

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY 23-425

LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND EXAMINATION REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD
JANAURY 1, 2009 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

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 Borough of Trainer, Delaware County, for the period January 1, 2009 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 Borough of Trainer, Delaware County's Forms MS-965 for the period January 1, 2009 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.

<u>Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)</u>

As discussed in Finding No. 1, the borough expended \$7,580.70 during 2009 and \$5,240.16 during 2010 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for traffic signal maintenance services. Additionally, the borough expended \$4,345.74 during 2011 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for the purchase of deicing salt. The borough was required to obtain three written or telephonic price quotations for these expenditures. However, documentation for price quotations was not available for examination. The borough reimbursed \$7,022.20 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund on February 18, 2011. Furthermore, as discussed in Finding No. 2, the municipality expended \$1,484.30 from its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for fuel oil, which is a nonpermissible expenditure.

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 Borough of Trainer, Delaware County, for the period January 1, 2009 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 Borough of Trainer, 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 Borough of Trainer, Delaware County's Forms MS-965 that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Borough of Trainer, Delaware County's internal control.

<u>Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)</u>

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 Borough of Trainer, Delaware County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965 was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses, as defined above, in internal control over reporting on the Forms MS-965.

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

- Documentation For Price Quotations Was Not Available For Examination.
- Nonpermissible Expenditure.

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

February 1, 2013

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE

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Auditor General

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BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND BACKGROUND FOR THE PERIOD JANAURY 1, 2009 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.

BOROUGH OF TRAINER 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		-		-		-
Agility projects		-		-		-
Cleaning streets and gutters		-		-		-
Winter maintenance services		1,812.24		-		1,812.24
Traffic control devices		13,772.31		173.02		13,945.33
Street lighting		480.16		(173.02)		307.14
Storm sewers and drains		406.15		-		406.15
Repairs of tools and machinery		2,822.62		-		2,822.62
Maintenance and repair of						
roads and bridges		371.70		-		371.70
Highway construction and						
rebuilding projects		-		-		-
Miscellaneous		-		-		_
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	\$	19,665.18	\$		\$	19,665.18

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2009 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	Reported		Reported		Reported		Adj	ustments	Adjusted Amount	
1. Balance, January 1, 2009	\$	77,865.84	\$	-	\$	77,865.84				
Receipts:										
2. State allocation		36,026.28		-		36,026.28				
2a. Turnback allocation		-		-		-				
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)		308.89		-		308.89				
2c. Miscellaneous (Refund for overpayment)		41.74				41.74				
3. Total receipts		36,376.91				36,376.91				
4. Total funds available		114,242.75		_		114,242.75				
5. Expenditures (Section 1)		19,665.18		_		19,665.18				
6. Balance, December 31, 2009	\$	94,577.57	\$	_	\$	94,577.57				

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2009 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance	Reported		Reported Adjustments (Note 4)		Adjusted Amount	
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$	14,268.20	\$	19,358.96	\$	33,627.16
2. Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2)	1	7,205.26		-		7,205.26
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition		21,473.46		19,358.96		40,832.42
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures	·			<u>-</u>		
6. Remainder		21,473.46		19,358.96		40,832.42
7. Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero)	\$	21,473.46	\$	19,358.96	\$	40,832.42

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2010 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

E C		_		djustments	Adjusted	
Expenditure Summary	Reported		(Note 4)		Amount	
Major equipment purchases	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Minor equipment purchases		-		-		-
Computer/Computer related training		-		-		-
Agility projects		-		-		-
Cleaning streets and gutters		-		-		-
Winter maintenance services		4,005.20		-		4,005.20
Traffic control devices		10,557.02		-		10,557.02
Street lighting		-		-		-
Storm sewers and drains		-		-		-
Repairs of tools and machinery		11,638.96		(1,000.00)		10,638.96
Maintenance and repair of						
roads and bridges		1,108.85		-		1,108.85
Highway construction and						
rebuilding projects		-		-		-
Miscellaneous		-				_
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	\$	27,310.03	\$	(1,000.00)	\$	26,310.03

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2010 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	Reported		Reported Adjustments		djustments	Adjusted Amount		
1. Balance, January 1, 2010	\$	\$ 94,577.57		\$ 94,577.57		-	\$	94,577.57
Receipts: 2. State allocation 2a. Turnback allocation 2b. Interest on investments (Note 3) 2c. Miscellaneous		34,632.11 - 237.09 -		- - - -		34,632.11 - 237.09 -		
3. Total receipts		34,869.20				34,869.20		
4. Total funds available		129,446.77				129,446.77		
5. Expenditures (Section 1)		27,310.03		(1,000.00)		26,310.03		
6. Balance, December 31, 2010	\$	102,136.74	\$	1,000.00	\$	103,136.74		

