

City Manager..... (802) 334-5136
334-3891
City Clerk - Treasurer..... 334-2112
334-3892
Public Works..... 334-2124
Zoning Adm. Assessor..... 334-6992
Recreation - Parks..... 334-6345
Tax..... 334-5632



City of Newport
222 Main Street
Newport, Vermont 05855

October 26, 2021

Kittell, Branagan & Sargent
154 North Main Street
St. Albans, VT 05478

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit(s) of the financial statements of City of Newport, Vermont, which comprise 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 as of June 30, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows for the years then ended, and the disclosures (collectively, the "financial statements"), for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of October 26, 2021, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated June 18, 2021, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP and for preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility 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.
- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.

- 5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- 6) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 7) Adjustments or disclosures have been made for all events, including instances of noncompliance, subsequent to the date of the financial statements that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.
- 8) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 9) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the City is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

- 10) We have provided you with:
 - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records (including information obtained from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers), documentation, and other matters [and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources].
 - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - c) Unrestricted access to persons within the City from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
 - d) Minutes of the meetings of City Council or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 11) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 12) We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 13) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the City and involves—
 - Management,
 - Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
 - Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 14) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the City's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.

- 15) We have no knowledge of instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or waste or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 16) We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- 17) We have disclosed to you the names of the City's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions, including any side agreements.

Government-specific

- 18) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 19) We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the objectives of the audit and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 20) We have identified to you any investigations or legal proceedings that have been initiated with respect to the period under audit.
- 21) The City has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance or net position.
- 22) We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits and debt contracts, and legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 23) We have appropriately disclosed all information for conduit debt obligations in accordance with GASBS No. 91 .
- 24) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances of identified and suspected fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 25) There are no violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving, and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance.
- 26) As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the financial statements and disclosures. We acknowledge our responsibility as it relates to those nonaudit services, including that we assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services performed; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements and disclosures.
- 27) The City has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 28) The City has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.

- 29) The financial statements include all component units, appropriately present majority equity interests in legally separate organizations and joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.
- 30) The financial statements include all fiduciary activities required by GASBS No. 84 .
- 31) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities in accordance with GASBS No. 34 , as amended.
- 32) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASBS Nos. 34 and 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.
- 33) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and classifications of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 34) Investments, derivative instruments, and land and other real estate held by endowments are properly valued.
- 35) Provisions for uncollectible receivables have been properly identified and recorded.
- 36) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 37) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, general revenues, contributions to term or permanent endowments, or contributions to permanent fund principal.
- 38) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.
- 39) Deposits and investment securities and derivative instruments are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.
- 40) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated or amortized.
- 41) We have appropriately disclosed the City's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
- 42) We are following our established accounting policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available. That policy determines the fund balance classifications for financial reporting purposes.
- 43) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.

44) With respect to the Budgetary Comparison Schedule, Schedule or Proportionate Change of the Net Pension Liability and the Schedule of Contributors:

- a) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the supplementation information identified above in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
- b) If the supplementary information is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.

Signature: *Anna L. Dobson*
Title: *City Manager, City of Newport*
November 4, 2021

Signature: _____
Signature: _____