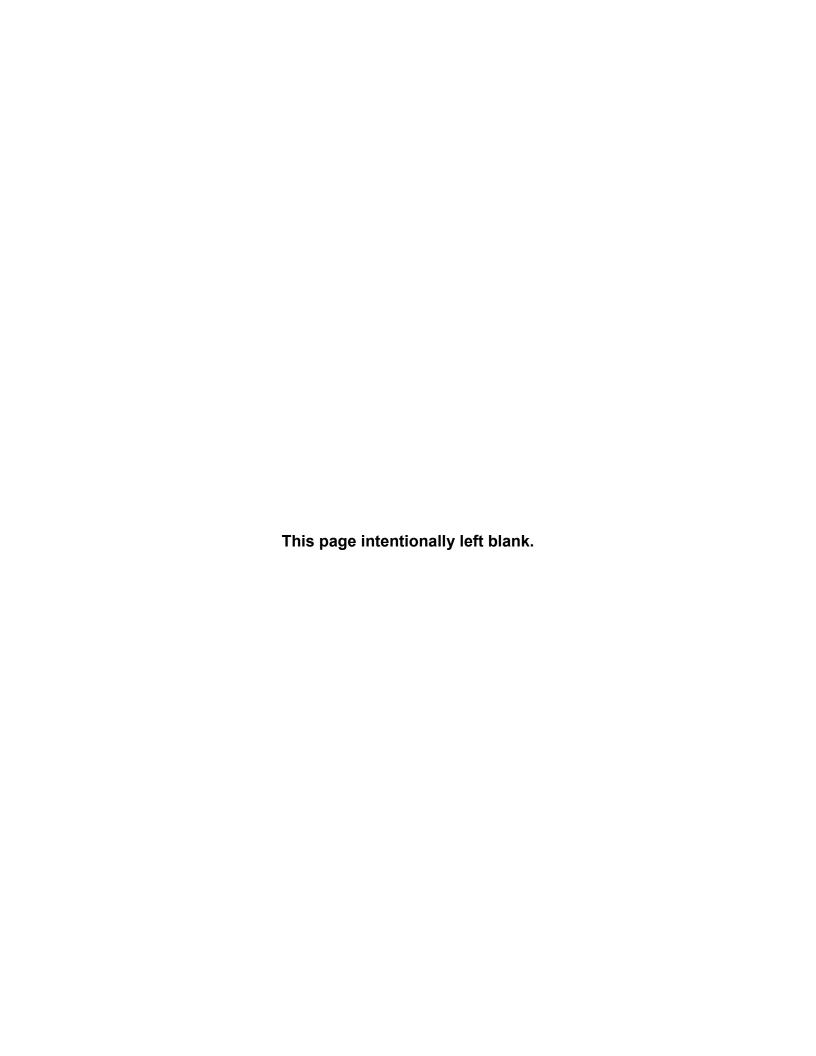




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Village of Pleasant Plain Warren County 10092 State Route 132 Pleasant Plain, Ohio 45162

To the Village Council:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

November 28, 2005

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of Pleasant Plain Warren County 10092 State Route 132 Pleasant Plain, Ohio 45162

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Pleasant Plain, Warren County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The Village processes its financial transactions with the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to audit the Village because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and as requested, operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Village has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP would require the Village to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the year ended December 31, 2004. Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present for 2004 (and 2003), the revisions require presenting entity wide statements and also to present its larger (i.e. major) funds separately for 2004. While the Village does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Village has elected not to reformat its statements. Since this Village does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

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Village of Pleasant Plain Warren County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the year ended December 31, 2004 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village as of December 31, 2004, or its changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Village of Pleasant Plain, Warren County, as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Village to include Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2004. The Village has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 28, 2005, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

November 28, 2005

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	Governmental Fund Types				
	<u>General</u>	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts: Property Tax and Other Local Taxes State Shared Taxes and Permits Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$2,369 4,869 357 646	\$464 7,861 148	\$0	\$2,833 12,730 505 646	
Total Cash Receipts	8,241	8,473	0	16,714	
Cash Disbursements: Current: Security of Persons and Property Public Health Services Leisure Time Activities Basic Utility Services Transportation General Government	1,447 52 1,087 <u>9,903</u>	926 985		1,447 52 926 1,087 985 9,903	
Total Cash Disbursements	12,489	1,911	0	14,400	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(4,248)	6,562	0	2,314	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	38,924	20,040	39	59,003	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$34.676	\$26.602	\$39	\$61.317	

