862	
Amount Due State of New Jersey For			
Senior Citizens/Veterans Deductions	A-17	5,000	
Reserve for Perc Test Deposits	A-18	740	
State Grants	A-19:21	4,000	5,752,615
		_	7,898,487
Decreased by Disbursements:			
Interfund Advances/(Returns)	A/B/C	86,622	
Appropriation Reserves	A-8	38,443	
Reserve for Encumbrances	A-9	1,060,149	
Tax Overpayments Refunded	A-11	-	
Payroll Deduction Payments	A-12	37,785	
County Taxes	A-13	658,452	
Local District School Tax	A-14	2,501,518	
Regional High School Tax	A-15	1,203,824	
Due to Municipal Open Space Fund	A-16	31,012	
Reserve for Perc Test Deposits	A-18	600	
State Grant Funds	A-20	93,147	5,711,552
Balance December 31, 2023	A		\$ 2,186,935

CURRENT FUND SCHEDULE OF CASH-COLLECTOR

	REF.		
Received:			
Taxes Overpaid	A-11 \$	174	
Interest and Costs on Taxes	A-2	17,809	
Taxes Receivable	A-6	5,434,416	
Miscellaneous	A-2	100	
2023 Prepaid Taxes	A-10 _	11,259	\$ 5,463,758
Decreased by Disbursements:			
Payments To Treasurer	A-4		\$ 5,463,758

CURRENT FUND SCHEDULE OF TAXES RECEIVABLE AND ANALYSIS OF TAX LEVY

<u>YEAR</u>		ALANCE 2/31/22		DDED AXES		2023 <u>LEVY</u>	CASH COI 2022	LLE	<u>CTIONS</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>C</u> A	ANCELLED		BALANCE 12/31/23
2022 2023	\$	96,509	\$	11,720	\$	5,473,706	\$ 14,550	\$	108,229 5,330,937	\$	29,854	\$	98,365
TOTALS	\$	96,509	\$	11,720	\$	5,473,706	\$ 14,550	\$	5,439,166	\$	29,854	\$	98,365
REF.		A					A-10						A
State of New Jersey-Senior C Veterans Deductions Received by Collector	Citiz	ens/					A-2 A-5	\$	4,750 5,434,416 5,439,166				
ANALYSIS OF PROPERTY	Z TA	AX LEVY	<u>:</u>										
Tax Yield:													
General Purpose Tax										\$	5,440,848		
Special District Tax											29,797	_	
Added/Omitted Taxes (5	4:4-	63.1 et.sec	Į.)								3,061	\$	5,473,706
Tax Levy:													
Local District School Tax	X						A-14			\$	2,543,167		
Regional High School Ta	ax						A-15				1,182,688		
County Taxes:													
County Tax (Abstract)	1						A-13	\$	545,625				
County Library Tax (A							A-13		53,578				
County Open Space (A							A-13		52,109				
Due County for Added													
Omitted Taxes (54.4	4-63	.1, et.seq.))				A-13		364		651,676		
Municipal Open Space							A-16				29,814		
Local Tax for Municipal		•					A-2				1,062,638		
Add: Additional Tax Lev	ried	(Added/O	mitte	d Taxes, F	Rate	Rounding)					3,723	\$	5,473,706

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF REVENUE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Clark	<u>REF.</u>	BALANCE 12/31/22	ACCRUED <u>IN 2023</u>		DLLECTED BY REASURER	BALANCE <u>12/31/23</u>
Clerk:						
Licenses:						
Alcoholic Beverages	A-2		\$ 5,063	\$	5,063	
Interest on Investments and Deposits	A-2		64,161		64,161	
Energy Receipts Tax	A-2		116,048	}	116,048	
Municipal Relief Fund Aid	A-2		12,021		12,021	
Totals	•	-	\$ 197,293	\$	197,293	-
REE		<u> </u>	۸.2		A 1	<u> </u>
REF.		A	A-2		A-4	A

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF APPROPRIATION RESERVES - 2022

		LANCE /31/22		ALANCE AFTER ANSFERS	PAID OR IARGED	LANCE <u>APSED</u>
General Administration:						
Other Expenses	\$	7,463	\$	7,463	\$ 1,976	\$ 5,487
Computerized Data Processing:						
Other Expenses		2,559		2,559	382	2,177
Revenue Administration: (Tax Coll.)						
Other Expenses		354		354	100	254
Road Maintenance						
Other Expenses		32,610		32,610	27,263	5,347
Legal Services						
Other Expenses		17,713		17,713	3,953	13,760
Engineering Services:						
Other Expenses		4,920		4,920	135	4,785
Fire Department:						
Salaries and Wages		1,561		1,561	366	1,195
Other Expenses (LOSAP)						-
Police Department:						
Other Expenses		1,000		1,000	265	735
Buildings and Grounds:						
Other Expenses		11,031		11,031	510	10,521
Public Health:						
Other Expenses		829		829	829	-
Recreation:						
Other Expenses		3,974		3,974	61	3,913
Utility Expenses:						
Electricity		262		262	262	-
Street Lighting		1,504		1,504	1,504	-
Telephone		488		488	360	128
Water		27		27	18	9
Gas		824		824	459	365
Others - No Change		28,310		28,310		28,310
	\$ 1	115,429	\$	115,429	\$ 38,443	\$ 76,986
REF.		A		A	A-4	A-1
Prior Year Appropriation Reserve		A	\$	115,325		
Prior Year Encumbrances		A-9	Ψ	113,323		
1 1101 1 cai Elicumorances		11)	\$	115,429		
			<u> </u>	113,449		

