FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

September 30, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	2
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	5
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Government-wide Financial Statements	
Statement of Net Position	14
Statement of Activities	15
Fund Financial Statements	
Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	16
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet -	
Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position	17
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances -	10
Governmental Funds	18
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes	10
in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities	19
Statement of Fund Net Position - Proprietary Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position -	20
Proprietary Funds	21
Statement of Cash Flows - Proprietary Funds	22
Notes to Financial Statements	24
170tes to 1 manetal statements	21
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Budgetary Comparison Schedules	
General Fund	65
Street Fund	66
Debt Service Fund	67
Note to Required Supplementary Information	68
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Combining Balance Sheet - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	69
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes	
in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	70
Combining Statement of Net Position - Component Units	71
Combining Statement of Activities - Component Units	72
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	73



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council City of Seward, Nebraska

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Seward, Nebraska, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Seward, Nebraska, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Seward Airport Authority, which represent 83.5 percent, 82.8 percent, and 71.1 percent, respectively, of the assets, net position, and revenues of the aggregate discretely presented component units as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position, and where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Seward Airport Authority, is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with 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. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City of Seward, Nebraska, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States

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of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City of Seward, Nebraska's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
 procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an
 opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Seward, Nebraska's internal control. Accordingly, no
 such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City of Seward, Nebraska's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the

basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We and other auditors have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the City of Seward, Nebraska's basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor governmental funds financial statements and the combining component unit financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America by us and other auditors. In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the supplementary information described in the second sentence of this paragraph are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated January 17, 2024, on our consideration of the City of Seward, Nebraska's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City of Seward's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the City of Seward, Nebraska's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Grand Island, Nebraska

AMGL, PC.

January 17, 2024

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the City of Seward, we offer readers of the City of Seward financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the City of Seward for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. For information on the Seward Airport Authority component unit included in these financial statements, please see the separate audit report for the Airport.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the City of Seward exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$71,207,951 (net position). Of this amount, \$16,415,980 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the City of Seward's governmental funds reported combined ending net position of \$34,127,167. Approximately 18.3 percent of this total amount, \$6,232,540, is *unrestricted net position*.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, the General Fund had unassigned fund balance of \$3,147,186, or 53.0 percent of total General Fund expenditures.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the City of Seward's basic financial statements. The City of Seward's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains required and supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the City of Seward's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of the City of Seward's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City of Seward is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the City of Seward that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the City of Seward include general government, public safety, highways and streets, economic development, and culture and recreation. The business-type activities of the City of Seward include the Electric, Water, and Sewer Enterprise Funds.

The government-wide financial statements include not only the City of Seward itself (known as the *primary government*), but also legally separate entities, the Seward Airport Authority and the Seward Library Foundation, for which the City of Seward is financially accountable. Financial information for these *component units* is reported separately from the financial information presented for the primary government itself.

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 14 and 15 of this report.

Fund financial statements. A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The City of Seward, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the City of Seward can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and proprietary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The City of Seward maintains eight individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General Fund, the Street Fund, and the Debt Service Fund, all of which are considered to be major funds. Data from the other five governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these nonmajor governmental funds is provided in the form of *combining statements* elsewhere in this report.

The City of Seward adopts an annual appropriated budget for its governmental funds. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the General, Street, and Debt Service Funds to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 16-19 of this report.

Proprietary funds. The City of Seward maintains one type of proprietary fund. *Enterprise funds* are used to report the same functions presented as *business-type activities* in the government-wide financial statements. The City of Seward uses enterprise funds to account for its Electric, Water, and Sewer Funds.

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The proprietary fund financial statements provide separate information for the Electric, Water, and Sewer Funds, all of which are considered to be major funds of the City of Seward.

The basic proprietary fund financial statements can be found on pages 20-23 of this report.

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 24-64 of this report.

Other information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain *required supplementary information* concerning the City of Seward's budgetary comparison schedules. Required supplementary information can be found on pages 65-68 of this report.

