



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE - AUDITOR GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL





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EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE AUDITOR GENERAL

Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Barry J. Schoch, P.E. Secretary Department of Transportation Harrisburg, PA 17120

We examined the accompanying Forms MS-965 With Adjustments for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund of the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County, for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2011. The municipality's management is responsible for the Forms MS-965. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Forms MS-965 With Adjustments based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. An examination includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County's Forms MS-965 for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2011 and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are mandated by Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*, 72 P.S. § 403, to audit each municipality's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund to ensure that funds received are expended in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States include attestation engagements as a separate type of audit. An attestation engagement performed pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards* involves additional standards that exceed the standards provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Accordingly, this attestation engagement complies with both *Government Auditing Standards* and Section 403 of *The Fiscal Code*.

As described in Note 4, the adjustments included on the Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are made by the Department of the Auditor General.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

As discussed in Finding No. 1, the municipality expended \$85,169.03 during 2009 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for payroll. However, the municipality did not maintain documentation identifying the nature of the work performed and the location of work assignments. Additionally, as discussed in Finding No. 2, the municipality expended \$3,076.34 and \$3,581.22, respectively, from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund in excess of the approved amounts for project Nos. 09-23105-1CA and 11-23105-1CA, respectively. On September 11, 2011, the municipality reimbursed \$3,581.22 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

In our opinion, except for the matters discussed in the preceding paragraph, the Forms MS-965 With Adjustments present, in all material respects, the information required by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund of the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County, for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2011, in conformity with the criteria set forth in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report findings of significant deficiencies in internal control, violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and abuse that are material to the Forms MS-965 and any fraud and illegal acts that are more than inconsequential that come to our attention during our examination. We are also required to obtain the views of management on those matters. We performed our examination to express an opinion on whether the Forms MS-965 are presented in accordance with the criteria described above and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965 or on compliance and other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinions.

A control deficiency 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 misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report data reliably in accordance with the applicable criteria such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County's Forms MS-965 that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County's internal control. We consider the deficiency described in the finding below to be a significant deficiency in internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965:

• Documentation Supporting Payroll Expenditures Was Not Available For Examination.

Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

A material weakness is a significant deficiency or combination of significant deficiencies that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the Forms MS-965 will not be prevented or detected by the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County's internal control. Our consideration of the internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965 would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. We consider the significant deficiency described above to be a material weakness.

The results of our tests disclosed the following instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards:*

• Liquid Fuels Money Overexpended On Projects.

We also noted another matter that, while not required to be included in this report by *Government Auditing Standards* has been included in the finding below:

• Late Receipt Of Allocations.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the management of the Township of Nether Providence, Delaware County, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Eugent: O-Pager

March 12, 2013

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE Auditor General

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TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND BACKGROUND FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

Background

The Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law, Title 72 P.S. § 2615.5, provides municipalities other than counties (townships, boroughs, cities, towns, home rule, and optional plan governments) with an annual allocation of liquid fuels taxes from the state's Motor License Fund to be used for the maintenance and repair of streets, roads, and bridges for which the municipality is responsible. The allocation of these funds to municipalities is based: (1) 50 percent on the municipality's proportion of local road mileage to the total local road mileage in the state, and (2) 50 percent on the proportion of a municipality's population to the total population in the state.

The Vehicle Code, Title 75 P.S. § 9511, provides municipalities with annual maintenance payments to be received from the Motor License Fund for functionally local highways that were transferred to a municipality from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Each municipality must deposit the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money and annual maintenance payments that it receives into a special fund called the Municipal Liquid Fuels Tax Fund or State Fund. A municipality may not deposit any other monies into this fund except when the municipality does not have enough money in the special fund to meet the payments called for by its current annual budget for road and bridge purposes. In this case, the municipality may borrow money or transfer money from its General Fund to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The Department of Transportation has been given the regulatory authority for the administration of these funds. To qualify for its annual allocation, each municipality shall submit the following documents and information to the Department of Transportation:

- 1. Evidence that the treasurer is bonded in accordance with the law, or that its treasurer is a bank requiring no bond by January 31 of each year.
- 2. A report indicating the manner in which its liquid fuels tax allocation was expended in the previous year (Form MS-965) by January 31 of each year.
- 3. A report of elected and appointed officials by January 31 of each year.
- 4. A Survey of Financial Condition by March 15 of each year.