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR ENCUMBRANCES

A-9

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF TAXES COLLECTED IN ADVANCE

		A-10
	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	A	\$ 14,550
Increased by: 2023 Taxes Collected in Advance	A-5	 11,259 25,809
Decreased by: Applied to 2023 Taxes Receivable	A-6	 14,550
Balance December 31, 2023	A	\$ 11,259

CURRENT FUND SCHEDULE OF TAXES OVERPAID

		A-11
	<u>REF.</u>	
Balance December 31, 2022	A	\$ 27,361
Increased by: Overpayments of 2023 Taxes	A-5	<u>174</u> 27,535
Balance December 31, 2023	A	\$ 27,535

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS PAYABLE

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	A	\$ 1,098
Increased by: Payroll Deductions	A-4	37,862 38,960
Decreased by: Payment of Payroll Tax Liabilities	A-4	37,785
Balance December 31, 2023	A	\$ 1,175

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF COUNTY TAXES PAYABLE

	<u>REF.</u>		
Balance December 31, 2022	A		\$ 7,140
Increased by: 2023 Levy: County Taxes County Library Taxes County Open Space Tax Prior Year Added and Omitted Taxes	A-6 A-6 A-6 A-6	\$ 545,625 53,578 52,109 364	651,676 658,816
Decreased by: Payments	A-4		658,452
Balance December 31, 2023	A		\$ 364

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF LOCAL DISTRICT SCHOOL TAX PAYABLE

	REF.		
Balance December 31, 2022: School Tax Payable		\$ 132,972	
School Tax Deferred	A	<u>NONE</u>	\$ 132,972
Increased by:			
Levy - Calendar Year 2023	A-6		2,543,167
D 11			2,676,139
Decreased by:			
Payments	A-4		2,501,518
Balance December 31, 2023:			
School Tax Payable		\$ 174,621	
School Tax Deferred	A	NONE	\$ 174,621
2023 Liability for Local District School Tax:			
Tax Paid			\$ 2,501,518
Tax Payable 12/31/23			174,621
,			2,676,139
			_,0,0,10,
Less Tax Payable 12/31/22			132,972
Amount Charged to 2023 Operations	A-1		\$ 2,543,167

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>SCHEDULE OF REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TAX PAYABLE</u>

	REF.		
Balance December 31, 2022: School Tax Payable		\$ 396,911	
School Tax Deferred	A	<u>215,567</u>	\$ 612,478
Increased by:			
Levy - School Year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023	A-6		1,182,688 1,795,166
Decreased by:			
Payments	A-4		1,203,824
Balance December 31, 2023:			
School Tax Payable		375,775	
School Tax Deferred	A	215,567	\$ 591,342
2023 Liability for Regional High School Tax:			
Tax Paid			\$ 1,203,824
Tax Payable 12/31/23			591,342
·			1,795,166
Less Tax Payable 12/31/22			612,478
Amount Charged to 2023 Operations	A-1		\$ 1,182,688

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL OPEN SPACE TAX PAYABLE</u>

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	A	\$ 21,720
Increased by: 2023 Municipal Open Space Tax Including Added Taxes	A-6	29,814 51,534
Decreased by: Open Space Expenditures Paid by Current Fund	A-4	31,012
Balance December 31, 2023	Α	\$ 20.522

CURRENT FUND

SCHEDULE OF AMOUNT DUE TO STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND VETERANS DEDUCTIONS

	REF.		
Balance December 31, 2022	A		\$ (533)
Increased by: Received in Cash from State	A-4		 5,000 4,467
Decreased by: Senior Citizens Deductions Per Tax Billings Veterans Deductions per Tax Billings	A-6 A-6	\$ 500 4,250	 4,750
Balance December 31, 2023	A		\$ (283)
ANALYSIS OF BALANCE			
Amount Due from State of N.J Pre 1/1/78 Amount Due to State of N.J Post 1/1/78		\$ (2,720) 2,437	\$ (283)

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR PERC TEST DEPOSITS

	<u>REF.</u>	
Balance December 31, 2022	A	\$ 66
Increased by: Receipts	A-4	<u>740</u> 806
Decreased by: Payments	A-4	600
Balance December 31, 2023	A	\$ 206
Detail: Lead Tests Perc Tests		\$ 140 66 \$ 206

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>SCHEDULE OF STATE GRANTS RECEIVABLE</u>

<u>PURPOSE</u>	BALANCE 12/31/22	RECEIVABLE	RECEIVED	BALANCE 12/31/23
Clean Communities Program	-	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	-
ARP - Firefighter	-	51,000		\$ 51,000
NJDOT-Cokesbury/Crestmore/Cloverhill/Limerock Lane	\$ 55,000			55,000
Highlands Grant - Stream Corridor	185			185
Highlands Grant - Plan Conformance	54,644			54,644
FEMA - Hazard Mitigation	17,779			17,779
Totals	\$ 127,608	\$ 55,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 178,608
REF.	A	A-2	A-4	A

CURRENT FUND SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR STATE GRANTS

				ANSFER			
]	BALANCE 12/31/22	2023	FROM B BUDGET OPRIATIONS	EX	<u> PENDED</u>	LANCE 2/31/23
Clean Communities Grant: CY2023 Prior Years	\$	11,208	\$	4,000	\$	642	\$ 4,000 10,566
NJ Department of Transportation - Main Street Resurfacing		210,530					210,530
NJDOT-Cokesbury/Crestmore/Cloverhill/Limerock Lane		55,000					55,000
NJ Department of Transp River Road Improvement		150,000					150,000
ANJEC Grant		690				453	237
American Rescue Plan		54,742		54,742		47,679	61,805
American Rescue Plan - Firefighter				51,000		42,993	8,007
Highlands Grant - Stream Corridor		1,499					1,499
Highlands Grant - Plan Conformance		47,551				1,380	46,171
FEMA - Hazard Mitigation		17,779					17,779
Totals	\$	548,999	\$	109,742	\$	93,147	\$ 565,594
REF		A		A-3		A-4	A
		64					

