# **Communication with Those Charged with Governance**

To Management, Mayor and Village Board of Village of Salado

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Salado as of and for the year ended September 30, 2019, and have issued our report thereon dated February 5, 2020. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

### Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit

As communicated in our engagement letter dated November 19, 2019, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion(s) about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing 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 over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of Village of Salado solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

# Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

### Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team and others in our firm, as appropriate, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

# **Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices**

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by Village of Salado is included in Note A to the financial statements. There were no new accounting policies adopted and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during 2019 except for the following:

Previously, the Hotel Tax Fund and the Debt Service fund were reported as part of the business-type activities. These funds are governmental in nature and are now reported as such.

No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are:

- 1. Useful lives of depreciable assets
- 2. Mortality rates, investment returns, discount rates, health care cost trends and other expected conditions related to
  - a. Pension plan
  - b. Supplemental Death Benefits

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates and determined that they are reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole and in relation to the applicable opinion units.

Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting Village of Salado's financial statements related to the net pension liability and total other post-employment liabilities.

#### **Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit**

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

# Representations Requested from Management

We have requested certain written representations from management in a separate letter dated February 5, 2020.

## **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to Village of Salado's financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

#### **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole and each applicable opinion unit. Management has corrected all identified misstatements.

In addition, professional standards require us to communicate to you all material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures. We identified several adjustments to the prior period financial statements detailed in Note P to the financial statements. In addition, we assisted management with routine adjustments for depreciation, retirement, and revenue accruals. Our assistance with these entries is common for a municipality of this size.

# Adjustments to Prior Period Financial Statements in Which There Was a Predecessor Auditor

The prior period financial statements, on which the predecessor auditor had previously reported without modification, were amended as part of the current year audit procedures. The amendments are referenced as Note P to the financial statements. These corrections had no impact on our opinion on the financial statements for the year ending September 30, 2019.

### **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

## Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with Village of Salado, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, operating and regulatory conditions affecting the entity, and operational plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as Village of Salado's auditors.

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Mayor, Village Board and management of Village of Salado and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully,

Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates, PC

Armstrong, Vauspan & Associates, P.C.

February 5, 2020