Department of Transportation *Publication 9* contains the policies and procedures that govern the use of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money. However, if there is a difference between *Publication 9* and any legislation, the legislation shall govern.

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2008 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Expenditure Summary	Reported		Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount	
Major equipment purchases	\$	-	\$	6,180.00	\$	6,180.00
Minor equipment purchases		-		3,915.00		3,915.00
Computer/Computer related training		1,000.00		-		1,000.00
Agility projects		-		-		-
Cleaning streets and gutters		-		-		-
Winter maintenance services		29,895.99		(10,095.00)		19,800.99
Traffic control devices		39,280.61		-		39,280.61
Street lighting		55,499.99		(4,752.42)		50,747.57
Storm sewers and drains		2,004.24		-		2,004.24
Repairs of tools and machinery		-		-		-
Maintenance and repair of						
roads and bridges		47,692.42		(2,619.23)		45,073.19
Highway construction and						
rebuilding projects		132,104.76		2,619.23		134,723.99
Miscellaneous		-		-		
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	\$	307,478.01	\$	(4,752.42)	\$	302,725.59

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2008 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	Reported		Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount		
1. Balance, January 1, 2008	\$	\$ 30,617.97		(4,752.42)	\$	25,865.55	
Receipts:							
2. State allocation		287,217.30		-		287,217.30	
2a. Turnback allocation		-		-		-	
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)		2,323.26		-		2,323.26	
2c. Miscellaneous (Comment No. 1)		18,968.00		-		18,968.00	
3. Total receipts		308,508.56		-		308,508.56	
4. Total funds available		339,126.53		(4,752.42)		334,374.11	
5. Expenditures (Section 1)		307,478.01		(4,752.42)		302,725.59	
6. Balance, December 31, 2008	\$	31,648.52	\$	-	\$	31,648.52	

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2008 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance		Reported	Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount		
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$	30,617.97	\$	(4,752.42)	\$ 25,865.55		
 Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2) 	l	57,443.46		-	57,443.46		
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments					 		
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition		88,061.43		(4,752.42)	83,309.01		
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures				6,180.00	 6,180.00		
6. Remainder		88,061.43		(10,932.42)	 77,129.01		
 Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero) 	\$	31,648.52	\$		\$ 31,648.52		

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2009 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Expenditure Summary	Reported		Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount	
Major equipment purchases	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Minor equipment purchases		-		-		-
Computer/Computer related training		1,000.00		-		1,000.00
Agility projects		-		-		-
Cleaning streets and gutters		-		-		-
Winter maintenance services		38,833.04		-		38,833.04
Traffic control devices		32,460.78		-		32,460.78
Street lighting		58,489.55		-		58,489.55
Storm sewers and drains		-		-		-
Repairs of tools and machinery		-		-		-
Maintenance and repair of						
roads and bridges		66,894.60		-		66,894.60
Highway construction and						
rebuilding projects		96,497.94		(18,968.00)		77,529.94
Miscellaneous		-		-		-
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	\$	294,175.91	\$	(18,968.00)	\$	275,207.91

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2009 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	Reported		Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount	
1. Balance, January 1, 2009	\$	31,648.52	\$	-	\$	31,648.52
Receipts:						
2. State allocation		276,617.07		-		276,617.07
2a. Turnback allocation		-		-		-
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)		2,302.60		-		2,302.60
2c. Miscellaneous (Comment No. 2)		19,613.94		(18,968.00)		645.94
3. Total receipts		298,533.61		(18,968.00)		279,565.61
4. Total funds available		330,182.13		(18,968.00)		311,214.13
5. Expenditures (Section 1)		294,175.91		(18,968.00)		275,207.91
6. Balance, December 31, 2009	\$	36,006.22	\$	_	\$	36,006.22

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2009 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance	Reported		Reported Adjustments		Adjuste ents Amoun		
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$	31,648.52	\$	-	\$	31,648.52	
2. Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2)	l	55,323.41		-		55,323.41	
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments							
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition		86,971.93		-		86,971.93	
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures				_		-	
6. Remainder		86,971.93		-		86,971.93	
 Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero) 	\$	36,006.22	\$		\$	36,006.22	
out not less than zero)	φ	50,000.22	φ	-	φ	30,000.22	

