ATTESTATION ENGAGEMENT

Township of Springettsbury

York County, Pennsylvania

66-227

Liquid Fuels Tax Fund

For the Period

January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

June 2018

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General

Eugene A. DePasquale • Auditor General

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0018
Facebook: Pennsylvania Auditor General
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www.PaAuditor.gov

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE
AUDITOR GENERAL

Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Leslie Richards
Secretary
Department of Transportation
Harrisburg, PA 17120

We examined the accompanying Form MS-965 With Adjustments for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund of the Township of Springettsbury, York County, for the period January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. The municipality's management is responsible for presenting the Form MS-965 in accordance with the criteria set forth in Note 1. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Form MS-965 With Adjustments based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Form MS-965 is in accordance with the criteria described above, in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Form MS-965. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Form MS-965, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are mandated by Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*, 72 P.S. § 403, to audit each municipality's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund to ensure that funds received are expended in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States include attestation engagements as a separate type of audit. An attestation engagement performed pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards* involves additional standards that exceed the standards provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Accordingly, this attestation engagement complies with both *Government Auditing Standards* and Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*.

As described in Note 4, the adjustments included on the Form MS-965 With Adjustments are made by the Department of the Auditor General.

As discussed in Finding No. 1, the township expended $37,609.31 from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for traffic signal maintenance without advertising for bids. This amount was reimbursed to the township's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund on December 22, 2017, which was subsequent to our examination period. Additionally, as discussed in the Summary Of Prior Examination Recommendations, in our prior report we recommended that the township reimburse $69,550.96 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. This amount consisted of $51,472.04 for expenditures made in noncompliance with advertising for bidding procedures and $18,078.92 for nonpermissible expenditures. The municipality reimbursed $69,550.96 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund on December 22, 2017, which was subsequent to our examination period.

In our opinion, except for the matters discussed in the preceding paragraph, the Form MS-965 With Adjustments presents, in all material respects, the information required by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund of the Township of Springettsbury, York County, for the period January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, in accordance with the criteria set forth in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report all deficiencies that are considered to be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control; fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws or regulations that have a material effect on the Form MS-965; and any other instances that warrant the attention of those charged with governance; noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and abuse that has a material effect on the Form MS-965. We are also required to obtain and report the views of responsible officials concerning the findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as any planned corrective actions. We performed our examination to express an opinion on whether the Form MS-965 is presented in accordance with the criteria described above and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on internal control over reporting on the Form MS-965 or on compliance and other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinions.

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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Form MS-965 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.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Our consideration of internal control over reporting on the Form MS-965 was for the limited purpose of expressing an opinion on whether the Form MS-965 is in accordance with the criteria described above and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our engagement we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Form MS-965 is free from material misstatement, we performed tests of the Township of Springettsbury, York County's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of amounts on the Form MS-965. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our engagement, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed the following instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*:

- Noncompliance With Advertising And Bidding Requirements - Recurring

- Nonpermissible Expenditures - Recurring

The purpose of this report is to determine whether the municipality's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money is spent in accordance with the laws and regulations identified in the Background section of this report and the Department of Transportation's *Publication 9*. This report is not suitable for any other purpose.

We appreciate the courtesy extended by the Township of Springettsbury, York County, to us during the course of our examination. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael B. Kashishian, CPA, CGAP, CFE, Director, Bureau of County Audits, at 717-787-1363.

May 21, 2018

Eugene A. DePasquale
Auditor General

CONTENTS

Page

Background 1

Financial Section:

2016 Form MS-965 With Adjustments 3

Notes To Form MS-965 With Adjustments 6

Findings And Recommendations:

Finding No. 1 - Noncompliance With Advertising And Bidding Requirements 10

Finding No. 2 - Nonpermissible Expenditure 12

Summary Of Prior Examination Recommendations 13

Summary Of Exit Conference 14

Report Distribution 15

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
BACKGROUND
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

Background

The Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law, Act 655 of 1956, as amended, (72 P.S. § 2615.5 et sec.), provides municipalities other than counties (townships, boroughs, cities, towns, home rule, and optional plan governments) with an annual allocation of liquid fuels taxes from the state's Motor License Fund to be used for the maintenance and repair of streets, roads, and bridges for which the municipality is responsible. The allocation of these funds to municipalities is based: (1) 50 percent on the municipality's proportion of local road mileage to the total local road mileage in the state, and (2) 50 percent on the proportion of a municipality's population to the total population in the state.