The combining statements referred to earlier in connection with nonmajor governmental funds and the component units are presented immediately following the required supplementary information. Combining and individual fund statements and schedules can be found on pages 69-72 of this report.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the City of Seward, assets exceeded liabilities by \$71,207,951 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

Summary Statements of Net Position

	Se	ptember 30, 202	3	September 30, 2022				
	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	Business-type Activities	<u>Total</u>	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	<u>Total</u>		
Current and Other Assets	\$ 11,149,427	\$ 14,859,814	\$26,009,241	\$ 11,241,478	\$ 16,862,750	\$ 28,104,228		
Capital Assets	28,329,046	31,487,334	59,816,380	26,504,315	28,184,916	54,689,231		
Total Assets	39,478,473	46,347,148	85,825,621	37,745,793	45,047,666	82,793,459		
Long-term Liabilities	3,602,813	6,231,955	9,834,768	4,346,823	7,201,753	11,548,576		
Other Liabilities	1,748,493	3,034,409	4,782,902	1,723,783	3,216,846	4,940,629		
Total Liabilities	5,351,306	9,266,364	14,617,670	6,070,606	10,418,599	16,489,205		
Net Position:								
Net Investment in								
Capital Assets	24,126,773	24,427,334	48,554,107	21,269,895	20,144,916	41,414,811		
Restricted	3,767,854	2,470,010	6,237,864	2,877,151	2,774,182	5,651,333		
Unrestricted	6,232,540	10,183,440	16,415,980	7,528,141	11,709,969	19,238,110		
Total Net Position	\$ 34,127,167	\$ 37,080,784	\$71,207,951	\$ 31,675,187	\$ 34,629,067	\$ 66,304,254		

By far the largest portion of the City of Seward's net position (68.2 percent) reflects its investment in capital assets (land, infrastructure, buildings, machinery, vehicles, and equipment), net of any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The City of Seward uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending. Although the City of Seward's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of the City of Seward's net position (8.8 percent) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of *unrestricted net position* (\$16,415,980) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the City of Seward is able to report positive balances in all three categories of net position, for the government as a whole as well as for its separate governmental and business-type activities.

Expenses and Program Revenues - Governmental Activities

		Tear Ended Sep	tembe	r 30, 2023	Year Ended September 30, 2022						
<u>Function</u>		Program Revenues		Program Expenses		Program Revenues	Program <u>Expenses</u>				
General Government	\$	249,623	\$	448,515	\$	127,046	\$	303,059			
Economic Development		45,953		691,209		3,000		680,146			
Public Safety		266,045		1,634,604		127,126		1,531,297			
Public Works		603,424		1,439,309		1,258,231		1,190,129			
Environment and Leisure		1,046,982		2,766,851		1,335,548		2,449,177			
Interest		-		88,639		-		107,677			
Depreciation				1,527,605				1,274,844			
Total	\$ 2,212,027		\$	8,596,732	\$	2,850,951	\$	7,536,329			

Revenues by Source - Governmental Activities

SOURCES OF REVENUE

	Year Ended Sept	tember 30, 2023	Year Ended Sept	ember 30, 2022
Charges for Services	\$ 1,415,536	12.81 %	\$ 1,199,351	11.37 %
Operating Grants and Contributions	474,469	4.29	831,454	7.88
Capital Grants and Contributions	322,022	2.91	820,146	7.77
Property Taxes	1,825,447	16.52	1,826,411	17.31
Motor Vehicle Taxes	184,725	1.67	180,259	1.71
Sales Tax	3,407,416	30.84	2,310,879	21.90
Franchise Tax	1,308,947	11.85	1,354,240	12.84
Occupation Tax	285,523	2.58	256,887	2.43
TIF Proceeds	596,172	5.40	572,812	5.43
State Allocation	1,082,206	9.80	946,760	8.97
Miscellaneous	702	0.01	571	0.01
Interest	148,223	1.34	38,124	0.36
Loss on Sale of Assets	(2,676)	(0.02)	213,384	2.02
Total	\$ 11,048,712	100.00 %	\$ 10,551,278	100.00 %

Net position increased \$2,451,980 in the governmental funds during the year ended September 30, 2023.