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2010 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance	Reported		Reported Adjustme		stments	Adjusted Amount	
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$	40,832.42	\$	-	\$ 40,832.42		
2. Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2)	1	6,926.42		-	6,926.42		
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments				-			
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition		47,758.84		-	47,758.84		
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures							
6. Remainder		47,758.84			 47,758.84		
7. Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero)	\$	47,758.84	\$	-	\$ 47,758.84		

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2011 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 1 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Expenditure Summary	Reported		Adjustments		Adjusted Amount	
Major equipment purchases	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_
Minor equipment purchases		-		_		-
Computer/Computer related training		-		-		_
Agility projects		-		-		-
Cleaning streets and gutters		-		-		-
Winter maintenance services		4,345.74		-		4,345.74
Traffic control devices		6,478.28		-		6,478.28
Street lighting		-		-		-
Storm sewers and drains		-		-		-
Repairs of tools and machinery		13,777.67		-		13,777.67
Maintenance and repair of						
roads and bridges		564.30		-		564.30
Highway construction and rebuilding projects						
Miscellaneous (Finding No. 2)		1,484.30		-		1,484.30
winscendiffeous (Filiding 1vo. 2)		1,404.30				1,404.30
Total (To Section 2, Line 5)	\$	26,650.29	\$	-	\$	26,650.29

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2011 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 2 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Fund Balance	 Reported	Adju	stments	Adjusted Amount
1. Balance, January 1, 2011	\$ \$ 103,136.74			\$ 103,136.74
Receipts:				
2. State allocation	34,615.74		-	34,615.74
2a. Turnback allocation	-		-	-
2b. Interest on investments (Note 3)	150.69		-	150.69
2c. Miscellaneous (Finding No. 1)	 7,022.20			7,022.20
3. Total receipts	41,788.63			 41,788.63
4. Total funds available	144,925.37			144,925.37
5. Expenditures (Section 1)	26,650.29			 26,650.29
6. Balance, December 31, 2011	\$ 118,275.08	\$	-	\$ 118,275.08

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND 2011 FORM MS-965 – SECTION 3 WITH ADJUSTMENTS

Equipment Balance	Reported		Reported		Adjustments		Adjusted Amount	
1. Prior year equipment balance	\$	47,758.84	\$	-	\$	47,758.84		
2. Add: Current year equipment allocation (20% of Lines 2 + 2a, Section 2)	1	6,923.15		-		6,923.15		
3. PENNDOT approved adjustments								
4. Total funds available for equipment acquisition		54,681.99		-		54,681.99		
5. Less: Major equipment expenditures		<u> </u>						
6. Remainder		54,681.99		_		54,681.99		
7. Equipment balance available for subsequent year (Lesser of Line 6 or Section 2 balance, but not less than zero)	\$	54,681.99	\$		\$	54,681.99		

Notes to Forms MS-965 With Adjustments are an integral part of this report.

1. Criteria

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 Borough Code, Title 53 P.S § 46316, authorizes the borough 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 \$118,275.08

3. <u>Interest On Investments</u>

Our examination disclosed that the municipality deposited idle liquid fuels tax money in an interest-bearing account which earned \$308.89 during 2009, \$237.09 during 2010, and \$150.69 during 2011, thus providing additional funds for road maintenance and repairs.

4. Adjustments

2009 - Section 1

Adjustments were made to "Traffic control devices" and "Street lighting" because expenditures of \$173.02 were misclassified.

2009 - Section 3

An adjustment of \$19,358.96 was made to "Prior year equipment balance" because of prior report adjustments that were not carried forward in the equipment balance.

2010 - Section 1

An adjustment of \$(1,000.00) was made to "Repairs of tools and machinery" because these expenditures were overstated.

Finding No. 1 - Documentation For Price Quotations Was Not Available For Examination

Our examination disclosed that the borough expended \$7,580.70 during 2009 and \$5,240.16 during 2010, from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for traffic signal maintenance services. Also, the borough expended \$4,345.74 during 2011 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for the purchase of deicing salt. The borough was required to obtain three written or telephonic price quotations for these expenditures. However, documentation for price quotations was not available for examination.

