CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
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HARRIS & COMPANY, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Mayor and City Council
City of Baxley, Georgia

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Baxley, Georgia, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Baxley, Georgia's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Baxley, Georgia, as of September 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Accounting* 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 Baxley, Georgia, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City of Baxley, Georgia'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.

P.O. BOX 448 - 274 SW BROAD STREET - JESUP, GA 31598 - PHONE: 912.427.3791 - FAX: 912.427.8760
P.O. BOX 680 - 317 MAIN STREET - BLACKSHEAR, GA 31516 - PHONE: 912.449.4724 - FAX: 912.449.0546

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, 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 Baxley, Georgia'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 Baxley, Georgia's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information, schedule of funding progress for pension, and related notes to the supplementary information \ be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the City of Baxley, Georgia's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedule of expenditures of special purpose local option sales tax proceeds are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of special purpose local option sales tax proceeds are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 14, 2025, on our consideration of the City of Baxley, Georgia'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 Baxley, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City of Baxley, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Harris & Langley, P.C.

Jesup, Georgia
February 14, 2025

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As Mayor of Baxley, Georgia, I offer readers of the City's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the City for the year ended September 30, 2024.

Financial Highlights

- The City of Baxley's assets exceeded its liabilities at September 30, 2024 by $36,481,285 (net position). Of this amount, $5,173,854 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

- As of September 30, 2024, the City's General Fund revenues and other financing sources (uses) exceeded expenditures by $257,214. This is a 49.84% decrease from a 2023 excess of revenues over expenditures of $512,768.

- At September 30, 2024, the City's governmental funds balance sheet reports combined ending fund balances of $11,435,951, an increase of $912,433 over the previous fiscal year. Of this amount, $5,028,890 or 43.97% remains in the General Fund of the City as unassigned.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the City of Baxley government's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements which may be of interest to the reader.

The first two statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both long-term and short-term information about the City's overall financial status in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the City government, reporting the City's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements.

Government-wide Financial Statements

Government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the financial position of the City of Baxley and are similar to private-sector financial statements. The government-wide statements include a statement of net position and a statement of activities.

The statement of net position shows the City's assets less its liabilities at September 30, 2024. The difference between these assets and liabilities is reported as net position. Changes in net position over time may be helpful in indicating an improving or deteriorating financial position.

The statement of activities follows the statement of net position and presents information showing how the net position changed during the fiscal year. The statement presents all underlying events, which give rise to the change, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Some included items, such as uncollected taxes will produce changes in a future fiscal period.

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

Governmental activities reported in the statements include general government, judicial, public safety, public works, culture and recreation, and housing and development.

The City's statement of net position can be found at Exhibit A of this report.

The City's government-wide statement of activities can be found at Exhibit B of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the City government, reporting the City's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The City of Baxley, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the City of Baxley can be divided into two categories: (1) governmental funds and (2) proprietary funds.

Governmental Funds

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

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

The City of Baxley maintains six individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the General Fund, 2018 SPLOST, and ARP Special Revenue Fund, which are considered to be major funds, as well as the T-SPLOST fund, 2024 SPLOST, and CDBG Fund which are non-major funds. The General Fund is used to account for all activities of the general government not accounted for in some other fund. The SPLOST & TSPLOST funds are used to account for capital projects approved via a referendum. The ARP Fund is special revenue fund used to account for revenues and expenditures related to Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received from the Federal Government. The CDBG Fund is a special revenue fund used to report activity related to the CDBG project which utilizes federal funds.

The City adopts an annual appropriated budget for its General Fund and special revenue funds. All unencumbered annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. All encumbered appropriations are carried forward in the following year's budget. Project-length financial plans are adopted for all capital project funds.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 17-21 of this report.

Proprietary Funds

The City of Baxley maintains one proprietary fund. Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The City uses an enterprise fund to account for water and sewer operation.

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The proprietary fund financial statements provide separate information for water and sewer in the proprietary fund financial statements.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes to the basic financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the basic financial statements can be found on pages 27-50 of this report.

Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents a budgetary comparison schedule for the General Fund as required supplementary information and can be found at Schedule 1. This report also includes certain required supplementary information concerning the City of Baxley, Georgia's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees. Required supplementary information can be found on pages 51-62.

The combining statements referred to earlier in connection with non-major governmental funds are presented immediately following the required supplementary information on pensions. Combining and individual fund statements and schedules can be found on pages 64-65 of this report.

The Downtown Development Authority is a component unit of the City of Baxley, Georgia. Information on how to obtain separately issued financial statements for the Authority can be found in Note 1.A on pages 29-30 of this report.

Net Position

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. As noted earlier, the City's combined net position totaled $36,481,285 as of September 30, 2024.

City of Baxley's Net Position-Exhibit A

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Current and other assets	$ 13,485,385	$ 12,487,491	$ 667,404	$ 878,440	$ 14,152,789	$ 13,365,931
Capital assets	14,824,468	13,225,001	13,422,749	13,283,862	28,247,217	26,508,863
Total assets	28,309,853	25,712,492	14,090,153	14,162,302	42,400,006	39,874,794
Deferred Outflows of Resources	104,928	436,133	127,204	238,441	232,132	674,574
Long-term liabilities outstanding	43,033	46,765	3,277,370	3,379,062	3,320,403	3,425,827
Other liabilities	2,239,609	2,516,015	590,841	729,839	2,830,450	3,245,854
Total liabilities	2,282,642	2,562,780	3,868,211	4,108,901	6,150,853	6,671,681
Deferred Inflows of Resources	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net position:						
Net investment in capital assets	14,824,468	13,225,001	10,178,391	9,932,816	25,002,859	23,157,817
Restricted	6,304,572	5,649,352			6,304,572	5,649,352
Unrestricted	5,003,099	4,711,492	170,755	359,027	5,173,854	5,070,519
Total net position	$ 26,132,139	$ 23,585,845	$ 10,349,146	$ 10,291,843	$ 36,481,285	$ 33,877,688

There was an increase of $2,603,597 in net position reported in the City's governmental and business-type activities. Net position for September 30, 2023 was reported at $33,877,688 and September 30, 2024 reports net position at $36,481,285.

The largest portion of the City's net position (68.36%) from governmental and business-type activities reflects its investment in capital assets such as land, buildings, water and sewer system, equipment and roads acquired during the year, net of related debt. The City uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the City's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of the City's net position (16.68%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net position (14.97%) may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. Internally imposed designations of resources are not presented as restricted net position.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the City is able to report positive balances in all three categories of net position for the governmental activities.

Governmental and Business-Type Activities

The following table presents a summary of the changes in net position for the year ended September 30, 2024:

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenues:						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	$ 2,048,447	$ 1,895,398	$ 2,042,750	$ 1,815,412	$ 4,091,197	$ 3,710,810
Operating grants and contributions	507,842	394,027			507,842	394,027
Capital grants and contributions	1,085,058	919,032	95,684		1,180,742	919,032
General revenues:						
Property taxes	858,732	782,495			858,732	782,495
Sales taxes	3,500,948	3,717,360			3,500,948	3,717,360
Franchise taxes	414,348	394,525			414,348	394,525
Alcoholic beverage taxes	209,997	220,880			209,997	220,880
Other taxes	22,701	18,186			22,701	18,186
Other revenues	101,416	40,654	13,389	7,769	114,805	48,423
Total revenues	8,749,489	8,382,557	2,151,823	1,823,181	10,901,312	10,205,738
Expenses:						
General government	970,598	926,008			970,598	926,008
Judicial	16,826	15,392			16,826	15,392
Public safety	1,591,935	1,633,807			1,591,935	1,633,807
Public works	2,229,612	1,992,603			2,229,612	1,992,603
Culture and recreation	23,934	23,934			23,934	23,934
Housing and development	693,017	749,813			693,017	749,813
Interest expense		2,486			-	2,486
Water and sewer			2,771,793	2,446,943	2,771,793	2,446,943
Total expenses	5,525,922	5,344,043	2,771,793	2,446,943	8,297,715	7,790,986
Increase in net position before transfers	3,223,567	3,038,514	(619,970)	(623,762)	2,603,597	2,414,752
Transfers	(677,273)	(193,396)	677,273	193,396	-	-

Governmental and Business-Type Activities

The following table presents a summary of the changes in net position for the year ended September 30, 2024 (Continued):

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Changes in net position	$ 2,546,294	$ 2,845,118	$ 57,303	$ (430,366)	$ 2,603,597	$ 2,414,752
Net position, beginning	23,585,845	20,740,727	10,291,843	10,722,209	33,877,688	31,462,936
Net position, ending	$ 26,132,139	$ 23,585,845	$ 10,349,146	$ 10,291,843	$ 36,481,285	$ 33,877,688

Governmental Activities

Governmental activities increased the City of Baxley's net position by $2,546,294, or 10.80%, primarily due to the purchase of capital assets during the fiscal year.

Business-Type Activities

Business-type activities increased the City's net position by $57,303, or 0.56%

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

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

Governmental Funds

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

The City of Baxley's governmental fund balance sheet is presented as Exhibit C on page 17 of this report. Most of the City's basic services are included under this fund category. Basic services consist of general government, courts, public safety, streets and sanitation, and airport. The balance sheet's focus is on (1) cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out, and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. The governmental funds balance sheet shows the City's overall funds financial status as of September 30, 2024.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the City. The General Fund's ending total fund balance was $5,131,379 of which $5,028,890 was unassigned.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Revenues and expenditures were higher than budgeted, with actual revenues and other uses exceeding expenditures by $257,214. There were no material budget violations in the General Fund.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Asset

The City of Baxley's investments in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of September 30, 2024 amounts to $25,002,859 (net of accumulated depreciation and related debt). This investment in capital assets consists of land, improvements, buildings, infrastructure, water and sewer system, and machinery and equipment. The total increase in investment in capital assets for the current fiscal year was $1,845,042 or 7.97%.

