

CITY OF LANCASTER, MISSOURI

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

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# JOHN W. GILLUM, CPA, LLC

## CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Aldermen  
City of Lancaster  
Lancaster, Missouri

#### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

##### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities and each major fund of the City of Lancaster, Missouri, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Lancaster, Missouri's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the City of Lancaster, Missouri, as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

##### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City of Lancaster, Missouri and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

##### ***Emphasis of Matter—Basis of Accounting***

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

##### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City of Lancaster, Missouri's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### ***Auditor's 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 and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Lancaster, Missouri's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City of Lancaster, Missouri'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.

#### ***Other Matters***

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information is comprised of budgetary comparison information but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

**Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 9, 2026, on our consideration of the City of Lancaster, Missouri's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Lancaster, Missouri's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering City of Lancaster, Missouri's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

John W. Gillum, CPA, LLC  
Certified Public Accountant  
Kirksville, Missouri  
February 9, 2026

## BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Statement of Net Position—Modified Cash Basis  
December 31, 2023

	Primary Government		
	Governmental	Business-Type	
	Activities	Activities	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 684,536	\$ 651,281	\$ 1,335,817
Investments	<u>5,700</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>105,700</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 690,236</u>	<u>\$ 751,281</u>	<u>\$ 1,441,517</u>
 <b>NET POSITION</b>			
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 690,236</u>	<u>\$ 751,281</u>	<u>\$ 1,441,517</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 690,236</u>	<u>\$ 751,281</u>	<u>\$ 1,441,517</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Statement of Activities—Modified Cash Basis  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	Program Revenues				Net (Expenses) Revenue & Changes in Net Assets		
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Op Grants/ Contrib.	Capital Grants/ Contrib.	Business		
					Governmental Activities	Type Activities Total	
Governmental activities							
General government	\$ 61,199	\$ 11,718	\$ 100	\$ 9,734	\$ (39,647)	\$ (39,647)	
Public safety	32,546	999	-	-	(31,547)	(31,547)	
Streets	74,497	-	133,400	-	58,903	58,903	
Parks and recreation	22,267	5,136	55	32,541	15,465	15,465	
Cemetery	866	-	-	-	(866)	(866)	
Capital outlay	131,532	-	-	-	(131,532)	(131,532)	
Total governmental activities	322,907	17,853	133,555	42,275	(129,224)	(1,103)	
Business-type activities							
Water	219,075	267,547	-	-	-	48,472	
Sewer	108,570	169,298	-	-	-	60,728	
Trash	48,060	56,788	-	-	-	8,728	
Payments on long-term debt	54,666	-	-	-	-	(54,666)	
Total business-type activities	430,371	493,633	-	-	-	63,262	
Total primary government	\$ 753,278	\$ 511,486	\$ 133,555	\$ 42,275	(129,224)	(65,962)	
GENERAL REVENUES							
Taxes							
Property					78,485	78,485	
Franchise					19,022	19,022	
Surtax					7,595	7,595	
Sales tax					23,574	23,574	
Payment in lieu of tax					4,224	4,224	
Investment income					8,804	19,004	
Other					48,712	48,712	
Total general revenues					190,416	200,616	
Change in net position					61,192	134,654	
Net position—Beginning					629,044	1,306,863	
Net position—Ending					\$ 690,236	\$ 1,441,517	

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements



City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Balance Sheet—Modified Cash Basis  
Governmental Funds  
December 31, 2023

	<u>General</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 672,103	\$ 12,433	\$ 684,536
Investments	<u>5,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,700</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 677,803</u>	<u>\$ 12,433</u>	<u>\$ 690,236</u>
 <u>FUND BALANCES</u>			
Unassigned	<u>\$ 677,803</u>	<u>\$ 12,433</u>	<u>\$ 690,236</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 677,803</u>	<u>\$ 12,433</u>	<u>\$ 690,236</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, And  
Changes in Fund Balances—Modified Cash Basis  
Governmental Funds  
For The Year Ended December 31, 2023