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Governmental Fund Types			, .	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts: Property Tax and Other Local Taxes State Shared Taxes and Permits Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$2,203 4,787 539 1,794	\$519 7,141 138	\$0	\$2,722 11,928 677 1,794	
Total Cash Receipts	9,323	7,798	0	17,121	
Cash Disbursements: Current: Security of Persons and Property Public Health Services Leisure Time Activities Basic Utility Services Transportation General Government	1,291 63 460 14,286	806 71		1,291 63 806 460 71 14,286	
Total Cash Disbursements	16,100	877	0	16,977	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(6,777)	6,921	0	144	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	45,701	13,119	39	58,859	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$38,924	\$20,040	\$39	\$59,003	

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Village of Pleasant Plain, Warren County, Ohio (the Village), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected six-member Council governs the Village. The Village provides street maintenance and repair. The Village contracts with the Warren County Sheriff's department to provide security of persons and property.

The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. This basis recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements adequately disclose material matters the Auditor of State prescribes.

C. Cash and Investments

The Village's accounting basis includes investments as assets. This basis does not report disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. The Village reports gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The Village values certificates of deposit at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Village classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Fund

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

<u>Street Construction, Maintenance, and Repair Fund</u> - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Village streets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

4. Capital Project Funds

These funds account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Village had the following significant capital project funds:

<u>Sidewalk Fund</u> - This fund receives proceeds from the State of Ohio. The proceeds are being used to construct sidewalks.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. Village Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated. The Village did not properly use the encumbrance method of accounting. The Village did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2004 and 2003 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Village records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND DEPOSITS

The Village maintains a cash and deposits pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	2004	2003
Demand deposits	\$51,290	\$48,626
Certificates of deposit	10,814	10,698
Total deposits	\$62,104	\$59,324

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2004 and 2003 follows:

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual I	Receipts
Rudgeted	Δctu

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$8,385	\$8,240	(\$145)
Special Revenue	7,931	8,474	543
Total	\$16,316	\$16,714	\$398

2004 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$22,380	\$12,489	\$9,891
Special Revenue	7,600	1,911	5,689
Total	\$29,980	\$14,400	\$15,580

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$11,231	\$9,323	(\$1,908)
Special Revenue	7,802	7,798	(4)
Total	\$19,033	\$17,121	(\$1,912)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$19,845	\$16,100	\$3,745
Special Revenue	7,200	877	6,323
Total	\$27,045	\$16,977	\$10,068

Contrary to Ohio law, the Village did not certify funds to the county auditor, or obtain approved amendments to estimated resources or appropriations.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003 (Continued)

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Village Council adopts tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The State pays the Village amounts equaling these deductions. The Village includes these with Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half payment is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Property owners assess tangible personal property tax. They must file a list of tangible property to the County by each April 30. The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on the Village's behalf.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- · Comprehensive property and general liability;
- · Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of Pleasant Plain Warren County 10092 State Route 132 Pleasant Plain, Ohio 45162

To the Village Council:

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Pleasant Plain, Warren County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and December 31, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated November 28, 2005, wherein we noted the Village followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures in order to express our opinion on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Village's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with management's assertions in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2004-001 through 2004-003.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered material weaknesses. We consider reportable condition 2004-001 listed above to be a material weakness. In a separate letter to the Village's management dated November 28, 2005, we reported an other matter involving internal control over financial reporting we did not deem a reportable condition.

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Village of Pleasant Plain
Warren County
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2004-002 and 2004-003. In a separate letter to the Village's management dated November 28, 2005, we reported other matters related to noncompliance we deemed immaterial.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Village Council and is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomeny

November 28, 2005

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2004-001

Material Weakness - Controls Over Disbursements

During our review of expenditure procedures, we noted the following internal control weaknesses:

- Purchase orders were not signed by Council members;
- There was no indication on the invoices that a review was performed to ensure that all items were received;
- The Village Clerk is the only one who signs the checks for the Village and also performs the bank reconciliations.

These weaknesses may lead to unauthorized payments, over/underpayments, duplicate payments or undetected errors.