The traffic light maintenance services purchases were as follows:

Invoice <u>Number</u>	Invoice <u>Date</u>	Check <u>Number</u>	Check <u>Date</u>	Amount	Totals
24112	02/06/09	1414	02/17/09	\$ 379.00	
24144	02/16/09	1416	02/27/09	101.75	
24196	02/25/09	1418	03/09/09	77.75	
24376	03/30/09	1422	04/10/09	77.75	
24420	04/03/09	1427	04/22/09	77.75	
24523	04/27/09	1433	05/11/09	271.50	
24622	05/14/09	1436	05/26/09	77.75	
25014	07/21/09	1444	08/06/09	77.75	
25416	09/18/09	1452	10/13/09	77.50	
25458	09/24/09	1452	10/13/09	77.75	
25531	10/05/09	1457	10/26/09	6,127.90	
25799	11/23/09	1460	12/31/09	77.75	
25868	12/03/09	1460	12/31/09	78.80	
2009 Total					\$7,580.70
26151	01/22/10	1463	02/05/10	\$ 78.80	
26574	04/19/10	1472	05/10/10	92.60	
26703	05/11/10	1477	05/18/10	67.80	
26755	05/18/10	1480	06/01/10	4,728.40	
26757	05/18/10	1480	06/01/10	78.80	
27046	07/06/10	1488	07/15/10	101.16	
27070	07/12/10	1495	08/09/10	13.80	
27916	11/30/10	1509	12/09/10	78.80	
2010 Total					\$5,240.16

<u>Finding No. 1 - Documentation For Price Quotations Was Not Available For Examination</u> (Continued)

The deicing salt purchases were as follows:

Invoice <u>Number</u>	Invoice <u>Date</u>	Check <u>Number</u>	Check <u>Date</u>	Amount	Totals
70851 71404 72209 72558	01/06/11 01/14/11 01/27/11 01/31/11	1511 1515 1515 1515	01/19/11 02/17/11 02/17/11 02/17/11	\$1,617.21 1,474.83 542.43 711.27	
2011 Total	01,01,11	1010	02/11/11		4,345.74
Three Year Total					\$17,166.60

The above expenditures were not made in compliance with the contract requirements of *The Borough Code*, 53 P.S. § 46402(a.1), (also found at § 1402(a.1) of *The Borough Code* as published by the Local Government Commission), which states, in part:

Written or telephonic price quotations from at least three qualified and responsible contractors shall be requested for all contracts that exceed four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) but are less than the amount [in excess of \$10,000.00] requiring advertisement and competitive bidding or, in lieu of price quotations, a memorandum shall be kept on file showing that fewer than three qualified contractors exist in the market area within which it is practicable to obtain quotations. A written record of telephonic price quotations shall be made and shall contain at least the date of the quotation, the name of the contractor and the contractor's representative, the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance or work which was the subject of the quotation and the price. Written price quotations, written records of telephonic price quotations and memoranda shall be retained for a period of three years.

On February 18, 2011, the borough reimbursed \$7,022.20 to the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

The failure to comply with *The Borough Code* and the Department of Transportation's *Publication 9* could result in the borough having to reimburse \$10,144.40 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

<u>Finding No. 1 - Documentation For Price Quotations Was Not Available For Examination</u> (Continued)

Recommendations

We recommend that the borough reimburse \$10,144.40 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund upon official notification by the Department of Transportation.

We further recommend that, in the future, the borough comply with *The Borough Code* and the Department of Transportation's *Publication 9* as noted in this finding.

Management's Response

The borough officials offered no formal response at this time.

Finding No. 2 - Nonpermissible Expenditure

Our examination disclosed that the municipality expended \$1,484.30 during 2011 from the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for fuel oil, which is a nonpermissible expenditure.

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 fuel oil, are outside the scope of permissible expenditures.

The failure to follow the Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law and the Department of Transportation's Regulations as noted above could result in the municipality having to reimburse \$1,484.30 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.

Recommendations

We recommend that the municipality reimburse \$1,484.30 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund upon official notification by the Department of Transportation.

We further recommend that, in the future, the municipality comply with the Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law and the Department of Transportation's Regulations regarding permissible expenditures.

Management's Response

The municipal officials offered no formal response at this time.

Comment - Summary Of Prior Examination Recommendations

In our prior report we recommended that the Department of Transportation review our examination finding to determine if the municipality should reimburse \$19,187.75 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund because documentation supporting a transfer was not available for examination.

During our current examination we reviewed a letter dated June 18, 2010, from the Department of Transportation informing the municipality that the reimbursement of \$19,187.75 would not be required.

In our prior report we also recommended that the municipality ensure that there are good internal control over expenditures by maintaining adequate documentation to support all transfers.

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

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND SUMMARY OF EXIT CONFERENCE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

An exit conference was held February 1, 2013. Those participating were:

BOROUGH OF TRAINER

Ms. Victoria Okolowski, Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Fred Casella, Auditor

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

BOROUGH OF TRAINER DELAWARE COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND REPORT DISTRIBUTION FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

This report was initially distributed to:

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

Borough of Trainer Delaware County 824 Main Street Trainer, PA 19061

The Honorable John Mathews President of Council

Ms. Victoria Okolowski Secretary

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