The Vehicle Code, Title 75 P.S. § 9511, provides municipalities with annual maintenance payments to be received from the Motor License Fund for functionally local highways that were transferred to a municipality from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Each municipality must deposit the allocation of Liquid Fuels Tax funds and annual maintenance payments that it receives into a special fund called either the Municipal Liquid Fuels Tax Fund or State Fund. A municipality may not deposit any other monies into this fund except when the municipality does not have enough money in the special fund to meet the payments called for by its current annual budget for road and bridge purposes. In such a case, the municipality may borrow money or transfer money from its General Fund to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The Department of Transportation has been given the regulatory authority for the administration of these funds. Department of Transportation's *Publication 9* includes the policies and procedures for the administration of Act 655, as amended, and the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money. However, if there is a difference between *Publication 9* and any legislation, the legislation shall govern.

To qualify for the annual allocation of Liquid Fuels Tax funds, *Publication 9* indicates that each municipality shall:

1. Submit annual reports (MS-965, Actual Use Report, MS-965P, Project and Miscellaneous Receipts, and MS-965S, Record of Checks).

2. Make deposits and payments or expenditures in compliance with Act 655 of 1956, as amended. Failure to do so may result in not receiving allocations from PennDOT until all discrepancies are resolved. *Publication 9*, Section 2.6, includes information about investing Liquid Fuels Tax monies, using loan or bond proceeds, and types of receipts into the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
BACKGROUND
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

Background (Continued)

3. Submit the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's (DCED) Report of Elected and Appointed Officials by January 31st and the Survey of Financial Condition By March 15th.

4. Ensure resolution of all Contractor Responsibility Program (CRP) holds and blocks imposed by the Department of Revenue and the Department of Labor and Industry.

5. Ensure resolution of all reimbursements required as a result of audits performed by the Department of the Auditor General or monitoring reviews performed by the Department of Transportation's Financial Consultants.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
2016 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1
WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Expenditure Summary	Reported	Adjustments (Note 4)	Adjusted Amount
Major equipment purchases	$ -	$ -	$ -
Minor equipment purchases	-	-	-
Computer/Computer related training	-	-	-
Agility projects	-	-	-
Cleaning streets and gutters	-	-	-
Winter maintenance services	42,161.89	-	42,161.89
Traffic control devices	105,916.03	-	105,916.03
Street lighting	67,302.85	-	67,302.85
Storm sewers and drains	-	-	-
Repairs of tools and machinery	-	-	-
Maintenance and repair of roads and bridges	149,836.25	-	149,836.25
Highway construction and rebuilding projects	332,876.36	-	332,876.36
Miscellaneous	364,246.39	(364,246.39)	-
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	$ 1,062,339.77	$ (364,246.39)	$ 698,093.38

Notes to Form MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
2016 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2
WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	Reported	Adjustments (Note 4)	Adjusted Amount
1. Balance, January 1, 2016	$ 142,847.30	$ -	$ 142,847.30
Receipts:			
2. State allocation	773,402.58	-	773,402.58
2a. Turnback allocation	8,760.00	-	8,760.00
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)	813.15	-	813.15
2c. Miscellaneous (Finding No. 2)	368,695.21	(364,246.39)	4,448.82
3. Total receipts	1,151,670.94	(364,246.39)	787,424.55
4. Total funds available	1,294,518.24	(364,246.39)	930,271.85
5. Expenditures (Section 1)	1,062,339.77	(364,246.39)	698,093.38
6. Balance, December 31, 2016	$ 232,178.47	$ -	$ 232,178.47

Notes to Form MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
2016 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3
WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance	Reported	Adjustments	Adjusted Amount
1. Prior year equipment balance	$ 142,847.30	$ -	$ 142,847.30
2. Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2)	156,432.52	-	156,432.52
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments	-	-	-
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition	299,279.82	-	299,279.82
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures	-	-	-
6. Remainder	299,279.82	-	299,279.82
7. Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero)	$ 232,178.47	$ -	$ 232,178.47

Notes to Form MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORM MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

1. Criteria

Section 1

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments provides a summary of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund expenditures by category. Categories requiring explanation include:

- Major equipment purchases are purchases of road machinery and road equipment with varying yearly costs in excess of the amounts indicated below:

2012	2013	2014	2015/2016
$10,000.00	$10,200.00	$10,300.00	$10,500.00

- Minor equipment purchases are purchases of road machinery and road equipment with varying yearly costs that are less than or equal to the amounts indicated below:

2012	2013	2014	2015/2016
$10,000.00	$10,200.00	$10,300.00	$10,500.00

- Agility projects are exchanges of services with the Department of Transportation.