Business-type activities. Business-type activities increased the City of Seward's net position by \$2,451,717 for the year ended September 30, 2023. Key elements of this increase are as follows:

Expenses and Program Revenues - Business-type Activities

	 Year Ended Sep	tembe	er 30, 2023	Year Ended September 30, 2022						
	Program		Program		Program	Program				
Function	Revenues		Expenses	Revenues	Expenses					
Electric	\$ 11,643,864	\$	10,799,565	\$	11,295,671	\$	10,194,256			
Water	2,407,206		1,768,398		2,951,435		1,714,444			
Sewer	 2,139,005		1,448,453		1,921,221		1,502,873			
Total	\$ 16,190,075	\$	14,016,416	\$	16,168,327	\$	13,411,573			

Revenues by Source - Business-type Activities

SOURCES OF REVENUE	Year Ended Septe	ember 30, 2023	Year Ended September 30, 2022					
Charges for Services	\$ 16,180,075	98.25 %	\$ 15,529,755	95.20 %				
Capital Grants and Contributions	10,000	0.06	638,572	3.91				
Interest	233,346	1.42	72,586	0.44				
Gain on Sale of Assets	16,586	0.10	948	0.01				
Miscellaneous	28,126	0.17	71,229	0.44				
Total	\$ 16,468,133	100.00 %	\$ 16,313,090	100.00 %				

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the City of Seward used fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. The focus of the City of Seward's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the City of Seward's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the City of Seward's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$9,535,653. Approximately 33.0 percent of this total amount (\$3,147,186) constitutes *unassigned fund balance*, which is available for spending at the government's discretion. The remainder of fund balances is not available for new spending because it has already been 1) restricted to pay debt service (\$175,800), 2) restricted for street projects (\$2,085,095), 3) restricted for Federal programs (\$17,511), 4) restricted for economic development (\$624,486), 5) restricted for capital projects (\$599,191), 6) placed in a nonspendable endowment for cemetery perpetual care (\$265,771), 7) nonspendable prepaid expenses (\$9,835), 8) committed for public safety (\$581,100), 9) committed for sports complex lights (\$31,566), 10) assigned for parks (\$51,008), 11) assigned for cemetery (\$153,526), 12) assigned for unemployment compensation (\$4,194), or 13) assigned for budgetary stabilization (\$1,789,384).

CITY OF SEWARD, NEBRASKA MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS, Continued

For The Year Ended September 30, 2023

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the City of Seward. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was \$3,147,186, while total fund balance reached \$5,767,799. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unassigned fund balance represents 53.0 percent of total General Fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 97.2 percent of that same amount.

The fund balance of the City of Seward's General Fund decreased by \$1,257,399, due primarily to a \$2,490,000 transfer to the Street Fund.

Proprietary funds. The City of Seward's proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail.

Unrestricted net position of the proprietary funds at the end of the year were as follows: Electric Fund - \$6,240,090, Water Fund - \$2,678,402, and Sewer Fund - \$1,264,948. The change in net position for the proprietary funds was as follows: Electric Fund – increase of \$1,014,161, Water Fund – increase of \$720,345, and Sewer Fund – increase of \$717,211. Other factors concerning the finances of these three funds have already been addressed in the discussion of the City of Seward's business-type activities.

Budgetary Highlights

There was no difference between the original budget and the final adopted budget for the City of Seward.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets. The City of Seward's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of September 30, 2023, amounts to \$59,816,380 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, construction in progress, building and system improvements, machinery and equipment, park facilities, roads, highways, and bridges.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- Civic Center roof \$52,092
- Library renovations and windows \$239,124
- 2023 Chevy Silverado \$50,171
- 2022 Bobcat excavator \$71,000
- Construction in progress on Park Ave/Bradford storm drainage project \$554,411
- Construction costs on Rail Campus drainage project \$124,188
- Construction in progress on East Seward Street improvements \$1,579,313
- Construction in progress on Izaak Walton & Highway 15 project \$67,190
- Karol Kay box culvert improvements \$204,661
- Construction costs on new water wells (SW3 and S4) \$441,485
- Construction in progress on water tower \$1,076,153
- Construction in progress on East Seward Street water project \$337,134

- Construction in progress on 6th Street water main replacement \$133,141
- Construction in progress on Park Street storm sewer project \$152,250
- Construction in progress on wastewater treatment plant update project \$984,811
- Construction in progress on East Seward Street sewer project \$424,685
- Tenneco transformers and electrical service \$268,161
- Pet Source transformers and electrical service \$205,286
- East Seward Street electrical service \$291,022
- Electric AMI metering system upgrade project \$529,684
- 14th Street substation electrical panels \$75,841
- 2023 Vermeer PTX44 tractor \$71,276