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2010 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Expenditure Summary	Reported		Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount	
Major equipment purchases	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Minor equipment purchases		-		-		-
Computer/Computer related training		-		-		-
Agility projects		-		-		-
Cleaning streets and gutters		-		-		-
Winter maintenance services		-		-		-
Traffic control devices		1,694.83		-		1,694.83
Street lighting		35,636.19		-		35,636.19
Storm sewers and drains		-		-		-
Repairs of tools and machinery		-		-		-
Maintenance and repair of						
roads and bridges		7,293.75		-		7,293.75
Highway construction and						
rebuilding projects		218,927.35		-		218,927.35
Miscellaneous (Bank service charges)		_		210.22		210.22
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	\$	263,552.12	\$	210.22	\$	263,762.34

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2010 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	Reported		Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount		
1. Balance, January 1, 2010	\$	36,006.22	\$	-	\$	36,006.22	
Receipts: 2. State allocation		265,872.59		-		265,872.59	
2a. Turnback allocation2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)2c. Miscellaneous (Note 5)		1,097.07 37,936.00		210.22		1,307.29 37,936.00	
3. Total receipts		304,905.66		210.22		305,115.88	
4. Total funds available		340,911.88		210.22		341,122.10	
5. Expenditures (Section 1)		263,552.12		210.22		263,762.34	
6. Balance, December 31, 2010	\$	77,359.76	\$	-	\$	77,359.76	

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2010 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance	Reported		Reported		Reported		Reported		Reported Adjustments		Adjusted Amount		
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$	36,006.22	\$	-	\$	36,006.22							
 Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2) 	1	53,174.52		-		53,174.52							
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments				-									
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition		89,180.74		-		89,180.74							
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures													
6. Remainder		89,180.74		-		89,180.74							
 Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero) 	\$	77,359.76	\$		\$	77,359.76							

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2011 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Europediture Summon	Deported	Adjustments	Adjusted
Expenditure Summary	Reported	(Note 4)	Amount
Major equipment purchases	\$ -	7,278.00	\$ 7,278.00
Minor equipment purchases	-	1,150.00	1,150.00
Computer/Computer related training	-	-	-
Agility projects	-	-	-
Cleaning streets and gutters	-	-	-
Winter maintenance services	52,002.61	-	52,002.61
Traffic control devices	14,200.11	(1,150.00)	13,050.11
Street lighting	68,992.65	-	68,992.65
Storm sewers and drains	-	-	-
Repairs of tools and machinery	10,581.63	(7,278.00)	3,303.63
Maintenance and repair of			
roads and bridges	2,961.66	-	2,961.66
Highway construction and			
rebuilding projects	126,648.12	(15,386.78)	111,261.34
Miscellaneous			
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	\$ 275,386.78	\$ (15,386.78)	\$ 260,000.00

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2011 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	Reported		AdjustmentsReported(Note 4)		Adjusted Amount	
1. Balance, January 1, 2011	\$ 77,359.76		\$	-	\$	77,359.76
Receipts:						
2. State allocation		272,251.47		-		272,251.47
2a. Turnback allocation		-		-		-
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)		273.28		-		273.28
2c. Miscellaneous (Finding No. 2)		18,968.00		(15,386.78)		3,581.22
3. Total receipts		291,492.75		(15,386.78)		276,105.97
4. Total funds available		368,852.51		(15,386.78)		353,465.73
5. Expenditures (Section 1)		275,386.78		(15,386.78)		260,000.00
6. Balance, December 31, 2011	\$	93,465.73	\$	_	\$	93,465.73

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2011 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance	Reported		Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount	
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$	77,359.76	\$	-	\$	77,359.76
 Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2) 	1	54,450.29		-		54,450.29
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments						
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition		131,810.05		-		131,810.05
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures				7,278.00		7,278.00
6. Remainder		131,810.05		(7,278.00)		124,532.05
 Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero) 	\$	93,465.73	\$	-	\$	93,465.73

1. <u>Criteria</u>

Section 1

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments provides a summary of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund expenditures by category. Categories requiring explanation include:

- Major equipment purchases are purchases of road machinery and road equipment that cost in excess of \$4,000.00.
- Minor equipment purchases are purchases of road machinery and road equipment that cost \$4,000.00 or less.
- Agility projects are exchanges of services with the Department of Transportation.

