



City of Pataskala Finance Department
James M. Nicholson, Finance Director
Finance Director's Report to Council

Current Projects & Issues

- **March 2024** – The financial results through March 31st have been compiled and summarized in the monthly Financial Condition Report, which was previously distributed and is currently available on the city's website. We are still processing entries for the month of July and will be doing so for the next couple of weeks. As RITA has not yet made our mid-month settlement, I am unable to update Council on the preliminary status of April's income tax collections.
- **2023 Financial Reporting & Audit** – We completed all the schedules and documents required to support the development of the 2023 GAAP accrual-based financial statements for the city, as well as the development of the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The last major remaining items are the update and incorporation of the departmental updates to the narrative and statistical information. We don't have a date yet for the auditor's onsite fieldwork but would expect that it will be in the next 2-3 weeks.
- **SLFRF (ARPA) Grant Compliance** – I completed the annual reporting requirements related to the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that were awarded through the ARPA grant funds. To date, we've received our \$1.66 million that was designated for the City of Pataskala. For ease, we are officially using the lost revenue designation that we are permitted to use. The Treasury's final guidelines permit local governments to use that funding to offset any COVID-related lost revenues. The guidelines permit the government to use up to \$10 million for this purpose without having to prove lost revenues. It makes a cumbersome compliance process significantly easier for smaller governments. In the city's situation, we are planning to use these funds for utility infrastructure projects.
- **Ohio GFOA Seminar** – I served as the primary moderator and trainer for the Ohio GFOA's *Introduction to the Finance Office* that was held April 4-5 at the Mifflin Township Hall. We had approximately 50 fiscal officers and other public employees attend the 1 1/2-day seminar.
- **Ancillary Audit** – We continue to work with the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) on the 2023 audit of the Ohio Police & Fire Pension system. We have a draft audit opinion that appears that no issues were detected by the audit. Once we receive the final opinion, I'll share it with Council.