<u>CURRENT FUND</u> <u>SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR STATE GRANTS-UNAPPROPRIATED</u>

		TRANSFER					
		TO					
		BALANCE 2023 BUDGET		BALANCE			
		12	2/31/22	<u>APPRO</u>	<u>PRIATIONS</u>	12/31/23	
American Rescue Plan (ARP)	:	\$	54,742	\$	54,742	-	
Totals		\$	54,742	\$	54,742	_	_
	REF.		A		A-3	A	



$\frac{\text{TRUST FUND}}{\text{SCHEDULE OF CASH - TREASURER}}$

	REF.	DOG <u>LICENSES</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
Balance December 31, 2022	В	\$ 8,693	\$ 388,391
Increased by Receipts:			
Dog License Fees	B-3	1,862	
State Dog License Fees	B-4	173	
Due Current Fund	B-5:6	5	-
Escrow Trust Deposits	B-7		107,079
COAH Deposits	B-8		31
LOSAP Deposits	B-9		18
Open Space Deposits	B-10	<u>-</u> _	2,977
Total Receipts		2,040	110,105
		10,733	498,496
Decreased by Disbursements:			
Expenditures Under R. S. 4:19-15.11	B-3	-	-
Due Current Fund	B-5:6	-	-
Escrow Trust Deposits Returned	B-7	-	-
COAH Expenditures	B-8		
Total Disbursements		-	-
Balance December 31, 2023	В	\$ 10,733	\$ 498,496

$\frac{\text{TRUST FUND}}{\text{SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR DOG FUND EXPENDITURES}}$

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	В	\$ 2,631
Increased by: Dog License Fees Collected	B-2	1,862 4,493
Decreased by: Expenditures Under R.S. 4:29-15.11	B-5	2,576
Balance December 31, 2023	В	\$ 1,917

TRUST FUND SCHEDULE OF AMOUNT DUE TO STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

	<u>REF.</u>
Increased by: Collected in 2023: State Board of Health Fees	B-2 <u>\$ 173</u>
Decreased By: Payments	B-5 <u>\$ 173</u>

TRUST FUND SCHEDULE OF AMOUNT DUE CURRENT FUND ANIMAL CONTROL FUND

	REF.			
Balance December 31, 2022	В		\$	6,062
Increased by: Interest Credits Due to Current Fund Animal Control Expenditures Paid by Current Fund Animal Control State Fees Paid by Current Fund	B-2 \$ B-3 B-4	5 2,576 173		2,754 8,816
Balance December 31, 2023	В		<u>\$</u>	8,816

TRUST FUND SCHEDULE OF AMOUNT DUE CURRENT FUND OTHER TRUST FUND

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	В	\$ 8,598
Increased by: Recreation Trust Receipts Received in Current Fund	B-11 \$ 11,005	
Added Levy- Municipal Open Space Tax Municipal Open Space Tax Levy	B-10 17 B-10 29,797	40,819
		49,417
Decreased by: Escrow Trust Expenditures Paid from Current Fund Recreation Trust Expenditures Paid from Current Fund Open Space Expenditures Paid by Current Fund	B-7 16,121 B-11 9,700 B-10 31,012	
Balance December 31, 2023	B B	\$ (7,416)
Balance Detail:		
Escrow Trust Fund Tax Sale Premiums		\$ (87,329) 57,400
Municipal Open Space Trust Fund Recreation Trust Fund		20,522 1,991 \$ (7,416)
		<u>v (/,410)</u>

TRUST FUND SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR ESCROW TRUST FUND DEPOSITS

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	В	\$ 102,366
Increased by: Escrow Deposits	B-2	 107,079 209,445
Decreased by: Escrow Deposits Returned	B-6	 16,121
Balance December 31, 2023	В	\$ 193,324

$\frac{\text{TRUST FUND}}{\text{SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR COAH REHABILITATION PROGRAM}}$

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	A	\$ 62,669
Increased by: COAH Deposits Received	B-2	 31 62,700
Balance December 31, 2023	A	\$ 62,700

TRUST FUND SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR LOSAP PROGRAM

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	В	\$ 35,499
Increased by: LOASP Deposits-Interest/Other	B-2	18 35,517
Balance December 31, 2023	В	\$ 35,517

$\frac{\text{TRUST FUND}}{\text{SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR OPEN SPACE TRUST DEPOSITS}}$

	REF.		
Balance December 31, 2022	В		\$ 138,369
Increased by:			
Added Levy - Municipal Open Space Tax	B-6	\$ 17	
Open Space Trust Deposits - Interest	B-2	2,977	
Open Space Trust - Levy	B-6	29,797	 32,791
			171,160
Decreased by:			
Open Space Expenditures Paid by Current Fund	B-6		 31,012
Balance December 31, 2023	В		\$ 140,148

$\frac{\text{TRUST FUND}}{\text{SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR RECREATION TRUST}}$

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	В	\$ 686
Increased by: Receipts	B-6	 11,005 11,691
Decreased by: Expenditures	B-6	 9,700
Balance December 31, 2023	В	\$ 1,991

TRUST FUND SCHEDULE OF RESERVE FOR TAX SALE PREMIUMS

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	В	\$ 57,400
Balance December 31, 2023	В	\$ 57,400



GENERAL CAPITAL FUND SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	REF.			
Balance December 31, 2022	C		\$	89,689
Balance December 31, 2023	C		\$	89,689
New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Grant Hunterdon County Grant		\$ 40,660 49,028	<u>\$</u>	89,688

<u>GENERAL CAPITAL FUND</u> <u>SCHEDULE OF AMOUNT DUE FROM CURRENT FUND</u>

C-4

REF. Balance December 31, 2022 \mathbf{C} \$ 387,258 **Increased by:** Current Fund Budget Appropriation-Capital Improvement Fund 30,000 C-7 417,258 Decreased by: Improvement Authorizations Paid in Current Fund C-8 56,212 Balance December 31, 2023 361,046 \mathbf{C}

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND SCHEDULE OF DEFERRED CHARGES TO FUTURE TAXATION - FUNDED

		C-5
	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022		\$ 955,515
Decreased by: 2023 Current Fund Budget Appropriations Bond Principle	C-10	 66,811
Balance December 31, 2023	C	\$ 888,704
New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Loan Debt Authorized Not Issued	C-10	\$ 822,193 66,511 888,704

$\frac{\text{GENERAL CAPITAL FUND}}{\text{SCHEDULE OF DEFERRED CHARGES TO FUTURE TAXATION-}}\\ \frac{\text{UNFUNDED}}{\text{UNFUNDED}}$

						ANALYSIS OF BALANCE DEBT			
IMPROVEMENT DESCRIPTION	BALANCE 12/31/22		DECREASED <u>BUDGET</u>		BALANCE 12/31/23		AUTHORIZED NOT ISSUED		BONDS/ NOTES
Improvements to Railroad Avenue	\$	13,100	\$	13,100		-			-
Resurfacing of Main Street and River Road		700,000		74,400	\$	625,600		\$	625,600
Road Paving-Cokesbury/Cloverhill/Crestmore/ Limerock Lane		400,000				400,000			400,000
	\$	1,113,100	\$	87,500	\$	1,025,600	-	\$	1,025,600
REF.		С		C-9		С			

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND STATEMENT OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

	REF.	
Balance December 31, 2022	C	\$ 215,109
Increased by: Current Fund Budget Appropriation	C-4	 30,000 245,109
Balance December 31, 2023	C	\$ 245,109

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

	ORDINANCE		BALANCE 12/31/22 PAID OR							BALAN 12/31/2				
IMPROVEMENT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	AMOUNT	FU	UNDED		FUNDED		HARGED	FU	JNDED		FUNDED	
Improvements to the Borough's Main Street Storm Water Management System	2012-04; 2014-03; 2015-02	11/19/12; Amended 7/7/14 and 4/6/15	2,061,460	\$	21,835			\$	1,375	\$	20,460			
-			• • • • • • • •		4.5.00.5						4.5.0.5			
Improve Island Park Bridge	2017-03	5/1/17	200,000		45,995						45,995			
Improvements to Main Street and River Road	2019-07	10/21/19	700,000		-	\$	180,844		-		-	\$	180,844	
Improvements to Municipal Facility	2021-09	8/16/21	15,000		4,809				4,468		341			
Road Paving-Cokesbury/Cloverhill/Crestmore/ Limerock														
Lane	2021-10	11/1/21	400,000		-		64,807		44,169		-		20,638	
Inlet Repairs and Computer Upgrade	2022-04	11/7/22	8,500		8,500				6,200		2,300			
				\$	81,139	\$	245,651	\$	56,212	\$	69,096	\$	201,482	
REF.					C		C		C-4		С		С	

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND SCHEDULE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES

ORDINANCE <u>NUMBER</u>	IMPROVEMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE OF ORIGINAL <u>NOTE</u>	DATE OF ISSUE	DATE OF MATURITY	INTEREST RATE	ALANCE 12/31/22	<u>DE</u>	CREASED	BALANCE 12/31/23
2012-05	Improvements to Railroad Avenue	5/15/13	3/27/2023	3/26/2024	4.200%	\$ 13,100	\$	13,100	-
2021-07	Resurfacing of Main Street and River Road	4/2/20	3/27/2023	3/26/2024	4.200%	700,000		74,400	\$ 625,600
2022-10	Road Paving-Cokesbury/Cloverhill/Crestmore/ Limerock Lane	3/29/22	3/27/2023	3/26/2024	4.200%	400,000			400,000
						\$ 1,113,100	\$	87,500	\$ 1,025,600
	REF.					C		C-6	С

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND SCHEDULE OF NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST LOAN SERIES 2016A-1

IMPROVEMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE OF ISSUE	ORD#	ORD <u>DATE</u>	<u>MATUI</u> <u>DATE</u>	RITIES AMOUNT	INTEREST <u>RATE</u>	BALANCE 12/31/22		PRINCIPLE DECREASED	BALANCE <u>12/31/23</u>	
Improvements to the Borough's Main Street Storm Water Management System	5-26-16	2012-04; 2014-03; 2015-02	11-19-12; Amended 7-7-14, 4-6-15 and 9-30- 21		\$17,270 to \$34,541	None	\$	644,004	\$ 51,811	\$ 592,193	
Improvements to the Borough's Main Street Storm Water Management System	5-26-16	2012-04; 2014-03; 2015-02	11-19-12; Amended 7-7-14, 4-6-15 and 9-30- 21		\$10,000 to \$20,000	2.0% to 5.0%		245,000	15,000	230,000	