Section 2

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments provides information on the fund balance. Categories requiring explanation include:

- The state allocation is generally received from the Department of Transportation during the first week in April of each year. The amount the municipality receives is based half on its population and half on its road mileage.
- The turnback allocation is generally received from the Department of Transportation during the first week in April of each year. A municipality receives a yearly turnback allocation based on road mileage for all roads that were transferred to the municipality from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Highway Transfer Program.
- Expenditures include the total transferred from Section 1.

Section 3

This section of Form MS-965 With Adjustments determines if the municipality expended Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money in excess of the permissible amount for equipment and the balance that the municipality may carry forward for the purchase of equipment to the subsequent year.

1. <u>Criteria (Continued)</u>

Section 3 (Continued)

Department of Transportation *Publication 9* requires that the amount expended for equipment purchases in a given year not exceed the sum of the equipment balance carried forward from the previous year and 20 percent of the current year's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocation and, if applicable, 20 percent of the turnback allocation plus other Department of Transportation approved adjustments.

If the municipality spent in excess of the amount listed on Line 4, the excess must be reimbursed to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The equipment balance to be carried forward for the subsequent year is the lesser of the amount on Line 6 or the ending fund balance on Line 6 of Section 2, but not less than zero.

Basis Of Presentation

The financial activities of the municipality are accounted for in separate funds. The Liquid Fuels Tax Fund is used to account for state aid revenues from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation used primarily for building and improving local roads and bridges. The Forms MS-965 have been prepared in accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation as a result of the Fuels Tax Act 655, dated 1956 and as amended, which does not constitute a complete presentation of the entity's assets, liabilities, expenses, and fund balance. Accordingly, the presentation of Forms MS-965 With Adjustments is restricted to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund, which represents a segment of the entity.

Basis Of Accounting

The accompanying Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are prepared in accordance with reporting requirements prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Under this method, revenues are recognized when received and expenditures are recorded when paid.

1. <u>Criteria (Continued)</u>

General Fixed Assets

General fixed assets are recognized as expenditures at the time of purchase. No depreciation has been provided on the heavy equipment used to maintain and repair roads and bridges.

2. Deposits

The First Class Township Code, Title 53 P.S § 56705.1, authorizes the township to deposit its funds in the following:

- Deposits in savings accounts or time deposits, other than certificates of deposit or share accounts of institutions having their principal place of business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or other like insurance. For any amount above the insured maximum, the depository shall pledge approved collateral.
- Certificates of deposit purchased from institutions insured by the FDIC or other like insurance to the extent that such accounts are so insured. For any amounts in excess of the insured maximum, such deposits shall be collateralized by a pledge or assignment of assets. Certificates of deposit may not exceed 20 percent of a bank's total capital surplus or 20 percent of a savings and loan's or savings bank's assets minus liabilities.

Deposits consist of receipts and deposits in a financial institution. Pennsylvania statutes require all deposits to be insured and, for any amount above the insured maximum, to be secured with approved collateral as defined.

There were no deposits exposed to custodial credit risk as of December 31, 2011. Custodial credit risk, as defined by GASB No. 40, includes deposits that are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are uncollateralized, collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the municipality's name.

2. <u>Deposits (Continued)</u>

Fund Balance

The fund balance as of December 31, 2011 consists of the following:

Cash

\$93,465.73

3. Interest On Investments

Our examination disclosed that the municipality deposited idle liquid fuels tax money in an interest-bearing account and certificates of deposit which earned \$2,323.26 during 2008, \$2,302.60 during 2009, \$1,307.29 during 2010, and \$273.28 during 2011 thus providing additional funds for road maintenance and repairs.

4. <u>Adjustments</u>

2008 - Section 1

Adjustments were made to "Major equipment purchases," "Minor equipment purchases," and "Winter maintenance services" because expenditures of \$10,095.00 were misclassified.

An adjustment of \$(4,752.42) was made to "Street lighting" because these expenditures were overstated.

Adjustments were made to "Maintenance and repair of roads and bridges" and "Highway construction and rebuilding projects" because expenditures of \$2,619.23 were misclassified.

2008 - Section 2

An adjustment of \$(4,752.42) was made to "Balance, January 1, 2008" because of a prior report adjustment that was not carried forward in the fund balance.