	<u>General</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
Taxes			
Property taxes	\$ 66,735	\$ 11,750	\$ 78,485
Sales tax	23,574	-	23,574
Franchise tax	16,176	2,846	19,022
Surtax	7,595	-	7,595
Road and bridge tax	14,129	-	14,129
Motor vehicle—fees	3,089	-	3,089
User fees—gas tax	24,061	-	24,061
Motor vehicle—sales tax	92,121	-	92,121
Licenses & permits	4,218	-	4,218
Investment earnings	8,230	574	8,804
User fees—rent	7,500	5,136	12,636
Payment in lieu of taxes	4,224	-	4,224
Donations	100	55	155
Fines	999	-	999
Grants	9,734	32,541	42,275
Other	<u>48,495</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>48,712</u>
Total Revenues	330,980	53,119	384,099
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
General government	61,199	-	61,199
Streets	74,497	-	74,497
Public safety	32,546	-	32,546
Cemetery	866	-	866
Parks and recreation	-	22,267	22,267
Capital outlay	<u>49,213</u>	<u>82,319</u>	<u>131,532</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>218,321</u>	<u>104,586</u>	<u>322,907</u>
Change in fund balances	112,659	(51,467)	61,192
Fund balances—beginning	<u>565,144</u>	<u>63,900</u>	<u>629,044</u>
Fund balances—ending	<u>\$ 677,803</u>	<u>\$ 12,433</u>	<u>\$ 690,236</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Statement of Net Position—Modified Cash Basis  
Proprietary Funds  
December 31, 2023

	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Total Proprietary Funds</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 449,506	\$ 201,775	\$ 651,281
Investments	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,000</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 <u>\$ 549,506</u>	 <u>\$ 201,775</u>	 <u>\$ 751,281</u>
 <u>NET POSITION</u>			
Unrestricted	\$ <u>549,506</u>	\$ <u>201,775</u>	\$ <u>751,281</u>
 TOTAL FUND BALANCES	 <u>\$ 549,506</u>	 <u>\$ 201,775</u>	 <u>\$ 751,281</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,  
And Changes in Fund Net Position—Modified Cash Basis  
Proprietary Funds  
For The Year Ended December 31, 2023

	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Total Proprietary Funds</u>
OPERATING REVENUES:			
Water sales	\$ 244,299	\$ -	\$ 244,299
Sewer sales	-	167,739	167,739
Trash collections	56,788	-	56,788
Other	<u>23,248</u>	<u>1,559</u>	<u>24,807</u>
Total Operating Revenues	324,335	169,298	493,633
OPERATING EXPENDITURES:			
Cost of sales and services	165,240	89,906	255,146
Administration	53,835	18,664	72,499
Trash collections	<u>48,060</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,060</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>267,135</u>	<u>108,570</u>	<u>375,705</u>
Operating income (loss)	57,200	60,728	117,928
Non-operating revenue (expense)			
Investment earnings	7,941	2,259	10,200
Payments on long-term debt	<u>(54,666)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(54,666)</u>
Total non-operating revenue (expense)	<u>(46,725)</u>	<u>2,259</u>	<u>(44,466)</u>
Income (loss) before transfers	10,475	62,987	73,462
Transfers in (out)	<u>18,750</u>	<u>(18,750)</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in net position	29,225	44,237	73,462
Net position—beginning	<u>520,281</u>	<u>157,538</u>	<u>677,819</u>
Net position—ending	\$ <u>549,506</u>	\$ <u>201,775</u>	\$ <u>751,281</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The City of Lancaster, Missouri operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City's major operations include public safety (police and fire), streets, sanitation, culture and recreation, public improvements, and general administrative services. In addition, the City owns and operates water and sewer systems.

The City's financial statements are prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The more significant accounting policies used by the City are discussed below.

**A. REPORTING ENTITY**

These financial statements present the City (the primary government). The City does not have component units required to be included in the City's reporting entity.

**B. BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENTS**

The City's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the City as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the City's major funds). Both the government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business-type. The City's police and fire protection, park, cemetery, streets, economic development and general administrative services are classified as governmental activities. The City's water and sewer services are classified as business-type activities.

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position, both the governmental and business-type activities columns (a) are presented on a consolidated basis by column, (b) and are reported on the modified cash basis of accounting.

The government-wide Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the City's functions and business-type activities (general government, public safety, streets, etc.). The functions are also supported by general government revenues (property, sales and use taxes, certain intergovernmental revenues, etc.). The Statement of Activities reduces gross expenses by related program revenues, operating and capital grants. Program revenues must be directly associated with the function (general government, public safety, streets, etc.) or a business-type activity. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants while the capital grants column reports capital-specific grants.

The net cost (by function or business-type activity) is normally covered by general revenue (property, sales or gas taxes, intergovernmental revenues, interest income, etc.).