Additional information on the City of Baxley's capital assets can be found in Note III.C. on pages 38-39of this report.

Long-Term Debt

The City is paying on United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) water revenue bonds, a note payable to Bancorp South and a GEFA note. The USDA bonds in the water and sewer fund are paid monthly and will be paid off in 2047. The GEFA note in the water and sewer fund is paid monthly and will mature in 2042.

Additional information on the City of Baxley's long-term debt activity can be found in Note III.F. on pages 40-41.

Future Year Budget Projections

The City will be continuing improvements and projects at the airport, and could incur expenses related to this. The City is also in the process of expending LMIG funds. The City will also continue a major water and sewer extension project that will be paid for using ARP Funds along with an infrastructure grant from the State of Georgia.

Request for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Baxley, Georgia's finances for those with an interest in the Government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or request for additional information should be addressed to the Mayor, P.O. Box 290, Baxley, Georgia, 31515, Telephone (912) 367-8300.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Downtown Development Authority
ASSETS				
Cash	$ 11,838,477	$ 1,042,002	$ 12,880,479	$ 28,239
Receivables (net of allowance for uncollectibles)	611,718	290,095	901,813	
Internal balances	926,710	(926,710)	-	
Due from component unit	1,825		1,825	(1,825)
Prepaids	93,783	37,126	130,909	
Restricted cash	12,872	224,891	237,763	
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	524,441	699,072	1,223,513	
Construction in progress	1,651,651	486,524	2,138,175	
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation:				
Improvements	4,476,382		4,476,382	
Buildings	2,380,899	168,779	2,549,678	
Water and sewer system		11,376,686	11,376,686	
Machinery and equipment	856,128	691,688	1,547,816	
Infrastructure	4,934,967		4,934,967	
Total assets	28,309,853	14,090,153	42,400,006	26,414
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Pension deferrals	104,928	127,204	232,132	
Total deferred outflows of resources	104,928	127,204	232,132	

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

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Downtown Development Authority
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	400,943	105,081	506,024	
Customers' deposits	2,700	224,891	227,591	
Unearned revenue	1,620,782			
Non-current liabilities:				
Due within one year	-	109,884	109,884	
Due in more than one year	-	3,134,474	3,134,474	
Compensated absences	43,033	33,012	76,045	
Net pension liability	215,184	260,869	476,053	
Total liabilities	2,282,642	3,868,211	4,530,071	-
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	14,824,468	10,178,391	25,002,859	
Restricted for:				
Capital projects	6,304,572		6,304,572	
Unrestricted	5,003,099	170,755	5,173,854	26,414
Total net position	$ 26,132,139	$ 10,349,146	$ 36,481,285	$ 26,414

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

EXHIBIT B

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Program Revenues: Capital Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Primary Government: Governmental Activities	Primary Government: Business-type Activities	Primary Government: Total	Component Unit: Downtown Development Authority
Primary Government:								
Governmental activities:								
General government	$ 970,598	$ 779,105	$ 18,003		$ (173,490)		$ (173,490)	
Judiciary	16,826				(16,826)		(16,826)	
Public safety	1,591,935	248,040	217,250		(1,126,645)		(1,126,645)	
Public works	2,229,612	719,854	272,589	$ 225,782	(1,011,387)		(1,011,387)	
Culture and recreation	23,934				(23,934)		(23,934)	
Housing and development	693,017	301,448		859,276	467,707		467,707	
Total governmental activities	5,525,922	2,048,447	507,842	1,085,058	(1,884,575)		(1,884,575)	
Business-type activities- Water and sewer	2,771,793	2,042,750		95,684		$ (633,359)	(633,359)	
Total business-type activities	2,771,793	2,042,750	-	95,684		(633,359)	(633,359)	
Total primary government	$ 8,297,715	$ 4,091,197	$ 507,842	$ 1,180,742	(1,884,575)	(633,359)	(2,517,934)	
Component unit - Downtown Development Authority	$ 28,949	$ 12,735	$ 45,000					$ 28,786

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

EXHIBIT B

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Net (Expense) Revenue & Changes in Net Position			
	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Downtown Development Authority
Total primary government and component unit net (expense) revenue	$ (1,884,575)	$ (633,359)	$ (2,517,934)	$ 28,786
General revenues:				
Property taxes	858,732		858,732	
Sales taxes for general purposes	3,500,948		3,500,948	
Franchise taxes	414,348		414,348	
Alcoholic beverage taxes	209,997		209,997	
Other taxes	22,701		22,701	
Unrestricted investment earnings	51,071	13,389	64,460	
Miscellaneous revenues	50,345		50,345	
Total general revenues	5,108,142	13,389	5,121,531	-
Increase in net position before transfers	3,223,567	(619,970)	2,603,597	28,786
Transfers	(677,273)	677,273	-	
Change in net position	2,546,294	57,303	2,603,597	28,786
Net position – beginning, as previously reported	25,450,051	10,291,843	35,741,894	(2,372)
Error Correction	(1,864,206)		(1,864,206)	
Net position – beginning, restated	23,585,845	10,291,843	33,877,688	
Net position – ending	$ 26,132,139	$ 10,349,146	$ 36,481,285	$ 26,414

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

EXHIBIT C

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
BALANCE SHEET
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	GENERAL	CAPITAL PROJECTS SPLOST 2018	SPECIAL REVENUE ARP	OTHER GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
ASSETS					
Cash	$ 4,030,581	$ 4,661,225	$ 1,639,188	$ 1,507,483	$ 11,838,477
Receivable (net of allowances for uncollectibles)	252,612				252,612
Due from other funds	926,710			-	926,710
Intergovernmental receivable	226,902			132,204	359,106
Due from component unit	1,825				1,825
Prepaids	93,783				93,783
Restricted cash	12,872				12,872
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 5,545,285	$ 4,661,225	$ 1,639,188	$ 1,639,687	$ 13,485,385
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	$ 202,340			$ 14,746	$ 217,086
Other accruals and deferrals	183,857				183,857
Customer's deposits	2,700				2,700
Unearned revenue			1,620,782		1,620,782
Total liabilities	388,897	-	1,620,782	14,746	2,024,425
Deferred inflows of resources -					
Deferred revenue - property taxes	25,009				25,009
Total deferred inflows of resources	25,009	-	-	-	25,009
Fund Balances:					
Nonspendable -					
Prepaid expenditures	93,783				93,783
Restricted for -					
Capital projects		$ 4,661,225	$ 18,406	1,624,941	6,304,572
Committed to -					
Public safety	8,706				8,706
Unassigned	5,028,890				5,028,890
Total fund balances	5,131,379	4,661,225	18,406	1,624,941	11,435,951
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES	$ 5,545,285	$ 4,661,225	$ 1,639,188	$ 1,639,687	$ 13,485,385

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

EXHIBIT D

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
RECONCILATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES
TO NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Total Governmental Fund Balances		**$ 11,435,951**
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds, net of accumulated depreciation of $10,696,604		**14,824,468**
Other assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds:		
Deferred revenue		**25,009**
Deferred outflows of resources related to pension activity are not required to be reported in the funds but are required to be reported at the government-wide level		**104,928**
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:		
Compensated absences	**(43,033)**	
Net pension asset/(liability)	**(215,184)**	**(258,217)**
Net Position of Governmental Activities		**$ 26,132,139**

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

EXHIBIT E

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

	GENERAL	CAPITAL PROJECTS SPLOST 2018	SPECIAL REVENUE ARP	OTHER GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
REVENUES:					
Property taxes	$ 880,372				$ 880,372
Other taxes	2,371,322				2,371,322
Licenses and permits	807,544				807,544
Intergovernmental revenues	1,366,868	$ 427,308	$ 9,023	$ 1,440,589	3,243,788
Charges for services	992,862				992,862
Fines and fees	182,289				182,289
Commissions, penalties and interest	13,023				13,023
Investment income	30,021	88,720	18,406	16,757	153,904
Other revenue	114,400				114,400
Total revenues	6,758,701	516,028	27,429	1,457,346	8,759,504
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
General government	927,923				927,923
Judicial	16,826				16,826
Public safety	1,445,409				1,445,409
Public works	1,850,555				1,850,555
Housing and development	448,176				448,176
Capital outlay:					
General government	-				-
Judicial					-
Public safety	247,375	16,033			263,408
Public works	189,300	45,400		606,878	841,578
Housing and development	1,377,873				1,377,873
Total expenditures	6,503,437	61,433	-	606,878	7,171,748
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	255,264	454,595	27,429	850,468	1,587,756

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

EXHIBIT E

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

	GENERAL	CAPITAL PROJECTS SPLOST 2018	SPECIAL REVENUE ARP	OTHER GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) -					
Sale of Assets	$ 1,950				1,950
Transfers in (out)	-	$ (554,324)	$ (9,023)	$ (113,926)	$ (677,273)
Total other financing sources (uses)	1,950	(554,324)	(9,023)	(113,926)	(675,323)
NET CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	$ 257,214	$ (99,729)	$ 18,406	736,542	912,433
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING - AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	4,874,165	4,760,954	1,629,806	888,399	12,153,324
Error Correction			(1,629,806)		(1,629,806)
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING - RESTATED	4,874,165	4,760,954	-	888,399	10,523,518
FUND BALANCES, ENDING	$ 5,131,379	$ 4,661,225	$ 18,406	$ 1,624,941	$ 11,435,951

