

Annual  
Financial Report

of the

***Board of Fire Commissioners  
Fire District Number Three of  
the Township of Bridgewater***

For the Years Ended  
December 31, 2014 and 2013



**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER**

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**FINANCIAL SECTION**





# SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Board of Fire Commissioners  
Fire District Number Three of the  
Township of Bridgewater  
P.O. Box 6655  
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the of the Fire District Number Three of the Township of Bridgewater (the "Fire District") as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Fire District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions 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 and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. 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 management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

# SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY

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

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fire District as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Fire District's financial statements. The supplementary schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements.

The schedules listed above are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, these supplementary schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

# SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY

## **Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 18, 2015 on our consideration of the Fire District'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 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 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 Fire District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

September 18, 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suplee, Clooney & Company". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



# SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY

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**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**

Board of Fire Commissioners  
Fire District Number Three of the  
Township of Bridgewater  
P.O. Box 6655  
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

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 Fire District Number Three of the Township of Bridgewater (the "Fire District") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Fire District's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 18, 2015.

### ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Fire District's control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 Fire District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Union County Improvement Authority'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.

# SUPLEE, CLOONEY & COMPANY

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. Given these limitations, during our audit 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.

## ***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Fire District'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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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 disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## ***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.

September 18, 2015



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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**



## **Management's Discussion and Analysis** **Unaudited**

In this section of the annual report, management of The Board of Fire Commissioners Fire District Number Three of the Township of Bridgewater (the "District") presents a narrative discussion and analysis of the District's financial activities for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013. This section of the report should be read in conjunction with the District's audited financial statements and supplementary information for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013. The District's audited financial statements are presented in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

### **Audit Assurance**

The unqualified opinion of our independent auditors, Suplee Clooney & Company is included in this report.

### **Financial Highlights**

Total assets at year-end 2014 totaled \$2.99 million comprised of cash, prepaid insurance and fixed assets an increase of \$196 thousand or 7.0% from 2013's \$2.79 million.

Liabilities total \$3 thousand is a decrease of \$3 thousand over the prior year's \$6 thousand comprised of accounts payable. Working capital balances are adequate to meet the operational needs of the District.

Operating Revenues totaled \$881 thousand while Operating Expenses totaled \$682 thousand. Operating Expenses decreased \$83 thousand or 10.8% over prior year expenses of \$764 thousand. Total operating revenues decreased \$61 thousand or 6.4% from prior year revenue of \$941 thousand.

Revenue from property tax totaled \$862,627 for 2014, \$862,627 for 2013.

Cash and Investments of \$1.73 million decreased \$219 thousand or 11% from prior year's total of \$1.95 million due to purchase of new Pierce truck.

### **Overview of Annual Financial Report**

The financial statements consist of the following parts: Managements Discussion and Analysis; the basic financial statements consisting of government-wide financial statements and fund financial statements; notes to the financial statements; and required supplemental information.

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) serves as an introduction to, and should be read in conjunction with, the basic audited financial statements and supplementary information. The MD&A represents management's examination and analysis of the District's financial condition and performance. Summary financial statement data, key financial and operational indicators used in the District's budget, and other management tools were used for this analysis.

The basic government-wide financial statements present the financial results on different methods of accounting. Included in the financial statements are reconciliations that explain the difference between the two methods.

## **Overview of Annual Financial Report (Continued)**

Government-wide financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and economic resources focus. The required financial statements are: Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities. The Statement of Net Position reports all assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term of the District. The Statement of Activities reports all revenue and expenses during the year regardless of when cash is received or paid. This form of reporting is new in this fiscal year and will continue in the future.

Governmental funds financial statements are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting and current financial resources focus. This is the traditional form for our financial statements. The required financial statements are: Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. The Balance Sheet shows only assets and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets or long term liabilities are included. The Statement Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balances reports revenue for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and payment is due during or soon after the end of the year.