The government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the City as an entity and the change in the City's net position resulting from the current year's activities.

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**C. BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial transactions of the City are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, fund equity, revenues and expenditures/expenses.

The emphasis in fund financial statements is on the major funds in either the governmental or business-type activities categories. Nonmajor funds by category are summarized into a single column. The City electively added funds, as major funds, which either had debt outstanding or specific community focus. The nonmajor funds are combined in a column in the fund financial statements.

**1. Governmental Funds:**

The focus of the governmental funds' measurement (in the fund statements) is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. The City reports these major governmental funds and fund types:

- a. The general fund is the City's primary operating fund. It is used to account for and report all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**2. Proprietary Funds:**

The focus of proprietary fund measurement is upon determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position and cash flows. The generally accepted accounting principles applicable are those similar to businesses in the private sector. The City reports the following proprietary fund types:

- a. Enterprise funds are required to be used to account for operations for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or services and the activity is financed with debt that is solely secured by a pledge of the net revenues. The activities reported in these funds are reported as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The Water and Sewer funds operate the City's water and sewer system, which primarily serves City residents.

**D. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**D. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING (CONTINUED)**

**1. Modified cash basis:**

Both governmental and business-type activities in the government-wide and governmental fund financial statements and the proprietary fund financial statements are presented on the modified cash basis of accounting. Under the modified cash basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when received and expenditures are recognized when paid. Acquisitions for capital assets and payments on long-term debt are recorded as expenditures, with no presentation of fixed assets or liabilities on the statement on net position.

**E. FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS**

**1. Cash and Cash Equivalents:**

The City has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand and demand deposits.

**2. Investments**

The City's investments include certificates of deposit with original maturities of greater than three months.

**3. Property Tax Calendar and Revenues:**

Property taxes are levied by October 1 on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1 for all real and business personal property located in the City. Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1 of the year of the levy. Taxes are levied on October 1, and payable by December 31. All unpaid taxes become delinquent January 1, of the following year. The county collects the property tax and remits it to the City on a monthly basis.

The assessed valuation of the tangible taxable property (excluding state assessed railroad and utilities) for the calendar year 2023 for purposes of local taxation was \$6,516,607.

The tax levy per \$100 of assessed valuation of tangible taxable property for the calendar year 2023 for purposes of local taxation was:

	<u>2023</u>
General Fund	.9902
Park Fund	<u>.2000</u>
	<u>1.1902</u>

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**E. FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

**4. Property Tax Abatement:**

The City has granted certain property tax exemptions to a taxpayer within the city. The effect of the tax abatement is a reduction of tax revenues available to the City. For the year ended December 31, 2023, based upon the City's property tax levy, forgone tax revenues for the City were \$835.

**5. Compensated Absences:**

City employees are entitled to certain compensated absences based on the length of employment. Compensated absences are recorded as expenditures when paid.

**6. Defining Operating Revenues and Expenses:**

The City's proprietary funds distinguish between operating and nonoperating revenues and expenses. Operating revenues and expenses of the City's water and sewer funds consist of charges for services and the costs of providing those services, including capital outlay and excluding payments on long-term debt. All other revenues and expenses are reported as nonoperating.

**7. Government-wide and Proprietary Fund Net Position:**

Government-wide and proprietary fund net position are divided into two components:

- a. **Restricted net position**—consists of net position that is restricted by the City's creditors (for example, through debt covenants), by grantors (both federal and state) or by other enabling legislation.
- b. **Unrestricted**—all other net position is reported in this category.

**8. Governmental Fund Balances:**

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balances are classified as follows:

- a. **Nonspendable**—Amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in a nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- b. **Restricted**—Externally enforceable limitations on use; amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes; limitations are imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments.
- c. **Committed**—Self-imposed limitations that must be set in place prior to the end of the period; amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Board of Aldermen; removal of the commitment must also be approved by a formal action of the Board of Aldermen.



City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**E. FINANCIAL STATEMENT AMOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

**8. Governmental Fund Balances (continued):**

- a. **Assigned**—Limitation resulting from intended use; amounts that are designated by the Board of Aldermen for a particular purpose but are not spendable until there is a majority vote approval by the Board of Aldermen.
- b. **Unassigned**—All amounts not included in other spendable classifications.

The City only has unassigned governmental fund balances to report. In addition, the City has not formally adopted a stabilization policy.

