

CITY OF ELMHURST, ILLINOIS

MANAGEMENT LETTER

December 31, 2015





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Certified Public Accountants & Advisors
Members of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

The Honorable Mayor
Members of the City Council
and Management
City of Elmhurst, Illinois

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Elmhurst, Illinois (the City) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing 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 City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sikich LLP'.

Naperville, Illinois
June 22, 2016

OTHER COMMENTS

1. Future Accounting Pronouncements

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued a number of pronouncements that may impact the City in the future.

GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, addresses accounting and financial reporting issues related to fair value measurements. The statement provides guidance for determining a fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes. The statement also provides guidance for applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value measurements. Statement No. 72 is applicable for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016.

GASB Statement No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68*, establishes requirements for those pensions and pension plans that are not administered through a trust meeting specified criteria. The provisions in Statement No. 73 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2015—except those provisions that address employers and governmental nonemployer contributing entities for pensions that are not within the scope of Statement No. 68, which are effective for financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

GASB Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, addresses reporting by OPEB plans that administer benefits on behalf of governments and replaces GASB Statement No. 43, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*. Statement No. 74 addresses the financial reports of defined benefit OPEB plans that are administered through trusts that meet specified criteria. The statement builds upon the existing framework for financial reports of defined benefit OPEB plans, which includes a statement of fiduciary net position (the amount held in a trust for paying retirement benefits) and a statement of changes in fiduciary net position. Statement No. 74 enhances note disclosures and RSI for both defined benefit and defined contribution OPEB plans. Statement No. 74 also requires the presentation of new information about annual money-weighted rates of return in the notes to the financial statements and in 10-year RSI schedules. The provisions in Statement No. 74 are effective for OPEB plan or sponsoring employer financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

GASB Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, addresses reporting by governments that provide OPEB to their employees and for governments that finance OPEB for employees of other governments and replaces the requirements of GASB Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as they relate to governments that provide benefits through OPEB plans administered as trusts or similar arrangements that meet certain criteria. Statement No. 75 requires governments providing defined benefit OPEB to recognize their long-term obligation for OPEB as a liability for the first time, and to more comprehensively and comparably measure the annual costs of OPEB benefits. The Statement also enhances accountability and transparency through revised and new note disclosures and required supplementary information (RSI). The provisions in Statement No. 75 are effective for financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018.

OTHER COMMENTS (Continued)

1. Future Accounting Pronouncements (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 76, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments*, reduces the generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) hierarchy to two categories of authoritative GAAP: officially established accounting principles - GASB Statements (Category A) and GASB Technical Bulletins; GASB Implementation Guides; and literature of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants cleared by the GASB (Category B). Statement No. 76 also addresses the use of authoritative and nonauthoritative literature in the event that the accounting treatment for a transaction or other event is not specified within a source of authoritative GAAP. Statement No. 76 is applicable for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016 and should be applied retroactively. Earlier application is permitted.

GASB Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*, requires disclosure of tax abatement information about (1) a reporting government's own tax abatement agreements and (2) those that are entered into by other governments and reduce the reporting government's tax revenues. The requirements of this statement are effective for financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016.

GASB Statement No. 78, *Pensions Provided through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans*, amends the scope and applicability of GASB Statement No. 68, to exclude pensions provided to employees of state or local governmental employers through a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that (1) is not a state or local governmental pension plan, (2) is used to provide defined benefit pensions both to employees of state or local governmental employers and to employees of employers that are not state or local governmental employers, and (3) as no predominant state or local governmental employer (either individually or collectively with other state or local governmental employers that provide pensions through the pension plan). The Statement requires recognition and measurement of pension expense, expenditures, and liabilities; note disclosures, and required supplementary information for pensions of that have the characteristics described above. The requirements of this statement are effective for financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016.

GASB Statement No. 79, *Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants*, establishes criteria for an external investment pool to qualify for making the election to measure all of its investments at amortized cost for financial reporting purposes. The Statement requires additional note disclosures for qualifying external investment pools that measure all of their investments at amortized cost for financial reporting purposes and for governments that participate in those pools. Those disclosures for both the qualifying external investment pools and their participants include information about any limitations or restrictions on participant withdrawals. The requirements of this statement are effective for financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016.

GASB Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*, requires blending of a component unit incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in which the primary government is the sole corporate member. The requirements of this statement are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

OTHER COMMENTS (Continued)

1. Future Accounting Pronouncements (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*, provides recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of a split-interest agreement. The requirements of this statement are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

GASB Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues - an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73*, addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in the required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements. The requirements of this standard are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. Earlier application is encouraged.

We will advise the City of any progress made by GASB in developing this and other future pronouncements that may have an impact on the financial position and changes in financial position of the City.