Exhibit B-3 - Reconciliation of the Government Fund Balance Sheet to the Government-wide Statement of Net Position, explains the differences between the two balance sheets. Exhibit B-4 - Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of Government Funds to the Statement of Activities, traces the change in fund balances to the change in net assets reported in Exhibit A-2.

General Fund - This fund is used to finance the operations of the District. All tax revenues are placed in the General Fund and regular operating expenses are charged here. Funds used for Capital Equipment and projects are transferred from the General Fund to the Capital Outlay Fund.

Capital Projects Fund - Used to separate funds for capital equipment and projects. All capital expenditures are taken from this fund. Funds in this account come from revenue transferred from the General Fund to be used for capital improvements, the sale of existing assets (such as equipment), and interest received on the balance in the fund.

Debt Service Fund - Used to separate funds for lease and loan payments. All debt service payments are taken from this fund. Funds in this account come from revenue transferred from the General Fund to be used for principal and interest on lease and loan payments and interest received on the balance in the fund.

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide required disclosures and other information that are essential to a full understanding of material data provided in the statements. The notes present information about the District's accounting policies, significant account balances and activities, material risks, obligations, commitments, contingencies and subsequent events, if any.

## **Financial Analysis**

The following comparative condensed financial statements and other selected information serve as key financial data and indicators for management, monitoring and planning:

## **Summary of Organization and Business**

Fire District Number Three of the Township of Bridgewater is a political subdivision of the Township of Bridgewater, Somerset County, New Jersey. It was formed through the adoption of a Township ordinance. A board of five commissioners oversees all operations of the Fire District. The length of each commissioner's term is three years with the annual election held the third Saturday of every February.

Fire Districts are governed by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-70 et al. and are organized as a taxing authority charged with the responsibility of providing the resources necessary to provide fire fighting services to the residents within its territorial location. The Fire District has three fire companies operating from five fire stations within its jurisdiction.

The Fire District is not a component unit of any other financial reporting entity nor does the Fire District have any component units to be presented in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14.

Revenues are generated largely from taxation based on assessed valuations in the Township of Bridgewater.

## **Contacting the District's Management**

Any questions about the District's report or if additional information is needed, please contact the Board of Fire Commissioners Fire District Number Three, P.O. Box 6655, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807.

## Condensed Financial Statements

### Condensed Statements of Net Position

	December 31		Variance		2012
	2014	2013	Dollars	%	
<u>Assets</u>					
Cash and Investments	\$ 1,727,501	\$ 1,946,205	\$ (218,704)	-11.2%	\$ 1,752,726
Other Assets	43,958	41,816	2,142	5.1%	
Vehicles and Equipment - Net	1,217,098	804,079	413,019	51.4%	863,296
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,988,557</b>	<b>\$ 2,792,100</b>	<b>\$ 196,457</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>\$ 2,616,022</b>
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Accounts Payable	\$ 3,142	\$ 6,041	\$ (2,899)	-48.0%	7,023
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3,142</b>	<b>6,041</b>	<b>(2,899)</b>	<b>-48.0%</b>	<b>7,023</b>
<u>Net Position</u>					
Invested in Capital Assets	1,217,098	804,079	413,019	51.4%	863,296
Unrestricted Net Position					
General Fund	1,205,934	1,056,497	149,437	14.1%	894,785
Capital Projects Fund	562,383	925,483	(363,100)	-39.2%	850,918
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>2,985,415</b>	<b>2,786,059</b>	<b>199,356</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>2,608,999</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 2,988,557</b>	<b>\$ 2,792,100</b>	<b>\$ 196,457</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>\$ 2,616,022</b>

### Condensed Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

	December 31		Variance		2012
	2014	2013	Dollars	%	
Operating Revenues:					
Taxation	\$ 862,627	\$ 862,627			\$ 862,627
Other	18,341	78,956	\$ (60,615)	-76.8%	5,583
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>880,968</b>	<b>941,583</b>	<b>(60,615)</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>	<b>868,210</b>
Operating Expenses:					
Operations and Maintenance	681,612	764,523	(82,911)	-10.8%	610,648
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>681,612</b>	<b>764,523</b>	<b>(82,911)</b>	<b>-10.8%</b>	<b>610,648</b>
Change in Net Position	199,356	177,060	22,296	12.6%	257,562
Net Position, Beginning of Year	2,786,059	2,608,999	177,060	6.8%	2,351,437
<b>Net Position, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 2,985,415</b>	<b>\$ 2,786,059</b>	<b>\$ 199,356</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>\$ 2,608,999</b>

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,727,501	\$ 1,946,205
Other Assets	43,958	41,816
Vehicles and Equipment	4,461,384	3,961,735
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(3,244,286)</u>	<u>(3,157,656)</u>
	<u>1,217,098</u>	<u>804,079</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$ 2,988,557</u>	 <u>\$ 2,792,100</u>
 <u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 3,142</u>	<u>\$ 6,041</u>
 Total Current Liabilities	 <u>3,142</u>	 <u>6,041</u>
 <u>NET POSITION</u>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,217,098	804,079
Unrestricted Net Position:		
General Fund	1,205,934	1,056,497
Capital Projects Fund	<u>562,383</u>	<u>925,483</u>
 Total Net Position	 <u>2,985,415</u>	 <u>2,786,059</u>
 <u>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION</u>	 <u>\$ 2,988,557</u>	 <u>\$ 2,792,100</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<u>FUNCTIONS</u>		
Fire Protection:		
Contracts	\$ 427,135	\$ 427,135
Insurance	81,220	85,876
Salaries and Benefits	7,525	7,800
LOSAP	39,000	43,000
Administrative	14,490	12,701
Equipment and Supplies	25,611	88,395
Depreciation	86,631	99,616
	681,612	764,523
<u>GENERAL REVENUES</u>		
Property Tax	862,627	862,627
Contributions and Other Revenue	18,341	78,956
	880,968	941,583
	199,356	177,060
<u>CHANGES IN NET POSITION</u>		
<u>NET POSITION:</u>		
Beginning of the Year	2,786,059	2,608,999
	2,985,415	2,786,059
End of the Year	\$ 2,985,415	\$ 2,786,059

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

**MAJOR FUNDS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
 FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

BALANCE SHEETS GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

	2014		2013	
	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND
	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS		TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,165,118	\$ 562,383	\$ 1,020,722	\$ 925,483
Other Assets	43,958		41,816	
Total Assets	\$ 1,209,076	\$ 562,383	\$ 1,062,538	\$ 925,483
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>				
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 3,142		\$ 6,041	\$ 6,041
Total Current Liabilities	3,142		6,041	
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>				
Reserved for:				
Unreserved, Undesignated	1,205,934	\$ 562,383	1,056,497	\$ 925,483
Total Fund Balances	1,205,934	562,383	1,056,497	925,483
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	\$ 1,209,076	\$ 562,383	\$ 1,062,538	\$ 925,483

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS				TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS			
	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	2014	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	2013
<b>REVENUES:</b>								
Local Sources:								
Property Tax	\$ 726,077	\$ 136,550	\$ - 0 -	\$ 862,627	\$ 707,627	\$ 155,000	\$ - 0 -	\$ 862,627
Contributions and Other Revenue	18,341			18,341	78,956			78,956
	744,418	136,550		880,968	786,583	155,000		941,583
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>								
Fire Protection:								
Contracts	427,135			427,135	427,135			427,135
Insurance	81,220			81,220	85,876			85,876
Salaries and Benefits	7,525			7,525	7,800			7,800
LOSAP	39,000			39,000	43,000			43,000
Administrative	14,490			14,490	12,701			12,701
Equipment and Supplies	25,611	499,650		525,261	48,359	80,435		128,794
	594,981	499,650		1,094,631	624,871	80,435		705,306
<b>Total Expenditures</b>								
	149,437	(363,100)		(213,663)	161,712	74,565		236,277
Net Change in Fund Balances	1,056,497	925,483		1,981,980	894,785	850,918		1,745,703
Fund Balances, Beginning of the Year	\$ 1,205,934	\$ 562,383	\$ - 0 -	\$ 1,768,317	\$ 1,056,497	\$ 925,483	\$ - 0 -	\$ 1,981,980

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

RECONCILIATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (From Exhibit B-1)	\$ 1,768,317	\$ 1,981,980
<p>Capital assets used in governmental funds are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in the governmental funds.</p>		
Total Historical Cost of Capital Assets	4,461,384	3,961,735
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(3,244,286)</u>	<u>(3,157,656)</u>
Net Position (From Exhibit A-1)	<u>\$ 2,985,415</u>	<u>\$ 2,786,059</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

RECONCILIATIONS OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds (From Exhibit B-2)	\$ (213,663)	\$ 236,277
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities (From Exhibit A-2) are different as follows:		
Government funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of these assets are allocated over the estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation expense during the year.		
Current Year Capital Outlays	499,650	40,399
Less: Current Year Depreciation Expense	(86,631)	(99,616)
Repayment of principal on long-term liabilities is an expenditure for governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the government-wide Statement of Net Assets. Principal payments made on long-term liabilities during the year ended December 31, 2004 consist of the following:		
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit A-2)	<u>\$ 199,356</u>	<u>\$ 177,060</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(1) GENERAL

Fire District Number Three of the Township of Bridgewater (the "Fire District") is a political subdivision of the Township of Bridgewater, Somerset County, New Jersey. It was formed through the adoption of a Township ordinance.

Fire Districts are governed by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-70 et al. and are organized as a taxing authority charged with the responsibility of providing the resources necessary to provide fire fighting services to the residents within its territorial location. The Fire District has three fire companies operating from five fire stations within its jurisdiction.

The Fire District is not a component unit of any other financial reporting entity nor does the Fire District have any component units to be presented in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14.

A board of five commissioners oversees all operations of the Fire District. The length of each commissioner's term is three years with the annual election held the third Saturday of every February.

The official accounting records, along with the supporting documentation, of the Fire District are maintained by the Treasurer.

Minutes are recorded for meetings and contain approvals for disbursements. The Fire District prepares a fiscal budget in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

(2) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Fire District have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The most significant of the GASB's accounting policies are described below.

Basis of Accounting-Measurement Focus

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(2) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Government-Wide Financial Statements: The Government-Wide Financial Statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred revenue, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures. The District records the entire approved tax levy as revenue (accrued) at the start of the fiscal year, since the revenue is both measurable and available.

Government Funds Statements: Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transactions can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Basis of Presentation

The Fire District's financial statements include a statement of net assets and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Governmental-Wide Financial Statements: The statement of net assets presents the financial condition of the governmental activity of the Fire District at fiscal year end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the Fire District and for each function of the Fire District's governmental activities.

Fund Financial Statements: During the fiscal year, the Fire District segregates transactions related to certain Fire District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. The fund financial statements provide information about the Fire District's funds. Separate statements for each fund category governmental are presented.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(2) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Basis of Presentation (Continued)

Governmental Funds

General Fund: The general fund is the general operating fund of the Fire District and is used to account for all expendable financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Included are certain expenditures for vehicles and movable instructional or non-instructional equipment which are classified in the capital outlay sub-fund.

Capital Projects Fund: The capital projects fund is used to account for all financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities.

Debt Service Fund: The debt service fund is used to account for all financial resources to be used for the payment of principal and interest on lease and loan payments.