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

EXHIBIT F

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

Net change in fund balances – Total governmental funds		$ 912,433
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the costs of those assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period:		
Capital outlays	$ 2,497,326	
Depreciation expense	(897,859)	1,599,467
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds:		
Deferred revenues September 30, 2023	(36,971)	
Deferred revenues September 30, 2024	25,009	(11,962)
Deferred outflows of resources that do not provide current financial resources are not reported in the governmental funds:		
Deferred outflows of resources September 30, 2023	(436,133)	
Deferred outflows of resources September 30, 2024	104,928	(331,205)
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes current financial resources. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. Current activity:		
(Increase) decrease in net pension obligation/(asset)	373,832	
(Increase) decrease in compensated absences	3,732	377,564
Change in net position of governmental activities		$ 2,546,297

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

EXHIBIT G

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
PROPRIETARY FUND
WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash	$	1,042,002
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of $16,068)		254,978
Intergovernmental receivable		35,117
Prepaid insurance		37,126
Restricted cash - customers' deposits		224,891
Total current assets		1,594,114
CAPITAL ASSETS:		
Land		699,072
Construction in progress		486,524
Buildings		427,925
Equipment, vehicles and furniture		1,424,584
Water and sewer system		25,780,370
Total		28,818,475
Less accumulated depreciation		15,395,726
Total capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization)		13,422,749
Total noncurrent assets		13,422,749
TOTAL ASSETS	$	15,016,863
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:		
Pension deferrals	$	127,204

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

EXHIBIT G

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
PROPRIETARY FUND
WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable	$	75,396
Accrued expenses		29,685
Due to other funds		926,710
Bonds payable		65,651
GEFA notes payable		44,233
Customers' deposits		224,891
Total current liabilities		1,366,566
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:		
Compensated absences		33,012
Net pension liability		260,869
Notes payable		3,134,474
Total long-term liabilities		3,428,355
Total liabilities		4,794,921
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets		10,178,391
Unrestricted		170,755
Total net position	$	10,349,146

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

EXHIBIT H

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
PROPRIETARY FUND
WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

OPERATING REVENUES:	
Charges for services	$ 1,875,817
Miscellaneous	166,933
Total operating revenues	2,042,750
OPERATING EXPENSES:	
Personal services and employee benefits	779,525
Contractual services	461,118
Materials and supplies	648,538
Bad debts	-
Depreciation	768,765
Total operating expenses	2,657,946
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(615,196)
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES):	
Intergovernmental revenue	95,684
Interest expense	(113,847)
Interest income	13,389
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	(4,774)
Income before transfers	(619,970)
Transfers in (out)	677,273
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	57,303
NET POSITION, BEGINNING	10,291,843
NET POSITION, ENDING	$ 10,349,146

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

EXHIBIT I

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
PROPRIETARY FUND
WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Cash received from customers	$ 1,848,332
Cash payments for goods and services	(1,206,928)
Cash payments to employees	(724,446)
Cash received from other operating revenues	166,933
Net cash provided by operating activities	83,891
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Acquisition of capital assets	(907,651)
Interest paid on loan	(113,847)
Cash received from other governments	60,567
Transfers from Special Revenue Fund	113,926
Transfers from ARPA Fund	9,023
Transfers from 2018 SPLOST	554,324
Principal loaned from General Fund	235,475
GEFA note drawdowns	-
Principal paid on loan	(106,689)
Net cash used for capital and related financing activities	(154,872)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES -	
Interest received on investments	13,389
Net cash provided by investing activities	13,389
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND RESTRICTED CASH	(57,592)
CASH AND RESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING	1,324,485
CASH AND RESTRICTED CASH, ENDING	$ 1,266,893

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

EXHIBIT I

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
PROPRIETARY FUND
WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Operating income (loss)	$ (615,196)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation	768,765
Provision for uncollectible accounts	
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(34,735)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	(12,179)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(89,068)
Increase (decrease) in accrued expenses	3,975
Increase (decrease) in net pension obligation	50,082
Increase (decrease) in deposits	7,250
Increase (decrease) in compensated absences	4,997
Total adjustments	699,087
Net cash provided by operating activities	$ 83,891

NONCASH INVESTING, CAPITAL AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES -

There were no noncash investing, capital and financing activities.

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

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
INDEX TO NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The City's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the City are discussed below.

In June 1999, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) unanimously approved Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments. The significant changes in the GASB 34 Statement include the following:

a. A Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section providing an analysis of the City's overall financial position and results of operations.

b. Financial statements prepared using full accrual accounting for all of the City's activities, including infrastructure (road, bridges, etc.).

c. A change in the fund financial statements to focus on the major funds.

These and other changes are reflected in the accompanying financial statements (including notes to financial statements). The City has implemented the general provisions of the statement.

A. Reporting entity

The City is a political subdivision of the State of Georgia and is governed by a six member city council. The six members represent geographical districts within the City.

The City has implemented the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 14 "The Financial Reporting Entity". The financial reporting entity consists of (a) primary government, (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The nucleus of a financial reporting entity usually is a primary government; however, a governmental organization other than a primary government (such as a component unit, a joint venture, a jointly governed organization, or another stand-alone government) serves as the nucleus for its own reporting entity when it issues separate financial statements.

The City has met the criteria for classification as a primary government. The City has a separately elected governing body, is legally separate and is fiscally independent of other state and local governments. All funds, organizations, institutions, agencies, departments, and officers that are not legally separate of the primary government, for financial reporting purposes, are part of the primary government and are included in the financial statements of the City.

a. Discretely Presented Component Units

Based on GASB 14 criteria, the City has one entity that qualifies as a discretely presented component unit. The Downtown Development Authority of Baxley, Georgia is a corporate and political body created and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia. The Authority was established for the general purpose of stimulating and sustaining economic development in downtown Baxley. The seven-member governing board of the Authority is appointed by the City of Baxley City Council. Audited financial statements of this discretely presented component unit can be obtained directly from their administrative office. The year end of the Authority is September 30, 2024.

A. Reporting entity (Continued)

The address for the administrative office is as follows:

Downtown Development Authority of Baxley, Georgia
P.O. Box 290
Baxley, Georgia 31515

The City of Baxley, Georgia does not have a related organization.

B. Government-wide and fund financial statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of changes in net position) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of inter-fund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and agency funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

C. Measurement focus, basis of accounting, and financial statement presentation

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

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, franchise taxes, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

C. Measurement focus, basis of accounting, and financial statement presentation (Continued)

The government reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the government's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The City has elected to treat the 2018 SPLOST and ARP Special Revenue Fund as major funds. They account for capital projects approved by the voters.

The government reports the following major proprietary fund:

The water and sewer revenue fund accounts for the activities of the government's water and sewer operations by providing goods or services to the general public which are recovered primarily through user charges.

Additionally, the government reports the following fund types:

Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. The capital projects funds account for the financial resources that are to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary funds or trust funds).

Non-current Governmental Assets/Liabilities:

GASB Statement 34 eliminates the presentation of account groups, but provides for these reports to be maintained and incorporates the information into the governmental column in the government-wide statement of net position.

Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in both the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Governments also have the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance for their business-type activities and enterprise funds, subject to this same limitation. The government has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance.

As a general rule, the effect of inter-fund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. An exception to this general rule is payments-in-lieu of taxes. Elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the various functions concerned.

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

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

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

D. Assets, liabilities and net position or equity

1. Deposits

The City has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and cash with fiscal agent, and investments with original maturities of three months or less.

State statutes authorize the City to invest in obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by the U.S. Government and agencies of corporations of the U. S. Government; obligations of any state; obligations of any political subdivision of any state; certificates of deposit or time deposits of any national state bank or savings and loan which have deposits insured by the FDIC and FSLIC; prime banker's acceptances; repurchase agreements; and the local government pool established by state law.

The City, during the year, invested funds in the certificates of deposits and time deposits of local banks, U. S. Government obligations and obligations of agencies guaranteed by the U. S. Government.

2. Receivables and payables

In the fund financial statements, material receivables in governmental funds include revenue accounts such as property taxes, grants, and other similar intergovernmental revenues since they are usually both measurable and available. Non-exchange transactions collectible but not available are deferred in the fund financial statements in accordance with modified accrual, but not deferred in the government-wide financial statements in accordance with the accrual basis. Allowances for uncollectible accounts receivable are based upon historical trends and the periodic aging of accounts receivable.

The major receivable for the City is property taxes receivable. Property is appraised and a lien on such property becomes enforceable 60 days after final notification on delinquency of property taxes. Property taxes are levied by the last quarter of the year in which they are assessed, or as soon after as deemed practical. Taxes are due and payable when levied. Property taxes are levied on all taxable real, public utility and personal property (including vehicles) located within the City. Assessed values for property tax purposes are determined by the Appling County Board of Tax Assessors for all property except public utilities and motor vehicles. Assessed value is set at 40% of market value. Public utility assessed values are established by the State of Georgia. The City may place liens on property once the related tax payments become delinquent. Property tax millage rates are usually adopted in September and tax bills are rendered by October 15.