4. Adjustments (Continued)

2008 - Section 3

An adjustment of \$(4,752.42) was made to "Prior year equipment balance" because of prior report adjustments that were not carried forward in the equipment balance.

An adjustment of \$6,180.00 was made to "Major equipment expenditures" to reflect the adjustment made to major equipment purchases in 2008 - Section 1.

2009 - Section 1

An adjustment of \$(18,968.00) was made to "Highway construction and rebuilding projects" because these expenditures were overstated.

2009 - Section 2

An adjustment of \$(18,968.00) was made to "Miscellaneous" because these receipts were overstated.

2010 - Section 1

An adjustment of \$210.22 was made to "Miscellaneous" because bank service charges were not reported.

2010 - Section 2

An adjustment of \$210.22 was made to "Interest on investments" because interest earnings were understated.

2011 - Section 1

Adjustments were made to "Major equipment purchases" and "Repairs of tools and machinery" because expenditures of \$7,278.00 were misclassified.

Adjustments were made to "Minor equipment purchases" and "Traffic control devices" because expenditures of \$1,150.00 were misclassified.

An adjustment of \$(15,386.78) was made to "Highway construction and rebuilding projects" because these expenditures were overstated.

4. Adjustments (Continued)

2011 - Section 2

An adjustment of \$(15,386.78) was made to "Miscellaneous" because these receipts were overstated.

2011 - Section 3

An adjustment of \$7,278.00 was made to "Major equipment expenditures" to reflect the adjustment made to major equipment purchases in 2011 - Section 1.

5. <u>Deposits In Error</u>

On May 27, 2010 and December 16, 2011, the municipality deposited \$18,968.00 and \$18,968.00, respectively, into its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund in error. As of December 31, 2011, \$37,936.00 is due to the General Fund.

Finding No. 1 - Documentation Supporting Payroll Expenditures Was Not Available For Examination

Our examination disclosed that the municipality expended \$85,169.03 during 2009 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for payroll. However, the municipality did not maintain documentation identifying the nature of the work performed and the location of work assignments.

Good internal control procedures over payroll ensure that there is documentation identifying the nature of the work performed and location of work assignments.

The Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law, 72 P.S. § 2615.4, provides, in part, that monies herein allocated may be used only for construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repairs of such public roads or streets, including bridges, culverts and drainage structures, for which they are legally responsible. Also permitted are expenditures involving acquisition, maintenance, repairs and operation of street signs, traffic signs, traffic signal control systems, road equipment, and snow fences.

The Department of Transportation has been statutorily authorized to promulgate regulations concerning the administration of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money and has determined that certain items, including expenditures made without supporting documentation, are outside the scope of permissible expenditures.

Without payroll documentation that includes daily time sheets that identify the nature of work performed and the location of work assignments, we could not determine if the payroll expenditures were permissible according to the Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law.

The failure to maintain documentation of payroll expenditures as noted above could result in the municipality having to reimburse \$85,169.03 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

<u>Finding No. 1 - Documentation Supporting Payroll Expenditures Was Not Available For</u> <u>Examination (Continued)</u>

Recommendations

We recommend that the municipality reimburse \$85,169.03 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund upon official notification by the Department of Transportation.

We further recommend that the municipality ensure good internal control over payroll by maintaining daily time sheets that identify the nature of work performed and the location of work assignments.

Management's Response

The municipal officials offered no formal response at this time.

Finding No. 2 - Liquid Fuels Money Overexpended On Projects

Our examination disclosed that the municipality expended \$77,817.94 of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money on construction project No. 09-23105-1CA. However, the amount approved to be expended from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for this project was \$74,741.60. The difference of \$3,076.34 should have been paid directly from the General Fund.

Additionally, the municipality expended \$98,755.69 of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money on construction project No. 11-23105-1CA. However, the amount approved to be expended from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for this project was \$95,174.47. The difference of \$3,581.22 should have been paid directly from the General Fund.

On September 7, 2011, the municipality reimbursed \$3,581.22 to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The Department of Transportation's Regulations do not permit a municipality to expend Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money in excess of the amount approved on Municipal Services Completion Report Form MS-999.

The failure to comply with the Department of Transportation's Regulations could result in the municipality having to reimburse \$3,076.34 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

Recommendations

We recommend that the municipality reimburse \$3,076.34 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund upon official notification by the Department of Transportation.

We further recommend that, in the future, the municipality expend only the approved amount of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money on road construction projects.

Finding No. 2 - Liquid Fuels Money Overexpended On Projects (Continued)

Management's Response

The municipal officials stated:

All reserves for the township are deposited into the General Fund and then transferred to the appropriate fund. All expenditures are paid from the General Fund, so invoices coded to the Liquid Fuels projects would need to be transferred from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund into the General Fund to be paid by check.

Auditor's Conclusion

The municipality expended a total of \$6,657.56 from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund in excess of the approved amount. The municipality should expend only the amounts approved on Forms MS-999. During our next examination we will determine if the municipality complied with our recommendations.

Finding No. 3 - Late Receipt Of Allocations

Our examination disclosed that the 2008 and 2011 Liquid Fuels Tax Fund allocations of \$287,217.30 and \$272,251.47, respectively, which should have been distributed from the Department of Transportation to the municipality during the first week of April of each year, were not received until July 28, 2008, and June 16, 2011, respectively, because the municipality failed to comply with the Department of Transportation's *Publication 9*, Chapter Two, Section 2.4, which states:

To qualify for the annual liquid fuels tax allocation, a municipality shall:

- Submit annual reports (MS-965, Actual Use Report, MS-965P, Project and Miscellaneous Receipts, and MS-965S, Record of Checks).
- Make deposits and payments or expenditures in compliance with the Act 655. Failure to do so may result in not receiving allocations from PENNDOT until all discrepancies are resolved.
- Submit the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's (DCED) Report of Elected and Appointed Officials by January 31st and the Survey of Financial Condition by March 15th.
- Ensure resolution of all Contractor Responsibility Program (CRP) holds and blocks imposed by the Department of Revenue and the Department of Labor and Industry.

Because the municipality failed to file documents and information timely as noted above, the municipality did not have use of the 2008 allocation for almost four months and the 2011 allocation for more than two months. Furthermore, had the allocations been received timely, money may have been available for investment purposes, potentially earning interest income which could have been used for road maintenance and repairs.

Finding No. 3 - Late Receipt Of Allocations (Continued)

Recommendation

We recommend that, in the future, the municipality comply with the Department of Transportation's *Publication 9* to ensure that the allocations are received during the first week in April as outlined above.

Management's Response

The municipal officials offered no formal response at this time.

Comment No. 1 - Summary Of 2005 Examination Recommendation

In our 2005 report we recommended that the Department of Transportation review our examination finding to determine if the municipality should reimburse \$18,968.00 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for money overexpended on a project.

During our 2006-2007 examination we reviewed a letter dated August 24, 2007 from the Department of Transportation informing the municipality to reimburse \$18,968.00 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. We noted that the municipality reimbursed this amount to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund on April 11, 2008.

Comment No. 2 - Summary Of 2006-2007 Examination Recommendations

In our 2006-2007 report we recommended that the Department of Transportation review our examination finding to determine if the municipality should reimburse \$645.94 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for excess transfers to the General Fund.

During our current examination we reviewed a letter dated February 11, 2009 from the Department of Transportation informing the municipality to reimburse \$645.94 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. We noted that the municipality reimbursed this amount to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund on February 19, 2009.

In our 2006-2007 report we also recommended:

- That the municipality closely review all transfers to reduce the risk of errors and misappropriations occurring and remaining undetected.
- That the municipality ensure that its Forms MS-965 are complete and accurate.

During our current examination we noted that the municipality complied with our recommendations.

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

An exit conference was held March 12, 2013. Those participating were:

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE

Ms. Lisa Swan, Director of Finance

Mr. Gary J. Cummings, Township Manager

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Stephen P. Stoppie, Auditor

The results of the examination were presented and discussed in their entirety.

TOWNSHIP OF NETHER PROVIDENCE DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND REPORT DISTRIBUTION FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2008 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

This report was initially distributed to:

The Honorable Barry J. Schoch, P.E. Secretary Department of Transportation

Township of Nether Providence Delaware County 214 Sykes Lane Wallingford, PA 19086

The Honorable Nathan Much

President of the Board of Commissioners

Ms. Lisa Swan

Director of Finance

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at <u>http://www.auditorgen.state.pa.us</u>. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 231 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: <u>news@auditorgen.state.pa.us</u>.