Budgetary Procedures

The Fire District must adopt an annual budget in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-78.1 *et al.* The fire commissioners must introduce and approve the annual budget not later than sixty days prior to the annual election. At introduction, the commissioners shall fix the time and place for a public hearing on the budget and must advertise the time and place at least ten days prior to the hearing in a newspaper having substantial circulation in the Fire District. The public hearing must not be held less than twenty-eight days after the date the budget was introduced. After the hearing has been held, the fire commissioners may, by a majority vote, adopt the budget.

Amendments may be made to the Fire District budget in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-78.3. The budget may not be amended subsequent to its final adoption and approval.

Subsequent to the adoption of the Fire District budget, the amount of money to be raised by taxation in support of the Fire District budget must appear on the ballot for the annual election for approval of the legal voters.

Fire districts have a prescribed budgetary basis to demonstrate legal compliance. However, budgets are adopted on principally the same basis of accounting utilized for the preparation of the Fire District's general purpose financial statements.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(2) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents are stated at cost which approximates market. The Fire District considers investments with maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Investments

The Fire District's investment policy principally permits the investing of funds in the following types of investments:

Bonds, debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued by any agency or instrumentality of the United States or by any corporation chartered by the United States to the extent that such obligations are guaranteed by the United States or by another such agency and Defeasance Securities.

Negotiable or nonnegotiable certificates of deposit issued by any bank, trust company, or national banking associations which certificates of deposits shall be continuously secured by obligations described in the first paragraph above.

Deposits in the NJ Cash Management Fund and other deposits defined in the Fire District's Bond Resolution.

Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets are stated at cost.

Depreciation is determined on a straight-line basis over various economic lives, which are fixed by management.

Inventory

Inventory of spare parts and supplies is recorded as an expense when purchased and accordingly, is not included in the statements of net assets.

Fire District Taxes

Upon the proper certification to the assessor of the municipality in which the Fire District is located, the assessor shall assess the amount of taxes to be raised in support of the Fire District's budget in the same manner as all other municipal taxes. The collector or treasurer of the municipality shall then pay over to the treasurer or custodian of funds of the Fire District the taxes assessed.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(2) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(3) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The components of cash and cash equivalents at December 31 are summarized as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash - Checking	\$ 564,621	\$ 284,845
N.J. Cash Management Fund	<u>1,162,580</u>	<u>1,661,360</u>
	<u>\$1,727,501</u>	<u>\$1,946,205</u>

New Jersey statutes permit the deposit of public funds in institutions located in New Jersey which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Savings Association Insurance Fund (SAIF), or by any other agencies of the United States that insures deposits or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund. New Jersey statutes permit the deposit of public funds only in banks which meet the requirements of the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund. This Act, commonly referred to as "GUDPA", requires that banks which accept public funds to be a public depository. The statutes require public depositories to maintain collateral for deposits of public funds that exceed insurance limits.

Custodial Credit Risk - Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the deposits may not be returned. The Fire District does not have a specific deposit policy for custodial credit risk other than those policies that adhere to the requirements of statute. As of December 31, 2014, based upon the coverage provided by FDIC and NJGUDPA, no amount of the bank balance was exposed to custodial credit risk.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(3) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CONTINUED)

The Fire District does not have a policy to limit interest rate risk; however, its practice is to hold investments to maturity. There is also no limit to the amount that can be invested.

(4) CHANGES IN FIXED ASSETS

Activity for general fixed assets capitalized by the Fire District at December 31, 2014, is as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>2013</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>2014</u>
Vehicles and Equipment	\$3,961,734	\$499,650	\$4,461,384
Less: Accumulated Depreciation:	<u>3,157,655</u>	<u>86,631</u>	<u>3,244,286</u>
Net Fixed Assets	<u>\$ 804,079</u>	<u>\$413,019</u>	<u>\$1,217,098</u>

(5) PROPERTY TAX LEVIES

Following is a tabulation of Fire District assessed valuations, tax levies and property tax rates per \$100 of assessed valuations for the current and preceding four years:

<u>FISCAL</u> <u>YEAR</u>	<u>ASSESSED</u> <u>VALUATIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>TAX LEVY</u>	<u>PROPERTY</u> <u>TAX RATES</u>
2014	\$4,655,454,401	\$862,627	\$.0190
2013	\$4,873,667,505	\$862,627	\$.0190
2012	\$4,894,518,005	\$862,627	\$.0180
2011	\$5,127,557,548	\$840,900	\$.0170
2010	\$5,016,759,484	\$842,000	\$.0170

(6) RISK MANAGEMENT

The Fire District 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 Fire District maintains commercial insurance coverage covering each of those risks of loss. The administration believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the Fire District. Settled claims have not exceeded the commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

(7) FINANCIAL DEPENDENCY

The Fire District's largest source of operating revenue is Property Tax Levies from the Township of Bridgewater. The Fire District is economically dependent on these Levies to carry on its operations.

(8) LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

On January 18, 1998, the Emergency Services Volunteer Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) was signed into law. LOSAP is a system established to provide tax deferred income benefits to active volunteer members of an emergency service organization, including all forms of volunteer fire and first aid rescue squads. The tax-deferred income benefits come from contributions made solely by the Fire District. The contributions are deposited into a plan similar to the deferred contribution plans permitted for county and municipal employees (N.J.S.A. 43:15B-1 et seq.).

In February 2006, voters approved the resolution to create the LOSAP for the Fire Districts members. In 2008 the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services had approved the program.

The LOSAP expense was \$39,000 and \$43,000 for December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

(9) SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Fire District has evaluated subsequent events occurring after the financial statement date through September 18, 2015, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. Based on this evaluation, the Fire District has determined that no subsequent events have occurred which require disclosure in the financial statements.

(10) LITIGATION, CLAIMS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

In the ordinary conduct of its business, the Fire District may be a party to litigation. At December 31, 2014, in the opinion of management based upon consultation with legal counsel, there were no matters pending or threatened which would have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Fire District.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

ROSTER OF OFFICIALS  
FOR THE YEAR 2014

COMMISSIONERS

Edward Smith	Chairman
Mark Hudec	Treasurer
Anthony Carpinello	Secretary
Jeff Holtz	Member
Doug Larson	Member

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE  
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>VARIABLE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)</u>
Revenues:			
Property Tax	\$ 862,627	\$ 862,627	
Interest	500	988	\$ 488
Penalties	1,000		(1,000)
Other		17,353	17,353
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Revenues</u>	<u>864,127</u>	<u>880,968</u>	<u>16,841</u>
Expenditures:			
Operating Appropriations:			
Salary and Wages	12,000	7,525	4,475
LOSAP	40,000	39,000	1,000
Annual Physicals	8,000		8,000
Professional Fees	9,000	6,756	2,244
Insurance	100,000	81,219	18,781
Administrative Expenses	6,000	7,058	(1,058)
Elections	742	377	365
Contingency	65,000		65,000
Maintenance and Repairs		21,165	(21,165)
Training & Education		300	(300)
Jackets for Members	6,000	4,446	1,554
Air Compressor	2,300		2,300
Repeater Upgrade	5,000		5,000
Software Upgrade	4,400		4,400
Radio Purchase	42,000		42,000
Contract Payments:			
Bradley Gardens Volunteer Fire Company	28,652	28,652	
Country Hills Volunteer Fire Company	94,978	94,978	
Green Knoll Volunteer Fire Company	208,527	208,527	
North Branch Volunteer Fire Company	94,978	94,978	
Capital Outlays:			
Reserve for Future Capital Outlay	136,550	136,550	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>\$ 864,127</u>	<u>731,531</u>	<u>132,596</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues			
Over (Under) Expenditures	<hr/> <hr/>	<u>\$ 149,437</u>	<u>\$ 149,437</u>

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER THREE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRIDGEWATER

DECEMBER 31, 2014

GENERAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NONE