The property tax calendar is as follows:

Beginning of fiscal year for taxes	January 1, 2023
Millage rate adopted by ordinance	September 12, 2023
City tax digest approved	October 16, 2023
Real and personal property tax bills rendered	November 15, 2023
Real property tax payment due	January 15, 2024
Tax sales 2017-2023 delinquent real property tax and other assessments	Various

3. Inventories and prepaid items

All inventories are valued at cost using the first-in/first-out (Fifo) method. Inventories of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when purchased.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items.

D. Assets, liabilities and net position or equity (Continued)

4. Restricted assets

General Fund – Restricted cash is held by financial institutions in the City's name to purchase equipment and supplies to combat drug use.

Water and Sewer Revenue Fund – Cash is restricted to the extent of customer deposits for water and sewer services.

5. Capital assets

Capital assets purchased in the government fund types are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase. Such assets are capitalized at cost if a unit cost is $10,000 or more in the general capital assets. The City's policy is to capitalize significant interest costs incurred during construction as a part of the cost of capital assets. Gifts or contributions are recorded at their estimated fair market value on the date donated. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings	25-50
Equipment, vehicles and furniture	5-10
Infrastructure	20-50
Water and sewer system	20-50

Pursuant to GASB Statement 34, the retroactive reporting of major general infrastructure is optional. This category is likely to be the largest asset class of government and has historically not been reflected nor a measure of its consumption charged. Infrastructure assets include roads, bridges, underground pipe (other than related to utilities), traffic signals, etc. GASB Statement 34 requires the reporting and depreciation of new infrastructure expenditures effective with the beginning of the implementation year. The City has elected not to retroactively report its infrastructure.

6. Compensated absences

Compensated absences are absences for which employees will be paid, such as vacation, sick leave, etc. A liability for compensated absences that are attributable to services already rendered and that are not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the government and its employees is accrued as employees earn the rights to the benefits. Compensated absences that relate to future services or that are contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the government and its employees are accounted for in the period in which such services are rendered or such events take place. In governmental funds, compensated absences are recognized as expenditures, using the modified accrual basis of accounting. In the proprietary fund, compensated absences are recorded as an expense and liability of the fund that will pay for them.

The City's policy allows employees to accumulate a maximum of 240 hours. The employees can "cash-in" only 40 hours each year. All payments of these accumulated benefits will be funded from appropriations of the year in which they are paid.

7. Long-term obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities.

D. Assets, liabilities and net position or equity (Continued)

8. Fund equity

The governmental funds balance sheet classifies fund balance into the following areas: (1) Non-spendable, (2) Restricted for, (3) Committed to, (4) Assigned to, and (5) Unassigned. The City has all of these classifications except "Assigned to".

In the government-wide financial statements equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components as follows:

a. Net investment in capital assets, consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
b. Restricted net position consists of net position with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributions, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
c. Unrestricted net position consists of all other net position that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets".

For assigned fund balance, the City has authorized the council or a management official delegated that authority by formal city council action to assign amounts to a specific purpose.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed. For unrestricted amounts of fund balance, it is the City's policy to use fund balance in the following order:

- Assigned
- Unassigned

9. Expenditures and expenses

In the government-wide financial statements, expenses are classified by function for governmental activities. Administrative overhead charges are made to various functions and are included in direct expenses. In the fund financial statements, governmental fund expenditures are classified as by character i.e. current (further classified by function), debt service, and capital outlay.

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report expenditures of current financial resources.

10. Inter-fund transactions

Inter-fund transactions are reflected as either loans, services provided, reimbursement or transfer. Loans are reported as receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Services provided, deemed to be at market or near market rates, are treated as revenues and expenditures/expenses. Reimbursements are when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other inter-fund transactions are treated as transfers. Transfers between governmental or proprietary funds are netted as part of the reconciliation to the government-wide columnar presentation.

D. Assets, liabilities and net position or equity (Continued)

11. Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that may affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and the related notes. Accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates.

II. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A. Budgetary information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for all governmental funds except the capital projects funds, which adopt project-length budgets. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund, function, and department. The City Manager may make transfers of appropriations within a department. Transfers of appropriations between departments require the approval of the Council. The legal level of budgetary control (i.e., the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the department level.

B. Excess of expenditures over appropriations

For the year ended September 30, 2024, appropriations and other sources (uses) exceeded expenditures in the General Fund by $257,214. The City Council is given a copy of the budget report monthly. They have met with the various departments about the budget violations and plan to make corrections in the September 30, 2024 year. There were no material budget violations.

C. Deficit fund equity

The City does not have any deficit fund balances as of September 30, 2024.

III. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

A. Deposits

As of September 30, 2024, the City had the following investments.

Investment	Fair Value
Cash – checking and certificates of deposit	$ 13,118,242
Total cash and investments	$ 13,118,242

Reconciliation of financial statements to notes:

Cash and investments	$ 12,883,179
Restricted cash and investments	235,063
	$ 13,118,242

1. Interest Rate Risk

The City does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

2. Credit Risk

State law limits investments to (1) obligations of this state or other states, (2) obligations issued by the U. S. government, (3) obligations fully insured or guaranteed by the U. S. government or by a government agency of the United States, (4) obligations of any corporation of the U. S. government, (5) prime bankers' acceptances, (6) the local government investment pool established by state law, (the City has no investments in Georgia Fund 1), (7) repurchase agreements, and (8) obligations of other political subdivisions of this state. The City has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

3. Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Government's deposits may not be returned to it. The Government does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. As of September 30, 2024, all of the City's monies were either insured or collateralized.

B. Receivables

Receivables as of year-end for the Government's individual major funds and non-major funds in the aggregate, including the applicable allowance for uncollectible accounts, are as follows:

Receivables:	Taxes	Accounts and Notes	Intergovernmental	Gross Receivables	Less: Allowance for Uncollectibles	Net Receivables
General	$ 51,822	$ 221,676	$ 228,726	$ 502,224	$ (20,885)	$ 481,339
Water and Sewer		271,046		271,046	(16,068)	254,978
Non-major funds			132,204	132,204		132,204
Total	51,822	492,722	360,930	905,474	$ (36,953)	$ 868,521
Less allowance for uncollectibles	(14,469)	(22,484)		(36,953)		
Net receivables	$ 37,353	$ 470,238	$ 360,930	$ 868,521		

C. Capital assets

Capital assets activity for the year ended September 30, 2024 was as follows:

Governmental Activities	Ending Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Capital assets, not being depreciated-				
Land and land improvements	$ 524,441			$ 524,441
Construction in progress	1,305,364	$ 914,947	$ 568,660	1,651,651
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	1,829,805	914,947	568,660	2,176,092
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Buildings	5,027,819	1,017,576		6,045,395
Improvements	6,906,479	33,895		6,940,374
Equipment, vehicles and furniture	3,124,204	502,873		3,627,077
Infrastructure	6,135,439	596,695		6,732,134
Total assets being depreciated	21,193,941	2,151,039	-	23,344,980
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	(3,530,740)	(133,756)		(3,664,496)
Improvements	(2,214,569)	(249,423)		(2,463,992)
Equipment, vehicles and furniture	(2,493,723)	(277,226)		(2,770,949)
Infrastructure	(1,559,713)	(237,454)		(1,797,167)
Total accumulated depreciation	(9,798,745)	(897,859)	-	(10,696,604)
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	11,395,196	1,253,180	-	12,648,376
Net Governmental Activities Capital Assets	$ 13,225,001	$ 2,168,127	$ 568,660	$ 14,824,468
Business-type activities:				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	$ 699,072			$ 699,072
Construction in progress	467,125	$ 376,490	$ 357,091	486,524
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	1,166,197	376,490	357,091	1,185,596
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Buildings	415,850	12,075		427,925
Water and sewer system	25,276,798	503,572		25,780,370
Equipment, vehicles and furniture	1,051,978	372,606		1,424,584
Total capital assets, being depreciated	26,744,626	888,253	-	27,632,879
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	(245,084)	(14,062)		(259,146)
Water and sewer system	(13,763,343)	(640,341)		(14,403,684)
Equipment, vehicles and furniture	(618,534)	(114,362)		(732,896)
Total accumulated depreciation	(14,626,961)	(768,765)	-	(15,395,726)
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	12,117,665	119,488	-	12,237,153
Business-type activities capital assets, net	$ 13,283,862	$ 495,978	$ 357,091	$ 13,422,749

C. Capital assets (Continued)

Depreciation expenses were charged to functions/programs of the primary government:

Government activities:	
General government	$ 57,636
Public safety	156,057
Public works	384,533
Culture & recreation	23,934
Housing & development	275,699
Total depreciation expense-governmental activities	$ 897,859
Business-type activities –	
Water and sewer	$ 768,765
Total depreciation expense-business-type activities	$ 768,765

D. Inter-fund receivables, payables, and transfers

Inter-fund receivable and payable balances at September 30, 2024 are as follows:

	Interfund Receivables	Interfund Payables
Major Funds:		
General	$ 926,710	
Water and sewer		$ (926,710)
Total fund financial statements	926,710	(926,710)
Government-wide adjustment to internal balances:		
General fund		
Water and sewer		
Total	$ 926,710	$ (926,710)

These balances represent loans between the borrower fund and the lender fund. These balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) inter-fund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, and (3) payments between funds are made. Inter-fund receivables and payables are reported in the fund financial statements; however, they are eliminated in the government-wide financial statements if the inter-fund loans are between governmental funds.