To improve accountability over expenditures, we recommend the following:

- The Clerk along with either the Mayor or the President of Council should sign all Village purchase orders and all Village checks;
- Invoices should be marked paid, signed or initialed, and dated at the time of payment, and;
- Invoices should be matched to the items received and evidence provided (i.e., initials and date) that items were received before the invoice was submitted for payment:

FINDING NUMBER 2004-002

Noncompliance Citation/Reportable Condition - Disbursements

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41 (D), prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

1. "Then and Now" certificate – If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Village can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment by ordinance or resolution.

Village of Pleasant Plain Warren County Schedule of Findings Page 2

FINDING 2004-002 (Continued)

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Village.

- 2. Blanket Certificate Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. (Prior to September 26, 2003, blanket certificates were limited to \$5,000 and three months.) The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- 3. Super Blanket Certificate The Village may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

For 80% of expenditures tested, the purchase order was encumbered prior to the invoice date; however, purchase order certificates were not signed and authorized. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of Village funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Village certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Village. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

We recommend the Village certify purchases to which section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The fiscal officer should sign the certification at the time the Village incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The fiscal officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

FINDING NUMBER 2004-003

Noncompliance/Reportable Condition – Budgetary

Ohio Rev. Code, Chapter 5705 prescribes budgetary laws for the Village. The Village did not comply with the following sections of the code:

A. Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.34, requires each taxing authority to pass an ordinance or resolution to authorize the necessary tax levies and certify the levies to the county auditor before October 1 each year. As of December 31, 2004, the Village did not authorize the necessary rates and certify them to the County Auditor.

Failure to authorize the necessary rates and certify them to the county auditor before the required date could result in a delay in receiving funding from the county.

We recommend Village management take steps to ensure the necessary rates are authorized and certified to the County Auditor by the required date.

Village of Pleasant Plain Warren County Schedule of Findings Page 3

FINDING 2004-003 (Continued)

B. Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.36(A)(1), requires the Village to certify to the County Auditor the total amount from all sources which is available for expenditures from each fund in the tax budget along with any balances that existed at the end of the preceding year on or about the first day of each fiscal year. The Village did not certify the total amount from all sources available for expenditures for 2003 and 2004, or the balances that existed at the end of 2003 and 2004.

Failure to certify the total amount from all sources which is available for expenditures from each fund in the tax budget along with any balances that existed at the end of the preceding year could result in a delay of funding from the County.

We recommend the Village complete and submit to the county auditor on or about the first day of the fiscal year a Certificate of the Total Amount from All Sources Available for Expenditures, and Balances.

C. Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.36(A)(2), provides that upon the determination by a fiscal officer of a subdivision that the revenue to be collected by the subdivision will be greater or less than the amount included in the official certificate, the fiscal officer may certify the amount of the deficiency or excess to the budget commission, and if the commission determines that the fiscal officer's certification is reasonable, the commission shall certify an amended official certificate reflecting the deficiency or excess.

The Village made amendments to estimated resources in the receipt ledger; however, these were not submitted to the budget commission in order to obtain an amended certificate. The Village has disclosed budgeted receipts without these amendment in the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

D. Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.39, states that no appropriation measure shall become effective until the county auditor files with the appropriating authority a certificate that the total appropriations from each fund, taken together with all other outstanding appropriations, do not exceed such official estimate or amended official estimate. The Village did not have appropriations properly approved by the County Auditor in 2004 and 2003. It was also noted that the Village did not receive the "Certificate that Total Appropriations from Each Fund Do Not Exceed the Total Official Certificate or Amended Official Estimate" for 2004 and for 2003.

Failure to do this could result in the Village expending more money than they appropriated and exceeding estimated revenues.

We recommend that the Village have all appropriations and supplemental appropriations approved by the Council and by the County Auditor.

E. Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.40, provides that any appropriation ordinance or measure may be amended or supplemented provided that such amendment or supplement shall comply with all provisions of the law governing the taxing authority in making an original appropriation.

Amended appropriations in the appropriation ledger were not approved in the minutes or submitted to the County Auditor for approval. The appropriations as stated in the accompanying budgetary note to the financial statements includes only appropriation amounts council approved.

We recommend the Village Council approve all appropriation amendments in the minutes.

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SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2002-001	The Village did not comply with various sections ORC Section 5705.	No	Not Corrected – Reissued as finding 2004-002 and 003.



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VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PLAIN WARREN COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED DECEMBER 15, 2005