**9. Use of Restricted Resources:**

When an expense is incurred that can be paid using either restricted or unrestricted resources (net position), the City's policy is to first apply the expense toward restricted resources and then toward unrestricted resources. In governmental funds, the City's policy is to first apply the expenditure toward restricted fund balance and then to other, less-restrictive classifications—committed and then assigned fund balances before using unassigned fund balances.

**NOTE 2. BUDGETARY INFORMATION**

Formal budgetary accounting is employed as a management control for all funds of the City. Annual operating budgets are adopted each fiscal year through passage of an annual budget ordinance and amended as required for the General Fund, Special Revenues Funds, and Proprietary Funds, and the same basis of accounting is used to reflect actual revenues and expenditures/expenses recognized on the modified cash basis of accounting.

The Board of Aldermen follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. In accordance with State Statutes, prior to December 31, the City Clerk submits to the Board of Aldermen a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following January 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them for the upcoming year. In addition, more detailed line item budgets are included for administrative control. The level of control for the detailed budgets is at the legislative (council) level.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comment.
3. Prior to January 1, the budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance.

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 2. BUDGETARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**

4. All unencumbered budget appropriations, except project budgets, lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
5. The Board of Aldermen may authorize supplemental appropriations during the year.
6. The City does not utilize encumbrance accounting with regard to budget or accounting functions.
7. Appropriations and the authority to expend funds lapse on December 31.

**NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS**

**A. CASH**

State statutes require that the City's deposits be collateralized in the name of the City by the trust department of a bank that does not hold the collateralized deposits. As of December 31, 2023, all bank balances on deposit are entirely insured or collateralized with securities.

**B. INVESTMENTS**

The City's investments at December 31, 2023, consist of:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Certificates of Deposit	Various	\$ <u>105,700</u>

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (CONTINUED)**

**C. LONG-TERM DEBT**

The following is a summary of long-term debt transactions for the year:

Bonds payable at January 1, 2023	\$ 54,000
Bonds retired	<u>(54,000)</u>
Bonds payable December 31, 2023	<u>\$ -</u>

Payments on long-term debt are reflected in the modified cash basis statement of activities, as follows:

Principal	\$ 54,000
Interest	<u>666</u>
Payments on long-term debt	<u>\$ 54,666</u>

**D. LEASES PAYABLE**

Following is a summary of changes in leases payable for the period ended December 31, 2023:

Lease payable—Beginning of period	\$ 68,624
Leases issued	37,594
Payments on leases	<u>(6,134)</u>
Lease payable—End of period	<u>\$ 100,084</u>

Following is a summary of leases outstanding at December 31, 2023:

Capital lease purchase agreement, with an original principal of \$75,000, obtained to acquire facility for fire department; due in monthly principal and interest payments of \$416; commencing October 2020; interest at the rate of 3.00 % per annum for the first five years with interest adjusted annually thereafter.	\$ 65,623
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Capital lease purchase agreement, with an original principal of \$36,270, obtained to acquire equipment; due in monthly principal payments of \$627; commencing August 2023; interest at 0% per annum.	<u>34,461</u>
	<u>\$ 100,084</u>

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**NOTE 3. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (CONTINUED)**

**D. LEASES PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

Capital lease maturities for the succeeding five years and beyond are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 10,470	\$ 2,040	\$ 12,510
2025	10,559	1,951	12,510
2026	10,652	1,858	12,510
2027	10,747	1,763	12,510
2028	7,717	1,664	9,381
Thereafter	<u>49,939</u>	<u>14,358</u>	<u>64,297</u>
Total	\$ <u>100,084</u>	\$ <u>23,634</u>	\$ <u>123,718</u>

**NOTE 4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

Significant risk of loss is covered by commercial insurance for the City. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the City. Settled claims have not exceeded this insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

**NOTE 5. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

COMMITMENTS--NONE

CONTINGENCIES

The City has received notification of potential noncompliance with certain environmental laws and regulations. The City Administration and those charged with governance, along with legal counsel, are addressing the matter. The effect to the City due to the potential noncompliance has not been determined.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule—  
 Modified Cash Basis—General Fund  
 December 31, 2023