D. Inter-fund receivables, payables, and transfers (Continued)

Inter-fund transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires collecting them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, (2) move receipts restricted to debt service from the funds collecting the receipts to the debt service fund as debt service payments become due and (3) use unrestricted revenues collected to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. The following are transfers made during the year:

	Proprietary Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds
	Water and Sewer	ARP	SPLOST 2018	Special Revenue CDBG
Transfers in:				
From CDBG Special Revenue Fund	$ 113,926			
From SPLOST 2012 Fund				
From SPLOST 2018 Fund	554,324			
From ARP Fund	9,023			
Transfers out:				
To Water and Sewer Fund		$ (9,023)	$ (554,324)	$ (113,926)
Total	$ 677,273	$ (9,023)	$ (554,324)	$ (113,926)

E. Leases

The City had no outstanding operating or capital leases at September 30, 2024.

F. Long-term debt

Primary government:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Amounts Due Within One Year
Governmental Activities:					
Compensated absences	$ 46,765		$ 3,731	$ 43,034	
Total Governmental Activites	46,765	-	3,731	43,034	-
Business-type Activities:					
Compensated absences	28,015	$ 4,997		33,012	
USDA bonds	2,439,463		62,869	2,376,594	65,651
GEFA Notes	911,583		43,820	867,763	44,233
Total Business-type Activities	3,379,061	4,997	106,689	3,277,369	109,884
Total Primary Government	$ 3,425,826	$ 4,997	$ 110,420	$ 3,320,403	$ 109,884

F. Long-term debt (Continued)

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) bonds – The City issued Water and Sewer revenue bonds in 2006. The original amount of the 2006 Series Bonds was $3,145,100. The bonds were issued for retirement of the 1992 Series Bonds and improvements to the Water and Sewer system. The interest rate for this issue is 4.375% and is payable in 468 monthly payments of $14,028.

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the USDA bonds are as follows:

Year Ending 30-Sep	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	65,651	102,685	168,336
2026	68,581	99,755	168,336
2027	71,643	96,693	168,336
2028	74,841	93,495	168,336
2029	78,181	90,155	168,336
2030-2034	446,477	395,203	841,680
2035-2039	555,427	286,253	841,680
2040-2044	690,966	150,714	841,680
2045-2047	324,827	14,892	339,719
	$ 2,376,594	$ 1,329,845	$ 3,706,439

GEFA Note – The City began drawing on a GEFA note for a water meter replacement project during the current year. The City began paying on this note in September of 2023. The interest rate for this issue is .94% and is payable in 240 monthly payments of $4,350. This note will mature in 2042.

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the GEFA note are as follows:

Year Ending 30-Sep	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	44,233	7,967	52,200
2026	44,651	7,549	52,200
2027	45,072	7,128	52,200
2028	45,498	6,702	52,200
2029	45,930	6,270	52,200
2030-2034	236,224	24,776	261,000
2035-2039	247,585	13,415	261,000
2040-2043	158,570	2,380	160,950
	$ 867,763	$ 76,187	$ 943,950

G. Short-term debt

The City had no short-term debt outstanding at year end, nor did they have any short-term debt activity during the year.

H. Classification of fund balances and restricted asset accounts

For the classification of fund balances, the City considers restricted or unrestricted amounts to have been spent when an expenditure is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available. Also for the classification of fund balances, the City considers committed, assigned, or unassigned amounts to have been spent when an expenditure is incurred for the purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used. The City has all of these classifications except "Assigned to".

When both restricted and unrestricted amounts of fund balance or net position are available for use for expenditures incurred, it is the City's policy to use restricted amounts first and then unrestricted amounts as they are needed. For unrestricted amounts of fund balance, it is the City's policy to use fund balance in the following order:

a. Committed
b. Assigned
c. Unassigned

A committed fund balance requires a majority vote of the City Council (which is the highest level of decision making authority). A majority vote of the City Council is needed to establish, modify or rescind a fund balance commitment. The following classifications of fund balances are used by the City:

Governmental Activities:
General Fund:
Nonspendable – Expended for contracts already purchased (prepaid insurance)
Committed to –Money from the ADTF Fund ($8,706)
Unassigned – The unrestricted fund balance which has not been committed or assigned
SPLOST Funds:
Restricted for – The restricted fund balance on the balance sheet is made up of $4,661,225 for the 2018 SPLOST Fund and $486,011 for the 2024 SPLOST Fund
ARP Special Revenue Fund:
Restricted for – Funds restricted for capital projects related to money received from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ($18,406)
Non-Major Funds:
Restricted for – The restricted fund balance on the "Other Governmental Funds" balance sheet is made up of $1,138,930 for the TSPLOST Fund

Changes in fund balances are as follows:

	General Fund		SPLOST Funds		Special Revenue	Non-major Funds
	Nonspendable	Committed to	Restricted for		Restricted for	Restricted for
	Prepaid Expenditures	Public Safety	SPLOST 2018	SPLOST 2024	Capital Projects ARP	TSPLOST
Fund balance, beginning of year	$ 67,033	$ 8,676	$ 4,760,953	$ -	$ -	$ 888,399
Increase (decrease) fund balance	26,750	30	(99,728)	486,011	18,406	250,531
Fund balance, end of year	$ 93,783	$ 8,706	$ 4,661,225	$ 486,011	$ 18,406	$ 1,138,930

IV. OTHER INFORMATION

A. Risk management

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The City joined together with other governments in the state as part of the Georgia Inter-local Risk Management Agency Property and Liability Insurance Fund, a public entity risk pool, currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for member local governments. The City pays an annual premium to the pool for its insurance coverage. The agreement for formation of inter-local risk management agency provides that the pool will be self-sustaining through member premiums.

The policy with GIRMA has a $1,000 deductible option with a $1,000,000 liability limit. There has not been any significant reduction in coverage during the past year. No settlements in excess of coverage have been made in any of the three prior years. The City's only risk of loss would occur if the loss exceeded the limit of liability as stated in the policy.

As part of these risk pools, the City is obligated to pay all contributions and assessments as prescribed by the pools, to cooperate with the pool's agents and attorneys, to follow loss reduction procedures established by the funds, and to report as promptly as possible, and in accordance with any coverage descriptions issued, all incidents which could result in the funds being required to pay any claim of loss. The City is also to allow the pool's agents and attorneys to represent the City in investigation, settlement discussions and all levels of litigation arising out of any claim made against the City within the scope of loss protection furnished by the funds.

The funds are to defend and protect the members of the funds against liability or loss as prescribed in the member government contract. The funds are to pay all costs taxed against members in any legal proceeding defended by the members, all interest accruing after entry of judgment, and all expenses incurred for investigation, negotiation of defense. The pooling agreement allows for GIRMA to make any additional assessments necessary to meet any financial deficiency, subject to the approval of the Georgia Insurance Commissioner. It is not possible to estimate the amount of such additional assessments.

At September 30, 2024 the City was not aware of any asserted claims that exceed the City's insurance coverage. Settled claims in the past three years have not exceeded the coverages.

GIRMA has published its own financial report, which can be obtained from the Georgia Municipal Association, 201 Pryor Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303.

B. Contingent liabilities

Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the City expects such amount, if any, to be immaterial.

The City attorney is not aware of any legal matters that may have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the City.

C. Joint venture

The City of Baxley, Georgia, in conjunction with cities and counties in the seventeen (17) county Heart of Georgia area are members of the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission. Membership in a Commission is automatic for each municipality and county in the state. The official Code of Georgia Section 50-8-34 (Georgia Planning Act of 1989) provides for the organizational structure of the Commissions. Each county and municipality in the state is required by law to pay minimum annual dues to the Commission. The City paid annual dues in the amount of $4,942 to the Commission for the year ended September 30, 2024. The Commission board membership includes the chief elected official of each county and chief elected official of each municipality. The county board members and municipal board members from the same county elect one member of the board who is a resident (but not an elected or appointed official or employee of the county or municipality) to serve as the nonpublic board member from a county. The Georgia Planning Act of 1989 (O.C.G.A. 50-8-34) defines these regional Commissions as "public agencies and instrumentalities of their members". Georgia laws also provide that the member governments are liable for any debts or obligations of a commission beyond its resources (O.C.G.A. 50-8-39.1).

Financial statements of the Commission may be obtained directly from:
Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission
501 Oak Street
Eastman, Georgia 31023

D. Sales tax revenue

SPLOST

2018 SPLOST

On March 21, 2017, Appling County voters approved a six year referendum to raise an estimated $5,750,000 to be used on the elimination of capital projects debt for water projects, various street projects, and replacement of a water tower within the City of Baxley. The monies are collected directly by Appling County and are remitted to the City of Baxley.

The sales tax levy took effect on January 1, 2018 and collection began in February 2018. The referendum calls for the tax to be levied for six years until the expiration date without regard to the monetary amount. This revenue will be reported in the sales tax capital projects fund.

2024 SPLOST

On March 21, 2023, Appling County voters approved a six year sales tax referendum to raise an estimated $3,500,000 to be used on various street projects, renovation of the law enforcement building, expansion and enhancement of the Water Works Park, the Pine Forest/Oak Ridge water and sewer installation project, and various other water and sewer projects. The monies are collected directly by Appling County and are remitted to the City of Baxley.

The sales tax levy took effect on January 1, 2024 and collection began in February 2024. The referendum calls for the tax to be levied for six years until the expiration date without regard to the monetary amount. This revenue will be reported in the sales tax capital projects fund.

TSPLOST

On November 6, 2012 voters in the Heart of Georgia Altamaha District, which includes the City of Baxley, approved a ten year referendum to raise funds for local transportation projects.

