

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, VERMONT
ADDITIONAL REQUIRED REPORTS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

CONTENTS

	Page
Independent auditor's report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	1 and 2
Schedule of Findings and Responses	3

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT
AUDITING STANDARDS*

To the Selectboard of
Town of Fairfield, Vermont
Fairfield, Vermont

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Town of Fairfield, Vermont, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Town of Fairfield, Vermont's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 7, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Town of Fairfield, Vermont'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 Town of Fairfield, Vermont's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Town of Fairfield, Vermont's internal control.

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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section 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. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2024-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

A.M. PEISCH & COMPANY, LLP

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Town of Fairfield, Vermont's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Town of Fairfield, Vermont's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Town of Fairfield, Vermont's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Town of Fairfield, Vermont's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A.M. Peisch & Company, LLP

St. Albans, Vermont

November 7, 2025

VT Reg. No. 92-0000102

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND REPOSES
Year Ended December 31, 2024

2024-001 Preparation of Financial Statements

Condition: The Town does not prepare its financial statements completely, but relies on its auditors to perform non-attest services to prepare this function or to assist with performing this function. Management of Town of Fairfield approves and takes full responsibility for the auditors non-attest services rendered.

Criteria: An entity is responsible for the internal control process which includes the preparation of year-end financial statements in accordance with the accrual basis of accounting. This must be done by someone having sufficient expertise and ability so that there is only a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected.

Causes: Because of the complexity and annual issuance of new pronouncements, it is sometimes difficult for the financial reporting officer to obtain annual education on the new pronouncements to retain his/her expertise. Additionally, practice aids, such as current disclosure checklists, should be used to help insure compliance with the current standards.

Effect: Complete current financial statements prepared on the modified cash basis are not prepared by Town personnel.

Additional Information: Reliable financial reporting is a significant task which requires a significant investment in personnel. Most small entities elect to use the services of outside professional to prepare the financial statements because it is not economically feasible to perform this function in-house.

Response: The Town will continue to rely on its auditor to perform non-attest services to prepare the financial statements. Management will continue to approve and take full responsible for any non-attest service provided. As noted above, it is not feasible for many small towns, including the Town of Fairfield, Vermont, to invest the time and money in training for the preparation of the financial statements in-house. The local emphasis is placed instead on ensuring that the entries into the local accounting system are accurate and timely, therefore providing good information for the accurate preparation of financial statements by others.