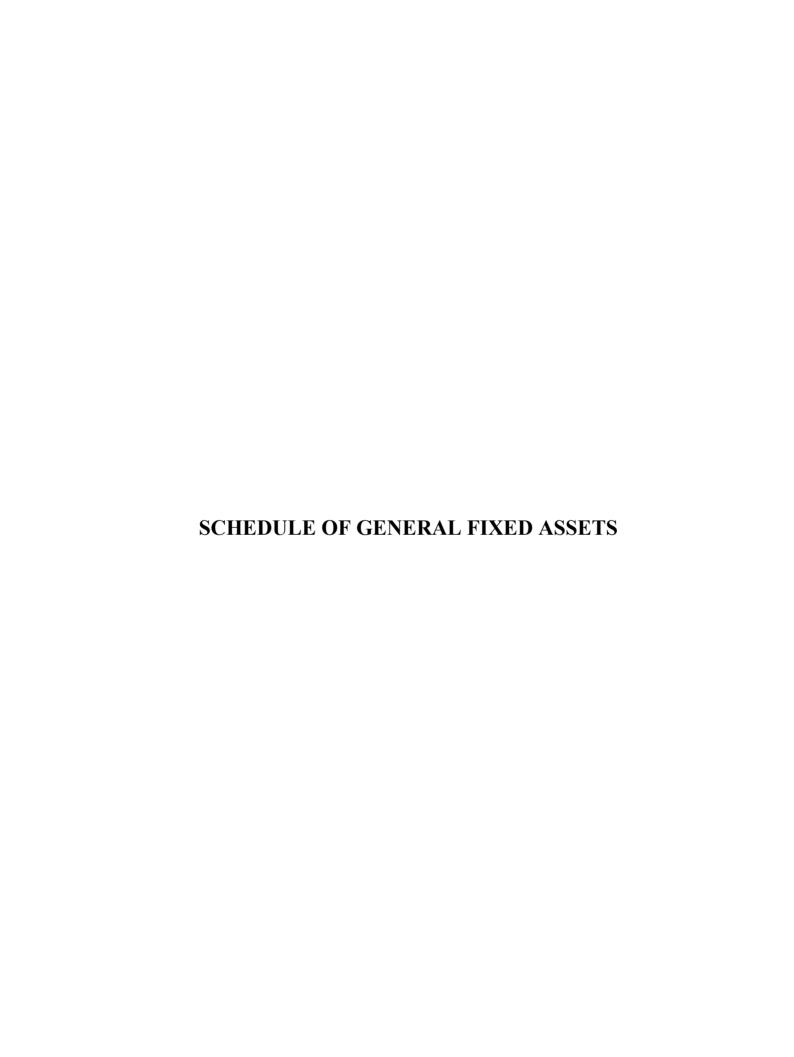
\$ 889,004	\$ 66,811	\$ 822,193
С	C-5	C



<u>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND</u> <u>SCHEDULE OF CASH - TREASURER</u>

E-1

	REF.	P	P.A.T.F. #2	FUND <u>TOTAL</u>
Balance December 31, 2022	E	\$	12,895	\$ 12,895
Increased by Receipts: Interest Credits on Bank Deposits		_	6 12,901	<u>6</u> 12,901
Decreased by Disbursements: Public Assistance				=
Balance December 31, 2023	E	\$	12,901	\$ 12,901



GENERAL FIXED ASSETS SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS DECEMBER 31, 2023

F-1

	BALANCE <u>12/31/22</u>	BALANCE 12/31/23
General Fixed Assets:		
Land	\$ 209,300	\$ 209,300
Buildings	646,115	646,115
Machinery and Equipment	33,072	33,072
Total General Fixed Assets	\$ 888,487	\$ 888,487

PART I I I SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

General Comments

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters based on an Audit of Financial Statements Perfromed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

Schedule of Federal/State Awads

Status of Prior Audit Findings

Schedule of Findings and Responses

GENERAL COMMENTS

Scope of Audit

The audit of the financial statements of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, as required by the Division of Local Government Services, covered the financial transactions of the Treasurer, Tax Collector, the activities of the Borough and the records of the various outside departments.

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

Effective April 17, 2000, N.J.S.A.40A:11-l et.seq (Local Public Contracts Law) was revised by P.L.1999,c.440 (originally known as Assembly Bill No. 3519). Rules and regulations pertaining to the amended law are to be promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services.

N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3 is amended to read as follows:

- a. When the cost or price of any contract awarded by the purchasing agent in the aggregate, does not exceed in the contract year the total sum of \$17,500, the contract may be awarded by a purchasing agent when so authorized by resolution of the governing body without public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except that the governing body may adopt a resolution to set a lower threshold for the receipt of public bids or the solicitation of competitive quotations. If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b. (pending before the Legislature as section 15 of this bill) of section 9 of P.L.1971,c.198(C.40A:11-9) the governing body may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$25,000. Such authorization may be granted for each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to this section.
- b. Any contract made pursuant to this section may be awarded for a period of 24 consecutive months, except that contracts for professional services pursuant to paragraph (i) of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of Section 5 of P.L.1971, C.198(C.40A:11-5) may be awarded for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months. The Division of Local Government Services shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations concerning the methods of accounting for all contracts that do not coincide with the contracting unit's fiscal year.
- c. Commencing in the fifth year after the year in which P.L.1999,c.440 takes effect, and every five years thereafter, the Governor, in consultation with the Department of Treasury, shall adjust the threshold amount and the higher threshold amount which the governing body is permitted to establish as set forth in subsection a. of this section or the threshold amount resulting from any adjustment under this subsection, in direct proportion to the rise or fall of the index rate as that term is defined in N.J.S.18A:18A-2(pending before the Legislature as section 50 of this bill), and shall round the adjustment to the nearest \$1,000. The Governor shall notify all municipal units of the adjustment no later than June 1 of every fifth year. The adjustment shall become effective on July 1 of the year in which it is made.