The sales tax levy took effect on January 1, 2013 and the first check was received in March 2013. The referendum calls for the tax to be levied for ten years until the expiration date. This revenue will be reported in the sales tax capital projects fund.

E. Employee retirement system

1. Defined Benefit Plan

a. Plan Description

The City's defined benefit pension plan, City of Baxley Retirement Plan, provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. City of Baxley Retirement Plan is an agent multiple-employer pension plan administered by the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS). The benefit provisions of the plan were established (and can be amended) by an adoption agreement executed by the City Council. The plan is noncontributory.

The plan is subject to minimum funding standards of the Public Retirement Systems Standards Law (Georgia Code Section 47-20-10). The Georgia Municipal Association issues a financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by contacting the Georgia Municipal Association at (404) 688-0472 or in writing at:

Georgia Municipal Association
201 Pryor Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3606

b. Funding Policy

The estimated minimum annual contribution under these standards is $70,953. The GMEBS Board of Trustees has adopted an actuarial funding policy that requires a different funding level than the estimated minimum annual contribution to minimize fluctuations in annual contribution amounts and to accumulate sufficient funds to secure benefits under the plan. If the employer contributes the recommended contribution developed under the actuarial funding policy each year, the plan will meet applicable state funding standards. The recommended contribution is the greater of (1) the minimum contribution and (2) normal cost (including administrative expenses) with interest, adjusted by a full funding credit to insure that contributions are not required if a plan's assets exceed the present value of future benefits.

c. Annual Pension Cost

The recommended contributions for 2024 and 2023 are developed below, based upon actuarial valuations as of January 1, 2024 and January 1, 2023:

	2024	2023
Normal cost:		
Plan benefits	$ 32,900	$ 41,372
Administrative expenses	13,698	13,620
Full funding credit less impact of state minimum	20,668	34,296
Adjustment	3,687	4,895
Recommended contribution	$ 70,953	$ 94,183
Covered payroll	$ 485,223	$ 603,870
Recommended contribution as a percent of covered payroll	14.62%	15.60%

E. Employee retirement system (Continued)

Actuarial cost method	Projected Unit Credit.
Amortization method	Closed level dollar for remaining unfunded liability.
Remaining amortization period	N/A
Asset valuation method	Sum of actuarial value at beginning of year and the cash flow during the year plus the assumed investment return, adjusted by 10% of the amount that the value exceeds or is less than the market value at end of year. The actuarial value is adjusted, if necessary, to be within 20% of market value.
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	7.375%
Projected salary increases	2.25% plus service based merit increases
Cost of living adjustments	0.00%
Inflation rate assumption	2.25%

Membership of the Plan:	
Retirees and beneficiaries receiving benefits	38
Terminated plan members entitled to, but not yet receiving benefits	16
Active plan members	13
Total	67

The schedule of funding progress presents multi-year trend information about whether the actuarial value of the plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial accrued liability for benefits.

d. Net Pension Liability

The City of Baxley, Georgia's net pension liability was measured as of September 30, 2024 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2024, using the actuarial assumptions noted under annual pension cost, applied to all periods included in the measurement.

Mortality tables were based on the RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table for Males or Females, as appropriate, with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Scale AA.

The actuarial assumptions used in the January 1, 2024 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2019.

E. Employee retirement system (Continued)

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block in which best-estimate ranges of 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 weighing the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of January 1, 2024 (see the discussion of the pension plan's investment policy) are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	45%	6.91%
International Equity	20%	7.21%
Fixed Income	25%	1.64%
Real Estate	10%	3.61%
Cash	0%	0.00%
Total	100%	

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.375%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that the City of Baxley, Georgia's contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rate. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability. The discount rate remained the same at 7.375% for fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2024.

E. Employee retirement system (Continued)

e. Changes in the Net Pension Liability

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension Liability
Opening balances	$ 5,848,137	$ 4,937,097	$ 911,040
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	19,452		19,452
Interest	415,253		415,253
Differences between expected and actual experience	(126,791)		(126,791)
Contributions - employer		93,798	(93,798)
Contributions - employee			
Net investment income		662,653	(662,653)
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(474,075)	(474,075)	
Administrative expense		(13,550)	13,550
Other changes			
Net changes	(166,161)	268,826	(434,987)
Closing balances	$ 5,681,976	$ 5,205,923	$ 476,053

The following presents the net pension liability of the City of Baxley, Georgia's calculated using the discount rate of 7.375%, as well as what the City of Baxley, Georgia's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.375%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.375%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.375%)	Current Discount Rate (7.375%)	1% Increase (8.375%)
City of Baxley, Georgia's Net pension liability	$999,539	$476,053	$26,618

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Georgia Municipal Association financial report.

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

For the year ended September 30, 2024, the City of Baxley, Georgia recognized pension expense of $101,253. At September 30, 2024, the City of Baxley, Georgia reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

E. Employee retirement system (Continued)

Differences between expected and actual experience		
Changes of assumptions		
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	232,132	
Total	$ 232,132	$ -

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

September 30-	Outflows	Inflows	Total
2025	$ 286,662	$(262,375)	$ 24,287
2026	286,662	(240,253)	46,409
2027	286,662	(62,613)	224,049
Thereafter	-	(62,613)	(62,613)
Total	$ 859,986	$(627,854)	$ 232,132

2. Defined Contribution Plan

The City has established a defined contribution plan for new employees. The defined contribution plan is established under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and is administered by Newport Group. Employee contributions are immediately vested while employer contributions are vested after five years of contributory service. The plan had 25 active members during the year.

The City contributes 8% of the gross pay of employees. The City contributed $60,817 for the year ended September 30, 2024.

3. Deferred Compensation Plan

The City also has a deferred compensation plan under section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code. Seventeen (8) plan members voluntarily invest their contribution ($7,600 for 2024) in various mutual funds held in trust by Nationwide Insurance Company.

4. Other Retirement Plans

In addition to the pension fund which the City is a trustee, the following cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension and retirement plans are in effect but are not under the direct control of the City:

Peace Officer's Annuity and Benefit Fund
Georgia Firemen's Pension Fund

E. Employee retirement system (Continued)

The police are covered under a separate pension plan which requires that certain sums from fines and bond forfeitures be remitted by the police department to the pension plan before the payment of any costs of other claims. The firemen are covered under a separate pension plan which requires that dues of $25 be paid from firemen each month in addition to the funds from insurance premium taxes.

F. Correction of an Error in Previously Issued Financial Statements and Restatement

a. Correction of an Error

During fiscal year 2024, the City determined that depreciation expense and accumulated depreciation related to a previously purchased capital asset had not been correctly reported over the useful life of the asset. Therefore, accumulated depreciation and depreciation expense had been understated by $234,400 over the useful life of the asset. In addition, the City determined that revenue related to the American Recovery Plan as reported in ARP Fund had been improperly recognized. The amounts were reported as revenue when received. These amounts should have been reported as unearned revenue. The effects of correcting these errors is shown below.

b. Restatement of Beginning Balances

During fiscal year 2024, error corrections resulted in restatement of beginning net position and fund balance, as follows:

	9/30/2023 As Previously Reported	Error Correction	9/30/2023 As Restated
Government-Wide			
Governmental Activities	$ 25,450,051	$ (1,864,206)	$ 23,585,845
Business-Type Activities	10,291,843		10,291,843
Total Primary Government	$ 35,741,894	$ (1,864,206)	$ 33,877,688
Governmental Funds			
Major Funds:			
General Fund	$ 4,874,165		$ 4,874,165
SPLOST 2018	4,760,954		4,760,954
ARP	1,629,806	(1,629,806)	-
Nonmajor Funds	888,399		888,399
Total Governmental Funds	$ 12,153,324	$ (1,629,806)	$ 10,523,518
Proprietary Fund			
Water and Sewer Fund	$ 10,291,843	$ -	$ 10,291,843

G. Subsequent events

There were no additional subsequent events.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION OTHER THAN MD&A

SCHEDULE 1

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
GENERAL FUND
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET OVER (UNDER)
	ORIGINAL	FINAL		
REVENUES:				
Property taxes	$ 815,000	$ 894,000	$ 880,372	$ (13,628)
Other taxes	2,255,000	2,370,000	2,371,322	1,322
Licenses and permits	729,000	805,000	807,544	2,544
Intergovernmental revenues	634,890	1,284,890	1,366,868	81,978
Charges for services	821,000	973,100	992,862	19,762
Fines and fees	200,000	200,000	182,289	(17,711)
Commissions, penalties and interest	2,000	5,800	13,023	7,223
Investment income	10,000	30,000	30,021	21
Other revenue	63,285	196,035	114,400	(81,635)
TOTAL REVENUES	5,530,175	6,758,825	6,758,701	(124)
EXPENDITURES:				
GENERAL GOVERNMENT-				
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION:				
Personal services and employee benefits	507,212	445,800	440,073	(5,727)
Purchased/contract services	276,150	277,450	252,799	(24,651)
Supplies	37,750	42,150	38,558	(3,592)
Interdepartmental charges	40,800	259,500	196,493	(63,007)
Other costs	8,000	-	-	-
Total financial administration	869,912	1,024,900	927,923	(96,977)
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	869,912	1,024,900	927,923	(96,977)
JUDICIAL-				
RECORDER'S COURT:				
Personal services and employee benefits	16,471	16,100	15,237	(863)
Purchased/contract services	1,000	1,750	1,589	(161)
Total recorder's court	17,471	17,850	16,826	(1,024)
TOTAL JUDICIAL	17,471	17,850	16,826	(1,024)