Section 2

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments provides information on the fund balance. Categories requiring explanation include:

- The state allocation is available from the Department of Transportation in March of each year. The amount the municipality receives is based half on its population and half on its road mileage.

- Municipalities that transferred roads from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the municipality through the Highway Transfer Program receive annual turnback allocations in March of each year from the Department of Transportation. Turnback allocations are based on the mileage of the roads transferred.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORM MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

1. Criteria (Continued)

Section 2 (Continued)

- Expenditures include the total transferred from Section 1.

Section 3

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments determines if the municipality expended Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money in excess of the permissible amount for equipment and the balance that the municipality may carry forward for the purchase of equipment to the subsequent year.

Department of Transportation *Publication 9* requires that the amount expended for equipment purchases in a given year not exceed the sum of the equipment balance carried forward from the previous year and 20 percent of the current year's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocation and, if applicable, 20 percent of the turnback allocation plus other Department of Transportation approved adjustments.

If the municipality spent in excess of the amount listed on Line 4, the excess must be reimbursed to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The equipment balance to be carried forward for the subsequent year is the lesser of the amount on Line 6 or the ending fund balance on Line 6 of Section 2, but not less than zero.

Basis Of Presentation

The financial activities of the municipality are accounted for in separate funds. The Liquid Fuels Tax Fund is used to account for state aid revenues from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation used primarily for building and improving local roads and bridges. The Form MS-965 has been prepared in accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation as a result of the Fuels Tax Act 655, dated 1956 and as amended, which does not constitute a complete presentation of the entity's assets, liabilities, expenses, and fund balance. Accordingly, the presentation of Form MS-965 With Adjustments is restricted to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund, which represents a segment of the entity.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORM MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

1. Criteria (Continued)

Basis Of Accounting

The accompanying Form MS-965 With Adjustments is prepared in accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Under this method, revenues are recognized when received and expenditures are recorded when paid.

General Fixed Assets

General fixed assets are recognized as expenditures at the time of purchase. No depreciation has been provided on the heavy equipment used to maintain and repair roads and bridges.

2. Deposits

The Second Class Township Code, Title 53 P.S. § 68204, authorizes the township to deposit its funds in the following:

- Deposits in savings accounts or time deposits, other than certificates of deposit or share accounts, of institutions having their principal place of business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or other like insurance. For any amount above the insured maximum, the depository shall pledge approved collateral.

- Certificates of deposit purchased from institutions insured by the FDIC or other like insurance to the extent that such accounts are so insured. For any amounts in excess of the insured maximum, such deposits shall be collateralized by a pledge or assignment of assets. Certificates of deposit may not exceed 20 percent of a bank's total capital surplus or 20 percent of a savings and loan or savings bank's assets minus liabilities.

Deposits consist of receipts and deposits in a financial institution. Pennsylvania statutes require all deposits to be insured and, for any amount above the insured maximum, to be secured with approved collateral as defined.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
NOTES TO FORM MS-965 WITH ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

2. Deposits (Continued)

There were no deposits exposed to custodial credit risk as of December 31, 2016. Custodial credit risk, as defined by GASB No. 40, as amended, includes deposits that are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are uncollateralized, collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the municipality's name.

Fund Balance

The fund balance as of December 31, 2016, consists of the following:

Cash	$232,178.47

3. Interest On Investments

Our examination disclosed that the municipality deposited idle liquid fuels tax money in interest-bearing accounts which earned $813.15 during 2016, thus providing additional funds for road maintenance and repairs.

4. Adjustments

Section 1

An adjustment of $(364,246.39) was made to "Miscellaneous" because transfers between two Liquid Fuels Tax Fund accounts were incorrectly reported as expenditures.

