

# Julian & Grube, Inc.

Serving Ohio Local Governments

February 1, 2008

Members of Council and Mayor City of Gahanna 200 South Hamilton Road Gahanna, Ohio 43230

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide City of Gahanna for the year ended December 31, 2007. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the businesstype activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, of City of Gahanna as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General fund and any major special revenue fund(s), if applicable. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to accompany the City of Gahanna's basic financial statements. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the City of Gahanna's RSI. These limited procedures will consist principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation, which management is responsible for affirming to us in its representation letter. Unless we encounter problems with the presentation of the RSI or with procedures relating to it, we will disclaim an opinion on it. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

# 1) Management's Discussion and Analysis

# **Audit Objectives**

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards for financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and will include tests of the accounting records of the City of Gahanna and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. If our opinions on the financial statements are other than unqualified, we will fully discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or to issue a report as a result of this engagement.

We will also provide a report (that does not include an opinion) on internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements as required by Government Auditing Standards. The report on internal control and compliance will include a statement that the report is intended solely for the information and use of the governing body, management, and specific legislative or regulatory bodies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. If during our audit we become aware that the City of Gahanna is subject to an audit requirement that is not encompassed in the terms of this engagement, we will communicate to the governing body and management that an audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards for financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards may not satisfy the relevant legal, regulatory, or contractual requirements.

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### **Management Responsibilities**

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the fair presentation in the financial statements of the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Gahanna and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General fund and any major special revenue fund(s), if applicable, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Management is responsible for the basic financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein.

The City's management is responsible for management decisions and functions and will be responsible for preparing a draft of its financial statements and related notes. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, the City's management will be required to have a responsibility to be in a position in fact and appearance to make an informed judgment on those financial statements. Further, the City's management is required to designate a qualified management-level individual to be responsible and accountable for overseeing our services.

Management is responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us, including identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has the responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. Management's responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and for confirming to us in the representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The City's management is responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud or illegal acts could have a material effect on the financial statements. The City's responsibilities include informing us of its knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, management is responsible for identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy any fraud, illegal acts, or violations of contracts or grant agreements that we may report. With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, the City's management understands that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in those sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

Management is responsible for establishment and maintenance of a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying for us previous audits or other engagements or studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits or other engagements or studies. The City's management is also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as its planned corrective actions, and the timing and format related thereto.

#### Audit Procedures—General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity.



Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform you of any material errors and any fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform you of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as an auditor is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will also require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

# Audit Procedures—Internal Controls

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to Government Auditing Standards.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards and *Government Auditing Standards*.

# **Audit Procedures—Compliance**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the City of Gahanna's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

## Audit Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that the City's employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable debt, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

We will provide one bound and one unbound copy of our reports to the City; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Julian & Grube, Inc. and constitutes confidential information. However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to the Ohio Auditor of State Office or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We may also be requested to make certain audit documentation available to our outside peer reviewers and, if applicable, successor auditors. We will notify the City of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Julian & Grube, Inc. personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the City Council. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.



We expect to issue our reports no later than June 30, 2008. Our fixed fee for these services will be \$24,150 which is at our standard hourly rate as outlined in our proposal. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered as work progresses and are payable on presentation. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if your account becomes 30 days or more overdue and may not be resumed until your account is paid in full. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended through the date of termination. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and the Auditor of State and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs. Also, additional audit costs may be incurred if we are required to perform "special audit" work or the City expends more than \$500,000 in federal grants and is required to have a single audit in accordance with OMB-Circular A-133 and will be discussed with you and receive approval from the Auditor of State's office.

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during the period of the contract. Our 2005 peer review report accompanies this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the City of Gahanna and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Very truly yours,

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Julian & Grube, Inc.

#### **RESPONSE:**

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the City of Gahanna.

By:

Title:

Date:

