

**TAX COLLECTOR  
OF BETHEL TOWNSHIP**

**AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT**

**FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1, 2020  
THROUGH  
JANUARY 31, 2021**



CYNTHIA FRIZER LEITZELL, CPA  
STELLA C. ECONOMIDIS, CPA

LEITZELL & ECONOMIDIS, PC  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

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Board of Supervisors  
Bethel Township  
Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying statements of current real estate, fire, and library taxes (per original tax duplicate)- cash basis and the interim taxes collected - cash basis (the financial statements) of the Bethel Township Tax Collector for the period February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021, and the uncollected tax as submitted to the Tax Claim Bureau of Delaware County as of January 31, 2021 and the related notes to the financial statements.

### **The Tax Collector's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

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

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Tax Collector, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the statements of current general real estate, fire, and library taxes - cash basis and interim taxes collected-cash basis referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, the collections for current real estate taxes and interim real estate taxes of Bethel Township for the period February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021, and the uncollected balances for the tax year 2020 on the basis of accounting described in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

### ***Other Matters***

The accompanying financial statements were prepared for the purpose of complying with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's *Local Tax Collection Law*, as described in Note II, and are intended to present the results of operations of only the portion of the financial reporting entity of the Bethel Township that is attributable to the transactions of the Tax Collector of Bethel Township.

### **Basis of Accounting**

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

*Leitzell & Economidis, PC*

LEITZELL & ECONOMIDIS, PC  
Certified Public Accountants

March 3, 2021  
Media, Pennsylvania

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP**  
**STATEMENT OF CURRENT GENERAL REAL ESTATE, FIRE AND LIBRARY TAXES (PER ORIGINAL TAX DUPLICATE) - CASH BASIS**  
**INCLUSIVE OF 2020 ASSESSED INTERIMS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021**

	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>FIRE</u>	<u>LIBRARY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Assessed valuation	\$ 731,553,919	\$ 731,553,919	\$ 731,553,919	\$ 731,553,919
Millage (per thousand dollars of assessed valuation) 1.865	1.690	0.125	0.050	1.865
Original assessed tax levy	\$ 1,236,324	\$ 91,446	\$ 36,578	\$ 1,364,348
Interim assessed tax levy in 2020 prorated	2,642	195	78	2,915
Less: Total collections at face including January 2021 Interim collections of 2020 assessments	(1,214,731) <u>(1,503)</u>	(89,849) <u>(111)</u>	(35,940) <u>(45)</u>	(1,340,520) <u>(1,659)</u>
Uncollected tax revenues as of January 31, 2021 at face	22,732	1,681	671	25,084
Plus: Penalty at 10%	<u>2,273</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>2,508</u>
Total uncollected taxes at January 31, 2021	<u>\$ 25,005</u>	<u>\$ 1,849</u>	<u>\$ 738</u>	<u>\$ 27,592</u>
Uncollected taxes remitted to County for lien	\$ 21,593	\$ 1,597	\$ 638	\$ 23,828
2020 interim uncollected taxes remaining and not yet lien	-	-	-	-
Penalty	<u>2,634</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>2,893</u>
	<u>\$ 24,227</u>	<u>\$ 1,694</u>	<u>\$ 800</u>	<u>\$ 26,721</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP**  
**STATEMENT OF INTERIM TAXES COLLECTED - CASH BASIS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021**

	<b>2020 Interim Taxes</b>
New interim assessment	\$ 4,767,068
Original assessment for interim properties	<u>2,438,020</u>
Net increase in assessment	2,329,048
Millage (per thousand dollars of assessed valuation)	<u>1.865</u>
Original interim levy assessment	<u>\$ 43,087</u>
Prorated interim levy	\$ 2,915
Less : Collections at face	<u>(1,659)</u>
Uncollected taxes at January 31, 2021 at face	1,256
Plus: 10% penalty	<u>126</u>
Uncollected interim tax revenue at January 31, 2021	<u>\$ 1,382</u>

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
CURRENT REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTED  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JANUARY 31, 2021**

Bethel Township is a second-class Township within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is governed by an elected Board of Supervisors. The Township's financial statements are prepared on a cash basis of accounting in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

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

Tax collections for Bethel Township are allocated among funds pursuant to budget and ordinance. This report reflects only the current real estate collections (2020 assessment collection) and current interim collections for Bethel Township.

The accounts of the Township are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The books and records of the Tax Collector of Bethel Township are maintained on the cash basis of accounting, a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Receipts of real estate taxes are recorded when received. Any discounts or penalties associated with a collection are also recognized when the related payment is received. A penalty of 10 percent has been added to the uncollected current real estate tax balance reflecting the total amount of the 2020 assessment turned over to the County of Delaware for subsequent delinquent collection. Interim assessments and collections are not included in the current real estate assessment and collections but are shown on a separate schedule herein.

The Township has an elected tax collector.

For the purposes of these financial statements, the face collections include January 2021 receipts reflected as part of the 2020 Tax Collector activities to enable the reader to better reconcile that amount truly outstanding of the 2020 assessment. Also included are the 2020 interim tax assessment and collections. Remaining interim assessments are not lien until after one year.

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
CURRENT REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTED  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JANUARY 31, 2021**

**NOTE I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

For 2020, the following tax was levied on assessed value of real estate:

- 1.865 mills in total was levied as follows:
  - 1.69 mills for General Purposes
  - .125 mills for Fire
  - .050 mills for Library
- Real estate bills: mailed February 1
- Discount period – February 1 to March 31 – 2% of gross levy
- Face period – April 1 to May 31
- Penalty period – June 1 to collection – 10% of gross levy

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the other comprehensive basis of accounting used in the preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Although these estimates are based on management's knowledge of current events and actions it may undertake in the future, they may ultimately differ from actual results.

**NOTE II. LOCAL TAX COLLECTION LAW**

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Act of May 25, 1945, P.L. 1050, No. 394, and all amendments through March 22, 2002; §72 P.S. 5511/et seq., known as the *Local Tax Collection Law* relates to the collection of taxes levied by counties, county institution districts, cities of the third class, boroughs, towns, townships, certain school districts and vocational school districts; conferring powers and imposing duties on tax collectors, courts and various officers of said political subdivisions; and prescribing penalties.

**NOTE III. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements include only the real estate tax collection for the current year. Prior year real estate taxes are collected by the County of Delaware.

**NOTE IV. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated subsequent events through March 3, 2021, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.