City of Seward's Capital Assets (net of depreciation)

		Year Ended September 30, 2023						Year Ended September 30, 2022						
	Governmental <u>Activities</u>		Business-type <u>Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>		Governmental <u>Activities</u>		Business-type <u>Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>			
Land	\$	852,951	\$	1,965,201	\$	2,818,152	\$	852,951	\$	2,098,174	\$	2,951,125		
Construction in progress		2,538,299		3,662,907		6,201,206		465,679		1,715,364		2,181,043		
Infrastructure		15,232,042		-		15,232,042		15,509,543		-		15,509,543		
Buildings		7,898,199		768,735		8,666,934		7,793,714		765,879		8,559,593		
Equipment		1,807,555		2,079,108		3,886,663		1,882,428		1,525,188		3,407,616		
Distribution systems				23,011,383		23,011,383				22,080,311		22,080,311		
Total	\$	28,329,046	\$	31,487,334	\$	59,816,380	\$	26,504,315	\$	28,184,916	\$	54,689,231		

Additional information on the City of Seward's capital assets can be found in Note C4 on pages 47-50 of this report.

Long-term debt. At the end of the current fiscal year, the City of Seward had total long-term debt outstanding of \$11,262,273. Of this amount, \$4,024,000 comprises debt backed by the full faith and credit of the government. The remainder of the City of Seward's debt represents bonds and notes secured solely by specified revenue sources (i.e., revenue bonds and notes payable and financing agreements).

City of Seward's Outstanding Debt

	Year 1	September 30	23		Year Ended September 30, 2022						
	 Governmental Business-type					vernmental	Business-type				
	<u>Activities</u>		<u>Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>	;	<u>Activities</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 3,330,000	\$	-	\$	3,330,000	\$	4,170,000	\$	-	\$	4,170,000
Highway Allocation Bonds	650,000		-		650,000		700,000		-		700,000
Public Safety Bonds	44,000		-		44,000		87,000		-		87,000
Revenue Bonds	-		7,060,000		7,060,000		-		8,040,000		8,040,000
Note Payable	-		-		-		26,966		-		26,966
Financing Agreements	178,273				178,273		250,454		-		250,454
Total	\$ 4,202,273	\$	7,060,000	\$	11,262,273	\$	5,234,420	\$	8,040,000	\$	13,274,420

The City of Seward's total debt decreased by \$2,012,147 (15.2 percent) during the current fiscal year, as the City made scheduled principal payments.

Additional information on the City of Seward's long-term debt can be found in Note C6 on pages 51-57 of this report.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

The City's Enterprise Funds maintained strong cash positions and the City has been able to keep up with the increasing costs of operations.

- Property tax asking for the year ending September 30, 2024 of \$2,006,457 is \$171,215 (9.3 percent) higher than the prior year. The property valuation also increased 9.3 percent over the prior year.
- At September 30, 2023, the City had contractual commitments totaling \$3,145,677 remaining on the water tower project expected to be completed by Fall 2024.
- The City also has a contractual commitment of \$400,704 for engineering on the levee accreditation project expected to be completed by September 30, 2024.
- The City has a contractual commitment of \$349,516 on the East Seward Street improvement project expected to be completed by Winter 2024.
- The City also had contractual commitments totaling \$231,859 for the Park Avenue/Bradford Street storm drainage improvement project expected to be completed by July 2024.
- Voters have approved an additional 0.5 percent sales tax to go into effect January 1, 2023. This sales tax will be used to service debt on the new wellness center. The City expects the wellness center to cost \$18 \$20 million. It is expected to be financed with a \$5 million shovel ready grant received by Seward Changing the Game, a tax-exempt organization that is partnering with the City on this project. Also, private donations and pledges are expected to cover approximately \$7 million, with the remainder to be financed with debt issued by the City.

All of these factors were considered in preparing the City of Seward's budget for the 2024 fiscal year.

Request for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the City of Seward's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the City Treasurer, City of Seward, 537 Main Street, P.O. Box 38, Seward, NE 68434.

