Mudgett Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C. Certified Public Accountants #435

May 14, 2019

The Selectboard Town of Woodstock, Vermont

In connection with audit engagements, we are required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America to communicate certain matters with those charged with governance. The term "those charged with governance" means the persons with responsibility for overseeing the strategic direction of the entity and obligations related to the accountability of the entity, for example, the Selectboard (the Board) or a designated Board officer or committee. This communication is provided in connection with our audit of financial statements of the Town of Woodstock (the Town) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018.

These standards require us to communicate with you any matters related to the financial statement audit that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. They also set the expectation that our communication will be two way, and that the Board or their designee will communicate with us matters you consider relevant to the audit. Such matters might include strategic decisions that may significantly affect the nature, timing, and extent of audit procedures.

This letter summarizes those matters which we are required by professional standards to communicate to you in your oversight responsibility for the Town's financial reporting process.

## Auditor's Responsibility under Professional Standards

Our responsibilities under auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States were described in our arrangement letter dated April 4, 2018. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities, which are also described in that letter.

### An Overview of the Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

The scope of the audit was also described in our arrangement letter dated April 4, 2018. The audit was conducted in January and February of 2019; our exit conference with management and the Selectboard was held on May 14, 2019; drafts of the financial statements and reports were provided to management in February 2019.

## **Accounting Policies and Practices**

#### • Preferability of Accounting Policies and Practices

Under generally accepted accounting principles, in certain circumstances, management may select among alternative accounting practices. In our view, in such circumstances, management has selected the preferable accounting practice.

#### Adoption of, or Change in, Accounting Policies

Management has the ultimate responsibility for the appropriateness of the accounting policies used by the Town. Amounts reported in the Town's Capital Reserve Fund were evaluated during the year ended June 30, 2018. Amounts reported in the Capital Reserve Fund that were approved by voters with a separate voter article are reported as committed fund balance in the Capital Reserve Fund and those that were not approved by voters with a separate article are reported as assigned fund balance. Prior to the year ended June 30, 2018, the Town reported budgeted transfers to the Capital Reserve Fund from the General Fund, that were not approved by a separate voter article, as committed fund balance in the Capital Reserve Fund.

# • Significant or Unusual Transactions

We did not identify any significant or unusual transactions or significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### Management's Judgments and Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the preparation of financial statements and are based upon management's current judgment. The process used by management encompasses their knowledge and experience about past and current events and certain assumptions about future events. The significant accounting estimates reflected in the Town's 2018 financial statements are depreciation expense, police service expenditures which are based on budgeted costs as allocated between the Town and Village of Woodstock, and the State of Vermont's estimate of the Town and Village of Woodstock's pension expense, pension deferrals, and net pension liability for the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System (VMERS).

### **Audit Adjustments**

During the audit we proposed 28 adjustments to the general ledger provided for audit. Management also provided 11 adjustments to this general ledger that were identified by management during the audit.

Management accepted the proposed adjustments and those changes are reflected in the 2018 financial statements. The significant effects of these adjustments were to (1) adjust capital asset, depreciation, and long-term debt amounts, (2) adjust net pension liability and other effects of the accounting for VMERS, (3) adjust ambulance receivable and write-off amounts, (4) adjust capital reserve amounts, (5) adjust the Town's property accounts, (6) adjust transfers, interfund receivables and payables and beginning fund balances, (7) record activity in the Permanent Fund, and (8) adjust amounts receivable and payable between the Town and Village of Woodstock. Copies of the adjustments are available upon your request.

## **Uncorrected Misstatements**

During the course of our audit, we accumulated two uncorrected misstatement that were determined by management to be immaterial to the financial statements, and to the related disclosures. These "passed adjustment" were to record accrued interest on long-term debt in the governmental activities totaling \$13,622, and restate net position in the Sewer Fund for \$15,500 for an amount that was capitalized during the year ended June 30, 2018 that should have been capitalized during the year ended June 30, 2017 that was instead expensed during the year ended June 30, 2017.

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#### Disagreements with Management

We encountered no disagreements with management over the application of significant accounting principles, the basis for management's judgments on any significant matters, the scope of the audit, the significant disclosures to be included in the financial statements.

### **Consultations with Other Accountants**

We are not aware of any consultations that management may have had with other accountants about accounting or auditing matters.

### Significant Issues Discussed with Management

We did not have correspondence with management regarding significant issues arising from the audit. We have discussed accounting matters relating to the Town's accounting estimates and audit adjustments.

### Significant Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

Significant time was required to reconcile property taxes as well as reconcile the activity reported in the Town's Permanent Fund.

#### **Material Weakness**

We identified one material weakness (finding 2018-001) in the Town's system of internal control over financial reporting during our audit of the financial statements relating to the Town's financial procedures and oversight.

### Certain Written Communications between Management and Our Firm

Management provided written representations in connection with the audit in a letter to our firm dated March 21, 2019. A copy of the letter is available upon your request.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Selectboard and management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. It will be our pleasure to respond to any questions you have regarding this letter. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Town.

Very truly yours, Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C.

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