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Amounts</u>	<u>with final</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>Positive</u> <u>(Negative)</u>
REVENUES				
Taxes				
Property taxes	\$ 55,800	\$ 55,800	\$ 66,735	\$ 10,935
Sales tax	21,700	21,700	23,574	1,874
Franchise tax	10,000	10,000	16,176	6,176
Surtax	6,800	6,800	7,595	795
Road and bridge tax	11,000	11,000	14,129	3,129
Payment in lieu of taxes	4,000	4,000	4,224	224
Motor vehicle—fees	3,500	3,500	3,089	(411)
User fees—gas tax	20,000	20,000	24,061	4,061
Motor vehicle—sales tax	80,000	80,000	92,121	12,121
Licenses and permits	3,950	3,950	4,218	268
Investment earnings	4,100	4,100	8,230	4,130
User fees—rent	7,500	7,500	7,500	-
Grants	77,500	77,500	9,734	(67,766)
Other	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>49,594</u>	<u>48,094</u>
Total revenues	307,350	307,350	330,980	23,630
EXPENDITURES				
General government	56,500	56,500	61,199	(4,699)
Streets	116,300	116,300	74,497	41,803
Public safety	35,650	35,650	32,546	3,104
Cemetery	900	900	866	34
Capital outlay	<u>98,000</u>	<u>98,000</u>	<u>49,213</u>	<u>48,787</u>
Total expenditures	<u>307,350</u>	<u>307,350</u>	<u>218,321</u>	<u>89,029</u>
Change in fund balance	-	-	112,659	112,659
Fund balance—Beginning	<u>565,144</u>	<u>565,144</u>	<u>565,144</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balance—Ending	<u>\$ 565,144</u>	<u>\$ 565,144</u>	<u>\$ 677,803</u>	<u>\$ 112,659</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedule

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedule  
December 31, 2023

Budget Law

The City prepares its annual operating budget under the provisions of RSMO Chapter 67. In accordance with those provisions, the following process is used to adopt the annual budget:

- a. Prior to January 1, the Mayor submits to the Board of Aldermen a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following December 31.
- a. Public hearings are conducted to obtain citizen comments. At least one public hearing must be held no later than 15 days prior to January 1.
- b. Subsequent to the public hearings but no later than seven days prior to January 1, the budget is adopted by resolution of the Board of Aldermen.

The legal level of control at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations is the object category level by department within a fund.

All transfers of appropriations between departments and supplemental appropriations require Board of Aldermen approval.

Basis of Accounting

The budget is prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting.

FEDERAL COMPLIANCE SECTION



# JOHN W. GILLUM, CPA, LLC

## CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Aldermen  
City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Lancaster, Missouri

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of City of Lancaster, Missouri, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise City of Lancaster, Missouri's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 9, 2026.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered City of Lancaster, Missouri'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 City of Lancaster, Missouri's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of City of Lancaster, Missouri'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as finding 2023-001, that we consider to be a material weakness.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

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

**City of Lancaster, Missouri's Response to Finding**

The City's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. We did not audit the City's response and, accordingly, express no opinion on it.

**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 entity'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.

John W. Gillum, CPA, LLC  
Certified Public Accountant  
Kirksville, Missouri  
February 9, 2026

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Summary Schedule of Findings and Responses  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**Financial Statement Findings**

**MATERIAL WEAKNESS**

**2023-001 Segregation of Duties**

*Condition:* Because of a limited number of available personnel, it is not always possible to adequately segregate certain incompatible duties so that no one employee has access to both physical assets and the related accounting records, or to all phases of a transaction. There are some mitigating controls in place but it is not possible to have segregation in all areas.

*Criteria:* Duties should be segregated so that no one employee has access to both physical assets and the related accounting records, or to all phases of a transaction.

*Effect:* Risk is present that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material to the basic financial statements may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

*Recommendation:* We realize because of limited resources and personnel, management may not be able to achieve a proper segregation of duties; however, our professional standards require that we bring this lack of segregation of duties to your attention in this report.

*Response:* The limited number of available personnel prohibits segregation of incompatible duties and the City does not have the resources to hire additional accounting personnel.

Repeat finding of 2022-001

City of Lancaster, Missouri  
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

**Financial Statement Finding**

2022-001 Segregation of Duties

*Auditor's Recommendation:* We realize because of limited resources and personnel, management may not be able to achieve a proper segregation of duties; however, our professional standards require that we bring this lack of segregation of duties to your attention in this report.

*Status:* Uncorrected. The limited number of available personnel prohibits segregation of incompatible duties and the City does not have the resources to hire additional accounting personnel.