CITY OF SEWARD, NEBRASKA STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

September 30, 2023

		F						
	Go	overnmental		isiness-type			C	omponent
		<u>Activities</u>		<u>Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>		<u>Units</u>
ASSETS								
Current assets:								
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	5,083,176	\$	5,064,908	\$	10,148,084	\$	330,350
Certificates of deposit		441,357		3,743,549		4,184,906		90,647
County treasurer cash		50,566		-		50,566		4,349
Investments		-		-		-		564,505
Receivables:								
Property tax		42,761		-		42,761		5,002
Accounts, net of allowance for doubtful accounts		1,700		1,671,903		1,673,603		4,594
Unbilled revenue		-		466,908		466,908		-
Interest		418		7,880		8,298		5
Current portion of notes		123,087		-		123,087		-
Due from other governments		708,915		-		708,915		-
Prepaid expense		9,835		-		9,835		24,007
Inventory		88,740		1,307,945		1,396,685		
Total current assets		6,550,555		12,263,093		18,813,648		1,023,459
Noncurrent assets:								
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		4,017,901		1,220,811		5,238,712		-
Restricted certificates of deposit		15,000		1,375,910		1,390,910		-
Permanently restricted investments		-		-		-		85,616
Noncurrent notes receivable		565,971		-		565,971		-
Capital assets:								
Land		852,951		1,965,201		2,818,152		105,156
Construction in progress		2,538,299		3,662,907		6,201,206		-
Other capital assets, net of depreciation		24,937,796		25,859,226		50,797,022		3,671,380
Net capital assets		28,329,046		31,487,334		59,816,380		3,776,536
Total noncurrent assets		32,927,918		34,084,055		67,011,973		3,862,152
Total assets		39,478,473		46,347,148		85,825,621		4,885,611
LIABILITIES								
Current liabilities:								
Accounts payable		754,751		1,721,094		2,475,845		-
Accrued interest		25,995		21,312		47,307		4,965
Other accrued expenses		124,183		150,292		274,475		-
Customer deposits		-		126,711		126,711		-
Unavailable property tax		32,184		-		32,184		-
Unearned revenue		39,600		-		39,600		24,519
Current portion of long-term obligations		771,780		1,015,000		1,786,780		161,300
Total current liabilities		1,748,493		3,034,409		4,782,902		190,784
Noncurrent liabilities:								
Compensated absences - noncurrent		172,320		186,955		359,275		-
Noncurrent portion of long-term obligations		3,430,493		6,045,000		9,475,493		14,542
Total noncurrent liabilities		3,602,813		6,231,955		9,834,768		14,542
Total liabilities		5,351,306		9,266,364		14,617,670		205,326
NET POSITION								
Net investment in capital assets		24,126,773		24,427,334		48,554,107		3,600,694
Restricted for:		24,120,773		24,427,334		40,554,107		3,000,074
Capital projects		599,191		_		599,191		_
Debt service		175,800		2,470,010		2,645,810		_
Street projects		2,085,095		2,470,010		2,045,010		_
Federal programs		2,083,093 17,511		-		2,083,093 17,511		-
Economic development		624,486		-		624,486		-
Cemetery perpetual care				-				-
		265,771		-		265,771		05 616
Permanently restricted-Guthal Unrestricted		6 222 540		10 192 440		16 /15 000		85,616
	Ф.	6,232,540	•	10,183,440	•	16,415,980	Φ	993,975
Total net position	\$	34,127,167	\$	37,080,784	\$	71,207,951	\$	4,680,285

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended September 30, 2023

			Program Revenues			
		Charges for	Operating Grants and			
Functions/Programs	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Services</u>	Contributions			
Primary government:						
Governmental activities:						
General government	\$ 448,515	\$ 67,284	\$ 182,339			
Economic development	691,209	45,953	-			
Public safety	1,634,604	201,772	53,343			
Public works	1,439,309	386,735	13,800			
Environment and leisure	2,766,851	713,792	224,987			
Interest and related expenses	88,639	-	· -			
Depreciation - unallocated	1,527,605	-	-			
Total governmental activities	8,596,732	1,415,536	474,469			
Business-type activities:						
Electric	10,799,565	11,643,864	-			
Water	1,768,398	2,397,206	-			
Sewer	1,448,453	2,139,005	-			
Total business-type activities	14,016,416	16,180,075	-			
Total primary government	\$ 22,613,148	\$ 17,595,611	\$ 474,469			
Component units:						
Seward Airport Authority	\$ 477,101	\$ 122,569	\$ -			
Seward Library Foundation	60,487	· -	41,692			
Total component units	\$ 537,588	\$ 122,569	\$ 41,692			

Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position Capital **Primary Government** Grants and Governmental Business-type Component Activities | Contributions Activities Total Units \$ \$ (198,892)\$ (198,892)(645, 256)(645, 256)10,930 (1,368,559)(1,368,559)202,889 (835,885)(835,885)108,203 (1,719,869)(1,719,869)(88,639)(88,639)(1,527,605)(1,527,605)322,022 (6,384,705)(6,384,705) 844,299 844,299 10,000 638,808 638,808 690,552 690,552 10,000 2,173,659 2,173,659 \$ 332,022 (6,384,705)2,173,659 (4,211,046)\$ \$ (354,532)(18,795)(373,327)General revenues: Taxes: Property 1,825,447 1,825,447 214,051 Motor vehicle 184,725 184,725 Sales tax 3,407,416 3,407,416 Franchise 1,308,947 1,308,947 285,523 Occupation 285,523 TIF proceeds 596,172 596,172 State allocation 1,082,206 1,082,206 Miscellaneous 702 28,126 28,828 37,915 Interest income 148,223 381,569 233,346 3,432 Gain on investments 110,059 16,586 13,910 Gain (loss) on sale of assets (2,676)278,058 9,114,743 365,457 Total general revenues 8,836,685 2,451,980 2,451,717 4,903,697 Change in net position (7,870)34,629,067 66,304,254 Net position - September 30, 2022 31,675,187 4,688,155 Net position - September 30, 2023 \$ 34,127,167 37,080,784 \$ 71,207,951 4,680,285

CITY OF SEWARD, NEBRASKA BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

September 30, 2023

	General Street			Debt <u>Service</u>	G	Other overnmental <u>Funds</u>	G	Total Governmental <u>Funds</u>		
ASSETS										
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	5,083,176	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	5,083,176	
Certificates of deposit		441,357		-	-		-		441,357	
County treasurer cash		50,566		-	-		-		50,566	
Receivables:										
Accounts, net of allowance										
for doubtful accounts		-		1,700	-		-		1,700	
Interest		387		-	-		31		418	
Property tax		42,761		-	-		-		42,761	
Due from other governments		397,761		178,567	-		132,587		708,915	
Inventory		-		88,740	-		-		88,740	
Prepaid expenses		9,835		-	-		-		9,835	
Restricted assets:										
Cash		-		2,403,952	175,800		1,438,149		4,017,901	
Certificates of deposit		-		-	-		15,000		15,000	
Total assets	\$	6,025,843	\$	2,672,959	\$ 175,800	\$	1,585,767	\$	10,460,369	
LIABILITIES AND										
FUND BALANCES										
Liabilities:										
Accounts payable	\$	101,059	\$	574,884	\$ -	\$	78,808	\$	754,751	
Accrued expenses		85,201		12,980	-		-		98,181	
Unearned golf revenue		39,600		_	-		_		39,600	
Unavailable property tax		32,184		-	-		-		32,184	
Total liabilities		258,044		587,864	 -		78,808		924,716	
Fund balances:										
Nonspendable										
Cemetery perpetual care		_		_	_		265,771		265,771	
Prepaid expenses		9,835		_	_		,		9,835	
Restricted for:		2,000							7,000	
Capital projects		_		_	_		599,191		599,191	
Debt service		_		_	175,800		-		175,800	
Street projects		_		2,085,095	=		-		2,085,095	
Federal programs		-		, , , <u>-</u>	-		17,511		17,511	
Economic development		-		-	-		624,486		624,486	
Committed for:										
Public safety		581,100		-	-		-		581,100	
Sports complex lights		31,566		-	-		-		31,566	
Assigned for:										
Budgetary stabilization		1,789,384		-	-		-		1,789,384	
Parks		51,008		-	-		-		51,008	
Cemetery		153,526		-	-		-		153,526	
Unemployment compensation		4,194		-	-		-		4,194	
Unassigned		3,147,186			-				3,147,186	
Total fund balances		5,767,799		2,085,095	175,800		1,506,959		9,535,653	
Total liabilities and					 					
fund balances	\$	6,025,843	\$	2,672,959	\$ 175,800	\$	1,585,767	\$	10,460,369	

RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

September 30, 2023

Total fund balances - governmental funds		\$ 9,535,653
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds. The cost of the assets is \$46,015,002, and the accumulated depreciation is \$17,685,956.		28,329,046
Notes receivable are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds. The notes receivable are reported as assets in the statement of net position.		689,058
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds. Long-term liabilities at year end consist of:		
Compensated absences Accrued interest on long-term debt Bonds payable Financing agreements	\$ (198,322) (25,995) (4,024,000) (178,273)	 (4,426,590)
Total net position - governmental activities		\$ 34,127,167

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

For the year ended September 30, 2023

REVENUES	<u>General</u>		<u>Street</u>		Debt <u>Service</u>	Go	Other vernmental <u>Funds</u>	Go	Total overnmental <u>Funds</u>
Taxes:									
Property	\$ 1,825,447	(\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,825,447
Motor vehicle	184,725		-		-		-		184,725
Sales tax	1,614,372		366,407		678,037		748,600		3,407,416
Franchise	1,308,947		-		-		-		1,308,947
Occupation	285,523		-		-		-		285,523
TIF proceeds	-		-		-		596,172		596,172
Intergovernmental	131,694		1,010,355		-		-		1,142,049
Charges for services	1,332,872		36,463		-		46,201		1,415,536
Loan collections	-		-		-		116,144		116,144
Interest income	110,582		29		6,592		13,710		130,913
Grants	27,897		202,889		-		151,447		382,233
Contributions	343,615		-		-		10,800		354,415
Other income	 702						-		702
Total revenues	7,166,376		1,616,143		684,629		1,683,074		11,150,222
EXPENDITURES									
General government	297,048		-		-		151,467		448,515
Economic development	-		-		-		728,277		728,277
Public safety	1,652,278		-		-		-		1,652,278
Public works	503,124		936,185		-		-		1,439,309
Environment and leisure	2,766,851		-		-		-		2,766,851
Capital outlay	659,574		2,695,438		-		-		3,355,012
Principal payments on debt	49,468		22,713		959,966		-		1,032,147
Interest on long-term debt	5,432		1,532		85,165		-		92,129
Bond fees	-	_	-		2,400				2,400
Total expenditures	 5,933,775	_	3,655,868	_	1,047,531		879,744		11,516,918
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	1,232,601		(2,039,725)		(362,902)		803,330		(366,696)
OTHER FINANCING									
SOURCES (USES)									
Transfers in	- -		2,490,000		190,480		-		2,680,480
Transfers out	 (2,490,000)	_	(190,480)		-				(2,680,480)
Net transfers	 (2,490,000)	_	2,299,520	_	190,480				
Net change in fund balances	(1,257,399)		259,795		(172,422)		803,330		(366,696)
Fund balances - September 30, 2022	 7,025,198	_	1,825,300	_	348,222		703,629		9,902,349
Fund balances - September 30, 2023	\$ 5,767,799	9	\$ 2,085,095	\$	175,800	\$	1,506,959	\$	9,535,653

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended September 30, 2023

Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of activities are different because:	
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capitalized capital outlay (\$3,355,012) exceeded depreciation expense (\$1,527,605) during the period. 1,82	7,407
Basis remaining of capital asset disposals does not impact the governmental funds, but the remaining basis reduces the gain on sale of capital assets in the statement of activities.	2,676)
Collection of loan proceeds on economic development loans is reported as revenue in the governmental funds, but reduces assets in the statement of net position. (9	8,834)
The issuance of economic development loans is reported as an expense in the governmental funds, but increases assets in the statement of net position.	0,000
Forgiveness of LB840 loans is not reported in the fund financial statements, but is reported as economic development expense in the statement of activities. (1)	2,932)
The change in compensated absences is reported as an expense in the statement of net position. Compensated absences are not reported in the governmental funds.	7,674
The change in accrued interest payable is reported as an expense in the statement of net position. Accrued interest payable is not reported in the governmental funds.	5,890
Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. 1,03	2,147
<u> </u>	1,980