N.J.S.A.40A:11-4 (as amended) states, "Every contract or agreement for the provision or performance of any goods or services, the cost of which in the aggregate exceeds the bid threshold, shall be awarded only by resolution of the governing body to the lowest responsible bidder after public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except as is provided otherwise in this chapter or specifically by any other law."

Effective July 1, 2020, the bid threshold in accordance with N.J.S.A.40A:11-3(c) (as amended) is increased to \$44,000 for Qualified Purchasing Agents (QPA), and \$17,500 for units without QPA's.

The governing body of the municipality has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the fiscal year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the Township Counsel's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

The Minutes indicate that resolutions were adopted and advertised authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.40A:11-5.

The system of records did not provide for an accumulation of payments for categories for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies, the results of such an accumulation could not determine whether any clear-cut violations existed.

My examination of expenditures did not reveal any individual payments, contracts or agreements in excess of the statutory thresholds "for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies" other than those where bids had been previously sought by public advertisement or where a resolution had been previously adopted under the provisions of N.J.S.40A:11-6.

Collection of Interest on Delinquent Taxes and Assessments

The statute provides the method of authorizing interest and the maximum rates to be charged for the nonpayment of taxes or assessments on or before the date when they would become delinquent.

The governing body, on January 5, 2023, adopted the following resolution authorizing interest to be charged on delinquent taxes:

"Be It Resolved that pursuant to R.S.54:4-67, the Borough Council of the Borough of Califon, County of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, hereby fixes the rate of interest to be charged on all delinquent taxes for the year 2022 at the rate of eight (8) per cent per annum for the first \$1,500 and eighteen (18) per cent for amounts over \$1,500.

Be It Further Resolved, that notwithstanding the above provision, no interest shall be charged if payment of any quarterly installment is made within ten (10) days after the date upon which the same become payable according to the laws in such cases made and provided. If such payment is not made within the ten (10) days grace period, the above rate of interest shall run and accrue from the original due date of such taxes."

Under provisions of C.75, P.L. 1991 (amending N.J.S. 54:4-67), enacted March 28, 1991, the definition of tax delinquency was defined as the sum of all taxes and municipal charges due on a given parcel or property covering any number of quarters or years. In addition, the governing body may also fix a penalty to be charged to a taxpayer with a delinquency in excess of \$10,000 who fails to pay that delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year. The penalty so fixed shall not exceed six (6%) per cent of the amount of the delinquency.

The governing body, on January 5, 2023, adopted a resolution enabling the \$10,000 delinquency penalty provisions.

The audit of the Collector's records on a test basis indicated no differences between the amount of interest payable on delinquent tax payments, based on our calculations, and the amount of interest charged.

Delinquent Taxes and Tax Title Liens

The delinquent taxes at December 31, 2023, include property taxes outstanding from the 2023 tax levy.

A tax sale was held in 2023 and was complete.

The following comparison is made of the number of tax title liens receivable on December 31 of the last three years:

<u>Year</u>	Number of Liens
2023	NONE
2022	NONE
2021	NONE

Verification of Delinquent Taxes and Other Charges

Verification notices were mailed to confirm balances as of November 15, 2023. The items that were returned were compared to and are in agreement with the Borough's records. For items not returned, alternative procedures were performed.

A test verification of delinquent charges and current payments was made in accordance with verification procedures approved by the Division of Local Government Services. A summary of such verification is as follows:

Type of Receivable - Real Property Tax Date of Circulars - November 15, 2023

			Total	
Verification	Request	Total No.	No. of	Total No.
<u>Type</u>	<u>Form</u>	of Items	<u>Circular</u>	Returned
2023 Property Tax	Positive	560	60	16
1 *				-
2023 Property Tax	Positive	560	60	16
2023 Delinquent Tax	Negative	218	25	5

Technical Accounting Directives

During the calendar year 1984, the Division of Local Government Services initiated as part of the Single Audit Law, a planned revision of the Requirements of Audit to provide new accounting requirements mandated for most local government units. The revision to the Requirements of Audit and Accounting would be in order to improve fiscal accountability for all local governments, satisfy federal-state audit requirements and enhance the credibility for New Jersey municipal accounting practices with federal-state funding sources and bond rating agencies. The new requirements for most local units started January 1, 1986, unless exemption, based upon amount of federal aid received and population size, was formally secured. The Division in 1988 notified those exempted municipal units of a transition requirement for fully implementation of all accounting directives beginning in the 1989 fiscal periods. The identity and compliance status of the Borough of Califon to these new directives are as follows:

		FY 2023 Require	
		<u>Implementation</u>	
	Requirement	$\underline{\text{Yes}}$ $\underline{\text{No}}$	
A.	General Ledger Accounting System	X	
B.	Encumbrance Accounting	X	
C.	Purchase Order System	X	
D.	Fixed Asset Accounting and Reporting System	X	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE-CURRENT FUND

REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED

REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED	YEAR 2023	<u>%</u>	YEAR 2022	<u>%</u>
Fund Balance Utilized	\$ 120,000	1.99%	\$ 120,000	1.99%
Miscellaneous - From Other Than				
Local Property Tax Levies	445,892	7.41%	495,266	8.21%
Collection of Delinquent Taxes and				
Tax Title Liens	108,229	1.80%	96,456	1.60%
Collection of Current Tax Levy	5,345,487	<u>88.80%</u>	5,321,408	<u>88.20%</u>
Total Income	6,019,608	100.00%	6,033,130	100.00%
EXPENDITURES				
Budget Expenditures:				
Municipal Purposes	1,346,992	23.41%	1,368,789	23.83%
County Taxes	651,676	11.32%	596,969	10.39%
Local and Regional Taxes	3,725,855	64.75%	3,749,492	65.26%
Other Expenditures	29,814	<u>0.52%</u>	29,865	<u>0.52%</u>
T () F	5 754 227	100.000/	5 745 115	100.000/
Total Expenditures	5,754,337	<u>100.00%</u>	5,745,115	<u>100.00%</u>
Excess in Revenue	265,271		288,015	
Statutory Excess to Fund Balance	265,271		288,015	
Fund Balance January 1	565,081		397,066	
Less:				
Utilization as Anticipated Revenue	120,000		120,000	
Fund Balance December 31	\$ 710,352		\$ 565,081	

	Comparative	Schedule of	Tax Rate	Information
--	--------------------	-------------	----------	--------------------

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Tax Rate	<u>\$3.672</u>	<u>\$3.639</u>	<u>\$3.575</u>
Apportionment of Tax Rate:			
Municipal	\$0.714	\$0.677	\$0.656
Municipal Open Space	\$0.020	\$0.020	\$0.020
County	\$0.437	\$0.399	\$0.389
Local School	\$1.707	\$1.712	\$1.723
Regional High School	\$0.794	\$0.831	\$0.787

Assessed Valuation:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2023	\$148,982,708
2022	\$147,530,208
2021	\$146,176,408

Comparison of Tax Levies and Collection Currently

A study of this tabulation could indicate a possible trend in future tax levies. A decrease in the percentage of current collection could be an indication of a probable increase in future tax levies.

<u>Year</u>	Tax Levy	Collections	Percentage of Collections
2023	\$ 5,473,706	\$ 5,345,487	97.65%
2022	\$ 5,433,810	\$ 5,321,408	97.93%
2021	\$ 5,261,161	\$ 5,163,830	98.15%

Delinquent Taxes and Tax Title Liens

This tabulation includes a comparison, expressed in percentage, of the total of delinquent taxes and tax title liens, in relation to the tax levies of the last three years.

	Amount of	Amount of		
Dec.31	Tax Title	Delinquent	Total	Percentage of
<u>Year</u>	<u>Liens</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Delinquent</u>	Tax Levy
2023	NONE	\$98,365	\$98,365	1.80%
2022	NONE	\$96,509	\$96,509	1.78%
2021	NONE	\$93,083	\$93,083	1.77%

Property Acquired by Tax Title Lien Liquidation

No properties have been acquired in 2023 by foreclosure or deed as a result of liquidation of tax title liens.

Comparitive Schedule of Fund Balances

	Balance		Utilized In Budget of Succeeding Year
Year	December 31	Regular	<u>Defer School Tax</u>
2023	\$ 710,352	* \$ 120,000	NONE
2022	\$ 565,081	\$ 120,000	NONE
2021	\$ 397,066	\$ 120,000	NONE
2020	\$ 302,616	\$ 120,000	NONE
2019	\$ 162,015	\$ 115,000	NONE
2018	\$ 278,015	\$ 116,000	NONE
2017	\$ 237,735	\$ 115,000	NONE
2016	\$ 240,870	\$ 115,000	NONE

^{*}Approved (Introduced) Budget

Officials in Office and Surety Bonds

The following officials were in office during the period under audit:

		Amount of	Name			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	Bond	Of Corporate Surety			
Charles Daniel	Mayor/Councilperson					
Michael Medea	Councilperson					
Ed Haversang	Councilperson					
Richard Baggstrom	Councilperson					
Leo Janas	Councilperson					
Jay Ruggiero	Councilperson					
Cathy Smith	Councilperson					
Karen Mastro	Administrator; Clerk; Assessm Search Officer; Registrar of Vital Statistics	ent Tax				

Officials in Office and Surety Bonds (Continued)

Amount of Name

Name Title Bond Of Corporate Surety

Amy Monahan Acting Certified Municipal Finance

Officer; Treasurer \$1,000,000 Statewide Insurance Fund

Amy Monahan Tax Collector; Tax

Tax Search Officer \$1,000,000 Statewide Insurance Fund

Mark Anderson Attorney

Penny Holenstein Assessor

Barbara Thomas Dog Registrar; Deputy Clerk

Tom Silvia Zoning Officer

Denean Probasco Planning Board Secretary

The minimum bond coverage for the Tax Collector based on prior years' tax levies is as follows:

<u>Year</u> <u>Amount</u> 2023 \$93,085

All officials handling monies, including the Collector and Treasurer, were covered by a **faithful performance blanket position** bond in the amount of \$1,000,000 by the Statewide Insurance Fund.

All the bonds were examined and were properly executed.