SCHEDULE 1

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
GENERAL FUND
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET OVER (UNDER)
	ORIGINAL	FINAL		
PUBLIC SAFETY:				
POLICE DEPARTMENT:				
Personal services and employee benefits	$ 983,800	$ 858,150	$ 855,585	$ (2,565)
Purchased/contract services	126,500	192,500	175,621	(16,879)
Supplies	88,250	88,450	82,920	(5,530)
Capital outlays	75,000	5,000	4,425	(575)
Interdepartmental charges	30,000	125,000	78,267	(46,733)
Other costs	38,500	-	-	-
Total police department	1,342,050	1,269,100	1,196,818	(72,282)
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
Personal services and employee benefits	117,200	123,000	123,524	524
Purchased/contract services	36,750	73,550	55,992	(17,558)
Supplies	39,500	32,000	28,005	(3,995)
Capital outlays	155,000	243,500	242,950	(550)
Other costs	6,000	-	-	-
Total fire department	354,450	472,050	450,471	(21,579)
ANIMAL CONTROL:				
Personal services and employee benefits	45,282	38,700	36,858	(1,842)
Purchased/contract services	3,950	2,800	2,120	(680)
Supplies	5,950	8,100	6,517	(1,583)
Interdepartmental charges	2,400	-	-	-
Total animal control	57,582	49,600	45,495	(4,105)
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	1,754,082	1,790,750	1,692,784	(97,966)
PUBLIC WORKS:				
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS:				
Personal services and employee benefits	593,510	636,600	630,374	(6,226)
Purchased/contract services	215,000	230,575	202,715	(27,860)
Supplies	230,400	319,500	307,417	(12,083)
Capital outlays	40,500	-	-	-
Interdepartmental Charges	20,400	35,000	33,820	(1,180)
Other costs	30,000	-	-	-
Total highways and streets	1,129,810	1,221,675	1,174,326	(47,349)

SCHEDULE 1

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
GENERAL FUND
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET OVER (UNDER)
	ORIGINAL	FINAL		
SANITATION AND WASTEWATER-				
Purchased/contract services	$ 570,000	$ 678,500	$ 676,229	$ (2,271)
Supplies	5,000	1,000	-	(1,000)
Capital outlays	250,000	190,000	189,300	(700)
Total sanitation and wastewater	825,000	869,500	865,529	(3,971)
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	1,954,810	2,091,175	2,039,855	(51,320)
HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT-				
AIRPORT:				
Personal services and employee benefits	$ 2,000	$ 1,500	$ 1,232	$ (268)
Purchased/contract services	62,000	118,100	101,083	(17,017)
Supplies	246,500	236,500	236,186	(314)
Capital outlays	515,000	1,362,000	1,377,873	15,873
Other costs	7,000	-	-	-
Total airport	832,500	1,718,100	1,716,374	(1,726)
CODE ENFORCEMENT:				
Personal services and employee benefits	56,350	58,300	54,689	(3,611)
Purchased/contract services	6,800	5,600	4,407	(1,193)
Supplies	16,850	22,150	21,298	(852)
Interdepartmental Charges	2,400	7,000	4,281	(2,719)
Total code enforcement	82,400	93,050	84,675	(8,375)
Economic Development				
Other costs	(25,000)	(25,000)	25,000	50,000
Total Economic development	(25,000)	(25,000)	25,000	50,000
TOTAL HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT	889,900	1,786,150	1,826,049	39,899
Total expenditures	$ 5,486,175	$ 6,710,825	$ 6,503,437	$ (207,388)

SCHEDULE 1

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
GENERAL FUND
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET OVER (UNDER)
	ORIGINAL	FINAL		
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	44,000	48,000	255,264	207,264
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)-				
Sale of assets	6,000	2,000	1,950	(50)
Total other financing sources and uses	6,000	2,000	1,950	(50)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	$ 50,000	$ 50,000	$ 257,214	$ 207,214
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	$ 4,874,165	$ 4,874,165	$ 4,874,165	$ 4,361,397
FUND BALANCES, ENDING	$ 4,924,165	$ 4,924,165	$ 5,131,379	$ 4,568,611

SCHEDULE 2

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
ARP SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS			VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET OVER
	ORIGINAL	FINAL	ACTUAL	(UNDER)
REVENUES-				
Intergovernmental revenues	$ 450,000	$ 100,000	$ 9,023	$ (90,977)
Investment income	-	-	18,406	18,406
Total revenues	450,000	100,000	27,429	(72,571)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in (out)	(450,000)	(100,000)	(9,023)	(90,977)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(450,000)	(100,000)	(9,023)	(90,977)
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	-	-	18,406	(163,548)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	-	-	-	
FUND BALANCE, ENDING	$ -	$ -	$ 18,406	$ (163,548)

SCHEDULE 3

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS – CITY OF BAXLEY RETIREMENT PLAN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) - Entry Age (b)	Unfunded AAL (or fund excess) (b-a)	Funded Ratio a/b	Covered Payroll c	UAAL (funding excess) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b-a)/c)
January 1, 2015	$3,903,591	$ 5,099,048	$ 1,195,457	76.6%	$1,360,758	87.9%
January 1, 2016	$4,237,112	$ 4,146,059	$ (91,053)	102.2%	$1,159,007	0.0%
January 1, 2017	$4,579,935	$ 4,287,933	$ (292,002)	106.8%	$1,092,604	0.0%
January 1, 2018	$4,781,696	$ 4,568,780	$ (212,916)	104.7%	$1,147,331	0.0%
January 1, 2019	$4,968,193	$ 4,728,672	$ (239,521)	105.1%	$1,021,832	0.0%
January 1, 2020	$5,088,084	$ 5,173,854	$ 85,770	98.3%	$ 919,663	9.3%
January 1, 2021	$5,175,499	$ 5,463,553	$ 288,054	94.7%	$ 945,101	30.5%
January 1, 2022	$5,344,365	$ 5,587,935	$ 243,570	95.6%	$ 759,410	32.1%
January 1, 2023	$5,341,952	$ 5,658,101	$ 316,149	94.4%	$ 603,870	52.4%
January 1, 2024	$5,315,407	$ 5,493,716	$ 178,309	96.8%	$ 485,223	36.8%

The schedule of funding progress presents multi-year trend information about whether the actuarial value of the plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial accrued liability for benefits.

SCHEDULE 4

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF REQUIRED CONTRIBUTIONS – CITY OF BAXLEY RETIREMENT PLAN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Year Ended	Annual Required Contribution	Percentage
1/1/2015	$ 276,468	100%
1/1/2016	$ 93,064	100%
1/1/2017	$ 88,683	100%
1/1/2018	$ 66,382	100%
1/1/2019	$ 50,395	100%
1/1/2020	$ 94,867	100%
1/1/2021	$ 117,359	100%
1/1/2022	$ 93,798	100%
1/1/2023	$ 94,183	100%
1/1/2024	$ 70,953	100%

SCHEDULE 5

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN BAXLEY, GEORGIA'S NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 THROUGH 2024

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total Pension Liability				
Service Cost	$ 19,452	$ 24,607	$ 31,116	$ 29,764
Interest	415,253	408,934	405,918	387,306
Difference between expected and actual experience	(126,791)	115,819	24,116	189,806
Change of Assumptions				
Benefit payments including refunds of member contributions	(474,075)	(442,978)	(384,492)	(327,257)
Other				
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	(166,161)	106,382	76,658	279,619
Total Pension Liability - Beginning	5,848,137	5,741,755	5,665,097	5,385,478
Total Pension Liability - Ending	$ 5,681,976	$ 5,848,137	$ 5,741,755	$ 5,665,097
Plan Fiduciary Net Pension				
Contributions - Employer	$ 93,798	$ 117,359	$ 94,867	$ 50,395
Contributions - Employee				
Net Investment Income	662,653	(984,117)	1,267,601	476,751
Benefit payments including refunds of employee contributions	(474,075)	(442,978)	(384,492)	(327,257)
Administrative Expense	(13,550)	(13,454)	(13,783)	(13,656)
Other				
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	268,826	(1,323,190)	964,193	186,233
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	4,937,097	6,260,287	5,296,094	5,109,861
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending	$ 5,205,923	$ 4,937,097	$ 6,260,287	$ 5,296,094
Baxley, Georgia's Net Pension Liability - Ending	$ 476,053	$ 911,040	$ (518,532)	$ 369,003
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total Pension Liability	91.62%	84.42%	109.03%	93.49%
Covered - Employee Payroll	485,223	603,870	759,410	945,101
Baxley, Georgia's Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered - Employee Payroll	98.11%	150.87%	-68.28%	39.04%

SCHEDULE 6

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA'S CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 THROUGH 2024

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total Pension Liability				
Actuarially Determined Contribution	$ 94,183	$ 93,798	$ 117,359	$ 94,867
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	94,183	93,798	117,359	94,867
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Covered - Employee Payroll	485,223	603,870	759,410	945,101
Contributions as a percentage of Covered - Employee Payroll	19.41%	15.53%	15.45%	10.04%

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Note 1. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

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

1. In July of each year, the City Manager, as the Council's designated budget officer, discusses with the department heads the budget for the ensuing fiscal year.

2. The Council reviews and/or amends the budget as it shall deem necessary or to provide that the budget remains in balance.

3. After the proposed budget is transmitted to members of the governing authority, a public hearing shall be held to give the public the opportunity to comment upon the proposed budget. Notice of such public hearing shall be given in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality no more than twenty days and no less than five days in advance of the hearing.