Section 2

An adjustment of $(364,246.39) was made to "Miscellaneous" because transfers between two Liquid Fuels Tax Fund accounts were incorrectly reported as receipts.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

Finding No. 1 - Noncompliance With Advertising And Bidding Requirements - Recurring

We cited the municipality for noncompliance with advertising and bidding requirements in our prior report for the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015. Our current examination disclosed that the township expended $37,609.31 during 2016 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for the traffic signal maintenance without advertising for bids.

The above expenditures were not made in compliance with the advertising, bidding, and contract requirements of *The Second Class Township Code*, 53 P.S. § 68102(a), (also found at § 3102(a) of *The Second Class Township Code* as published by the Local Government Commission), which requires that purchases over $18,500.00 during 2012 must be advertised, bid, and awarded by contract. The bidding threshold increased to purchases over $19,400.00 for 2015 and 2016, $19,700 for 2017, and $20,100.00 for 2018. *The Second Class Township Code*, 53 P.S. § 68104(a), (also found at § 3104(a) of *The Second Class Township Code* as published by the Local Government Commission) further states that advertising, bidding and contract requirements should not be evaded through piecemeal purchases.

On December 22, 2017, the municipality reimbursed $37,609.31 to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund, which was subsequent to our examination period.

Recommendation

We again recommend that, in the future, the township complies with *The Second Class Township Code* as noted in this finding.

Management's Response

The Finance Director stated:

> Noncompliance finding was identified in previous PENNDOT audit. Finding was identified, discussed, reviewed and satisfied. PENNDOT closed audit finding. PENNDOT finding was $37,527.89.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

Finding No. 1 - Noncompliance With Advertising And Bidding Requirements - Recurring

Auditor's Conclusion

During our next examination we will determine if the municipality complied with our recommendation.

Finding No. 2 - Nonpermissible Expenditure - Recurring

We cited the municipality for making nonpermissible expenditures in our prior report for the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015. Our current examination disclosed that the municipality expended $4,448.82 during 2016 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for Liquid Magnesium Chloride, which is a nonpermissible expenditure.

Materials approved by the Department of Transportation are listed in the Department of Transportation Specifications *Publication 408*, Section 703.2 Liquid Magnesium Chloride does not appear in *Publication 408*.

On July 8, 2016, the municipality reimbursed $4,448.82 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

Recommendation

We again recommend that, in the future, the municipality purchase materials that are approved by the Department of Transportation.

Management's Response

The Finance Director stated:

> Nonpermissible expenditure was identified in the previous audit conducted by PENNDOT. Finding was identified, discussed, reviewed and satisfied. PENNDOT closed audit finding.

Auditor's Conclusion

During our next examination, we will determine if the municipality complied with our recommendation.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
SUMMARY OF PRIOR EXAMINATION RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

Summary Of Prior Examination Recommendations

In our prior report we recommended that the Department of Transportation review our examination findings to determine if the municipality should reimburse $69,550.96 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. This amount consists of $51,472.04 for noncompliance with advertising and bidding requirements and $18,078.92 for nonpermissible expenditures.

During our current examination we reviewed a letter dated June 9, 2017, from the Department of Transportation informing the municipality to reimburse $69,550.96 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. We noted that the municipality reimbursed this amount to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund on December 22, 2017, which was subsequent to our examination period.

In our prior report we also recommended that the municipality:

- Comply with *The Second Class Township Code* by advertising for bids for all purchases over $19,400.00. The threshold for advertising for bids increased to purchases over $19,700.00 for 2017, and $20,100.00 for 2018.

- Comply with the Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law regarding permissible expenditures.

During our current examination we wrote similar findings. However, the amounts for both findings were reimbursed before we started our examination (see Finding No. 1 and Finding No. 2).

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

An exit conference was held May 3, 2018. Those participating were:

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY

Ms. Teresa Hummel, Finance Director

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Michael D. Thomas, Auditor

The results of the examination were presented and discussed in their entirety.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGETTSBURY
YORK COUNTY
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND
REPORT DISTRIBUTION
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2016 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

This report was initially distributed to:

The Honorable Leslie Richards
Secretary
Department of Transportation

Township of Springettsbury
York County
1501 Mount Zion Road
York, PA 17402

The Honorable Mark Swomley
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Ms. Teresa Hummel
Finance Director

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at www.PaAuditor.gov. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@PaAuditor.gov.