ARDITO & COMPANY LLC

1110 Harrison Street, Suite C Frenchtown, New Jersey 08825-1192 908-996-4711 Fax: 908-996-4688 e-mail: anthony@arditoandcompany.com

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

The Honorable Mayor and Members of the Borough Council Borough of Califon P.O. Box 368 County of Hunterdon, New Jersey Califon, New Jersey 07830

We have audited, 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; and audit requirements as prescribed by the Division of Local Governments Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, the regulatory-basis financial statements of the Borough of Califon in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Borough of Califon's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 15, 2024, which indicated that the Borough prepares its financial statements on a basis of accounting prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Borough's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 Borough's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Borough'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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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 may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Borough's financial statements are free of 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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

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 Borough'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

ARDITO & COMPANY LLC

Frenchtown, New Jersey April 15, 2024

Anthony Ardito

Anthony Ardito
Certified Public Accountant
Registered Municipal Accountant No.524
ARDITO & COMPANY LLC
Frenchtown, New Jersey
April 15, 2024

ardito & Company LLC



SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

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		150,000			CASH				CASH	_		
			ACCRUED OR DEFERRED					ACCRUED OR DEFERRED				
	FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	PROGRAM			REVENUE				REVENUE			
	LISTING NO.	OR AWARD	GRANT	FUND	BALANCE	RECEIPTS	OTHER		BALANCE	CUMMULATIVE		
FEDERAL GRANTOR/PROGRAM TITLE	<u>CFDA</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>	REF.	1/1/2023	PROGRAM	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	12/31/2023	DISBURSEMENTS		
US Department of Transportation, passed through New Jersey Department of Transportation:												
Main Street Resurfacing	20.205	\$ 240,000	2020	A	\$ 210,530				\$ 210,530	\$ 29,473		
Cokesbury/Crestmore/Cloverhill/Limerock Lane	20.205	220,000	2021	A	-				-	165,000		
River Road Improvements	20.205	150,000	2021	A	150,000				150,000			
Total Highway Planning and Construction Cluster					360,530	-	-	-	360,530	194,473		
US Department of Treasury, passed through New Jersey Department of Treasury:												
Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF); American Rescue Plan	21.027	109,484	2021-2024	A	109,484			\$ 47,679	61,805	47,679		
Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF); American Rescue Plan- Firefighter	21.027	51,000	2023-2024	A				42,993	(42,993	42,993		
TOTAL FEDERAL ASSISTANCE					\$ 470,014	-	-	\$ 90,672	\$ 379,342	\$ 285,145		

The accompanying Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance are an integral part of this schedule.

Note: This Schedule was not subject to an audit in accordance with Uniform Guidance.

SCHEDULE OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

K-4

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

		PROGRAM	CD ANT	EIRID	ACC DE RE	CASH CRUED OR CFERRED EVENUE		DECEMBER			D F	CASH CCRUED OR DEFERRED REVENUE
STATE GRANTOR/PROGRAM TITLE	ACCOUNT NUMBER	OR AWARD <u>AMOUNT</u>	GRANT <u>PERIOD</u>	FUND <u>REF.</u>		ALANCE /1/2023	PROGR <i>A</i>	<u>RECEIPTS</u> <u>M</u> OTHI	<u>ER</u>	DISBURSEME		BALANCE 12/31/2023
DEPT.OF ENVIRON.PROTECTION Solid Waste AdmClean Communities Program	4900-765-178900	\$ 4,000 4,000 4,000	2023 2022 2021	A A A	\$	4,000 7,208	\$ 4,0	00		\$	\$ 642	4,000 4,000 6,566
DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES Payments to Municipalities for Cost of General Assistance (State Share)	75050-150-158010-60	N/A	N/A	E		12,895		\$	6			12,901
DEPT. OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY Office of Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Grant - State Share	HMGP-DR-4086-NJ-0391-R	17,779	2019-2020	A		-						-
OTHER STATE AIDS Highlands Grant - Stream Corridor Highlands Grant - Plan Conformance ANJEC Grant		35,000 88,200 1,500	2012 2009/2019 2022	A A A		1,315 (7,094) 690					,380 453	1,315 (8,474) 237
TOTAL STATE ASSISTANCE					\$	19,014	\$ 4,0	00 \$	6	\$ 2.	,475 \$	20,545

The accompanying Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance are an integral part of this schedule.

Note: This Schedule was not subject to an audit in accordance with NJOMB Circular 15-08.

BOROUGH OF CALIFON

NOTES TO THE SCHEDULES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 1. GENERAL

The accompanying Schedules of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards present the activity of all federal and state award programs of the Borough of Califon. The Borough of Califon is defined in Note 1 to the Borough's financial statements. All federal and state awards received directly from federal and state agencies, as well as federal and state awards passed through other government agencies, are included on the schedules of expenditures of federal and state awards.

NOTE 2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accompanying Schedules of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards are presented using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The information in these schedules is presented in accordance with the requirements of the federal OMB Uniform Guidance, Audits of States, Local Governments and Nonprofit Organizations. However, these schedules were not subject to an audit in accordance with OMB Uniform Guidance or NJOMB Circular 15-08.

NOTE 3. RELATIONSHIP TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying Schedules of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards are presented using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Therefore, some amounts presented in these schedules may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the financial statements.

STATUS OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

STATUS OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

There were no prior year audit findings.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES GENERAL FINDINGS

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

GENERAL FINDINGS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Summary of Auditor's Results

The Borough prepares its financial statements in conformity with accounting practices prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

The audit did not disclose any material weaknesses in the internal controls of the Borough.

The audit did not disclose any noncompliance that is material to the financial statements of the Borough.

The Borough was not subject to the single audit provisions of Federal OMB Uniform Guidance or New Jersey OMB Circular NJOMB 15-08, Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants and State Aid for 2023 as grant expenditures were less than the single audit thresholds of \$750,000, identified in the Circulars.

Findings Relating to the Financial Statements which are required to be Reported in Accordance with Generally Accepted

Government Auditing Standards:

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None