4. Not later than September 30, the budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance. In the event the proposed budget is not adopted for any reason, the budget for the preceding year shall be and become the budget for the City during the current year.

5. Any transfers between line items within the same department may be authorized by the City Manager.

6. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund.

7. Budgets for the General and Special Revenue Funds are adopted on the accrual basis except that encumbrances are treated as budgeted expenditures in the year of the incurrence of the commitment to purchase. Because there were no encumbrances outstanding at the end of the year in any of the funds, the budgets for these funds are presented on a GAAP basis.

8. Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the City Council. Individual amendments were not material in relation to the original appropriations which were amended. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end. There were no material supplementary appropriations made during the year.

The legal level of control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) for each legally adopted annual operating budget is at the object level within departments.

Fund Type	Original Appropriations	Supplemental Appropriations	Supplemental Decreases	Final Appropriations
General	$ 5,530,175	$ 1,228,650	$ -	$ 6,758,825

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Note 1. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting (Continued)

The actual results of operations on the budgetary basis are presented in the Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis) General, Special Revenue and Capital Projects Funds in order to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget.

Individual fund budgetary comparison schedules are presented for the General Special Revenue Funds at the legal level of control. A project-length balanced budget is presented for each Capital Projects Fund.

There were no material excesses of expenditures over appropriations in individual funds.

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA – COMBINING AND INDIVIDUAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE 7

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	CAPITAL PROJECTS		SPECIAL REVENUE	TOTAL NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
	TSPLOST	SPLOST 2024	CDBG	
ASSETS:				
Cash	$ 1,129,464	$ 378,019		$ 1,507,483
Due from other funds				-
Intergovernmental receivable	9,466	107,992	$ 14,746	132,204
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 1,138,930	$ 486,011	$ 14,746	$ 1,639,687
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE:				
LIABILITIES:				
Accounts payable			$ 14,746	$ 14,746
Due to funds				-
Total liabilities	-	-	14,746	14,746
Fund balance:				
Restricted-				
Capital projects	$ 1,138,930	$ 486,011	$ -	1,624,941
Total fund balance	1,138,930	486,011	-	1,624,941
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	$ 1,138,930	$ 486,011	$ 14,746	$ 1,639,687

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	CAPITAL PROJECTS		SPECIAL REVENUE	TOTAL NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
	TSPLOST	SPLOST 2024	CDBG	
REVENUES:				
Intergovernmental	$ 843,296	$ 483,367	$ 113,926	$ 1,440,589
Investment earnings	14,113	2,644		16,757
Total revenues	857,409	486,011	113,926	1,457,346
EXPENDITURES:				
Current-				
Public safety				-
				-
Capital outlay:				-
Public safety				-
Public works	606,878			606,878
Total expenditures	606,878	-	-	606,878
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	250,531	486,011	113,926	850,468
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) -				
Transfers in (out)			(113,926)	(113,926)
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	(113,926)	(113,926)
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	250,531	486,011	-	736,542
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING	888,399	-	-	888,399
FUND BALANCES, ENDING	$ 1,138,930	$ 486,011	$ -	$ 1,624,941

SCHEDULE 9

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
COMPONENT UNIT – DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

ASSETS:		
Current assets:		
Cash	$	28,239
Accounts Receivable		-
Total assets		28,239
LIABILITIES:		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable		-
Due to primary government		1,825
Deferred revenue		-
Total current liabilities		1,825
Long-term liabilities -		
Notes payable		-
Total liabilities		1,825
NET POSITION:		
Unrestricted		26,414
Total net position	$	26,414

SCHEDULE 10

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
COMPONENT UNIT – DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Charges for Services	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position: Downtown Development Authority
Component Unit – Downtown Development Authority	$ 28,949	$ 12,735	$ 45,000	$ 28,786
General Revenues				
Unrestricted investment earnings				-
Total general revenues				-
Changes in Net Position				28,786
Net Position, Beginning				(2,372)
Net Position, Ending				$ 26,414

SCHEDULE 11

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED
WITH SPECIAL SALES TAX PROCEEDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	Original Estimated Cost	Revised Estimated Cost	Expenditures			Estimated Percentage of Completion
			Prior Years	Current Year	Total	
2018 SPLOST:						
Road, street & bridge improvements and purchase of equipment	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,506,531	$ 295,500	$ 45,400	$ 340,900	22.63%
Fire equipment and vehicles	850,000	850,000	363,310	16,033	379,343	44.63%
Water & sewer improvements and purchase of equipment	2,500,000	2,500,000	474,700	473,415	948,115	37.92%
Replace water tower at Water Works Park	750,000	750,000	-	80,909	80,909	10.79%
GEFA loan repayment for solar project	1,000,000	993,469	993,469		993,469	100.00%
Total	$ 6,600,000	$ 6,600,000	$ 2,126,979	$ 615,757	$ 2,742,736	
2024 SPLOST:						
Road, street & bridge improvements and purchase of equipment	$ 175,000	$ 175,000	$ -		$ -	0.00%
Renovation of law enforcement building	1,000,000	1,000,000			-	0.00%
Expansion and enhancement at Water Works Park	650,000	650,000			-	0.00%
Water & sewer improvements and purchase of equipment	400,000	400,000			-	0.00%
Pine Forest/Oak Ridge water/sewer installation project	1,275,000	1,275,000			-	0.00%
Total	$ 3,500,000	$ 3,500,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	

SCHEDULE 12

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 23p-x-001-2-6336 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Total program year 2023 funds allocated to recipient	$ 1,000,000
Less: Total program year 2023 funds drawn by recipient in prior year	-
Less: Deobligated remaining funds	-
Less: Total program year 2023 funds drawn by recipient	99,180
	99,180
Funds still available from program year 2023 resources	900,820.00
Total program year 2023 funds drawn and received by recipient	$ 99,180
Less: Funds applied and expended to program year 2023 costs	99,180
Total program year 2010 funds held by recipient	-

SCHEDULE 13

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 23p-x-001-2-6336 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
PROJECT COST SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Program Activity And Number	Latest Approved Budget CDBG Funds	Accumulative Expenditures To Date CDBG Funds	Accumulative Expenditures To Date Other Funds	Grant Total Expenditures To Date
Engineering				
T-03J-00	$ 99,610	$ 92,746	$ -	$ 92,746
Sewer Improvements				
P-03J-02	840,390	-	-	-
Administration				
A-21A-00	60,000	21,180	-	21,180
TOTAL	$ 1,000,000	$ 113,926	$ -	$ 113,926

HARRIS & COMPANY, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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 Mayor and City Council
City of Baxley, Georgia

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Baxley, Georgia, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Baxley, Georgia's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 14, 2025.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City of Baxley, Georgia's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Baxley, Georgia's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Baxley, Georgia'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 have not been identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items (2019.1) that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

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Compliance and Other Matters

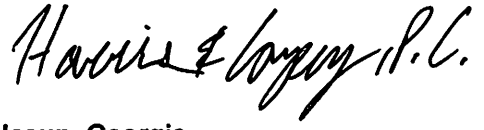
As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City of Baxley, Georgia's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests did not disclose instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

City of Baxley, Georgia's Response to Findings

City of Baxley, Georgia's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. City of Baxley, Georgia's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we 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.



Jesup, Georgia
February 14, 2025

CITY OF BAXLEY, GEORGIA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDIT

2019.1 Segregation of duties

Conditions:

A proper segregation of duties does not exist between the handling of cash receipts and disbursements, access to accounts receivable and accounts payable detail, access to the general ledger, and reconciliation of bank accounts.

Criteria:

Person(s) handling cash receipts or disbursements should not sign checks, perform bank reconciliations, or have access to the accounting system.

Effect:

Small number of personnel makes it impractical to segregate duties sufficiently to insure proper cash management and financial reporting.

Recommendation:

The Mayor and City Manager should review the general ledger monthly and periodically compare it to detailed schedules of receipts and disbursements, receipts books and bank reconciliations. They should also provide the City Council with monthly financial reports.

Response:

This office concurs with this finding.

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www.baxley.org

CITY OF BAXLEY
Est. 1875

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Baxley, Georgia 31515
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CITY OF BAXLEY-CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

FYE: September 30, 2024

2019.1 Segregation of duties

A small number of employees makes it impractical to segregate duties sufficiently to ensure proper cash management and financial reporting. Currently, we are financially unable to hire additional personnel. Each person has multiple duties. The City Manager reviews the invoices, reviews reconciliations, and reviews deposits. The city clerk performs the bank reconciliations, makes deposits, and on occasion, writes checks. The accounts payable clerk enters the invoices and writes the checks. The City Manager reviews and approves all invoices, checks, and financials. Management has instituted the best "check-and-balance" system that can be established with the limited resources available.

Expenditures over appropriations

The Council and management will be keeping a closer eye on the budget to actual expenditures and amending the budget as necessary. The City Manager and clerk will be working together to keep the financials updated and provide the Council the information to amend the budget as necessary.

Tim Varnadore

Tim Varnadore, Mayor

2/14/25

Date

Mayor - Tim Varnadore, Council Members: District 1 - Santina Fryer, District 2 - Ora S. Hall, Mayor Pro Tem/ District 3 - Mickey Bass, District 4 - Adam Thomas, District 5 - Betty Livingston, District 6 - David Gore
City Manager - Keri Orvin, City Clerk - Jessica McLellan, City Attorney - Alex Johnson