STATEMENT OF FUND NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS

September 30, 2023

	Enterprise Funds						
		Electric		Water		Sewer	
		<u>Fund</u>		<u>Fund</u>		<u>Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS							
Current assets:							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,896,161	\$	2,352,893	\$	815,854	\$ 5,064,908
Certificates of deposit		3,290,136		157,415		295,998	3,743,549
Receivables:							
Accounts, net of allowance for							
doubtful accounts		1,220,444		271,850		179,609	1,671,903
Unbilled revenue		318,003		73,947		74,958	466,908
Interest		6,062		1,097		721	7,880
Inventory		1,202,341		105,604		-	1,307,945
Total current assets		7,933,147		2,962,806		1,367,140	12,263,093
Noncurrent assets:							
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		286,685		448,728		485,398	1,220,811
Restricted certificates of deposit		469,380		524,695		381,835	1,375,910
Capital assets:							
Land		1,604,487		270,620		90,094	1,965,201
Construction in progress		26,135		1,823,844		1,812,928	3,662,907
Distribution systems		22,040,184		17,866,076		12,832,799	52,739,059
Buildings		893,635		138,776		378,769	1,411,180
Equipment		3,650,088		573,938		1,208,406	5,432,432
Less accumulated depreciation		15,677,436)		(8,983,550)		(9,062,459)	 (33,723,445)
Net capital assets		12,537,093		11,689,704		7,260,537	31,487,334
Total noncurrent assets		13,293,158		12,663,127		8,127,770	34,084,055
Total assets		21,226,305		15,625,933		9,494,910	46,347,148
LIABILITIES							
Current liabilities:							
Accounts payable		1,448,893		218,105		54,096	1,721,094
Customer deposits		126,551		160		-	126,711
Accrued interest payable		9,533		9,844		1,935	21,312
Other accrued expenses		47,866		19,832		19,742	87,440
Sales tax payable		62,852		-		-	62,852
Current portion of long-term obligations		425,000		325,000		265,000	1,015,000
Total current liabilities		2,120,695		572,941		340,773	3,034,409
Noncurrent liabilities:							
Compensated absences - noncurrent		123,913		36,623		26,419	186,955
Noncurrent portion of long-term obligations		2,540,000		1,505,000		2,000,000	 6,045,000
Total noncurrent liabilities		2,663,913		1,541,623		2,026,419	6,231,955
Total liabilities		4,784,608		2,114,564		2,367,192	9,266,364
NET POSITION							
Net investment in capital assets		9,572,093		9,859,704		4,995,537	24,427,334
Restricted for:				, ,		, ,	, ,
Debt service		629,514		973,263		867,233	2,470,010
Unrestricted		6,240,090		2,678,402		1,264,948	10,183,440
Total net position	\$	16,441,697	\$	13,511,369	\$	7,127,718	\$ 37,080,784

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS

For the year ended September 30, 2023

	 Enterprise Funds						
	Electric		Water		Sewer		
	<u>Fund</u>		Fund		Fund		<u>Total</u>
Operating revenues:							
User charges	\$ 11,526,827	\$	2,255,240	\$	2,114,601	\$	15,896,668
Customer service charges	44,064		9,891		11,599		65,554
Other revenue	72,973		132,075		12,805		217,853
Total operating revenues	11,643,864		2,397,206		2,139,005		16,180,075
Operating expenses:							
Cost of power	6,800,455		-		-		6,800,455
Personnel	1,088,735		593,343		516,779		2,198,857
Contract services	73,572		17,555		27,660		118,787
Utilities	82,837		169,930		77,271		330,038
Repairs and maintenance	287,120		221,923		124,178		633,221
Supplies	79,739		46,944		26,306		152,989
Professional fees	60,505		56,473		51,174		168,152
Insurance	94,585		57,184		54,466		206,235
Fuel and transportation	17,701		8,864		7,359		33,924
Dues, memberships & training	23,834		12,943		11,424		48,201
Miscellaneous	16,192		4,076		3,529		23,797
Franchise fees	1,184,802		124,144		-		1,308,946
Depreciation	909,166		420,738		523,923		1,853,827
Total operating expenses	10,719,243		1,734,117		1,424,069		13,877,429
Operating income	924,621		663,089		714,936		2,302,646
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):							
Interest income	126,050		81,537		25,759		233,346
Miscellaneous income	27,226		-		900		28,126
Grant revenue	-		10,000		-		10,000
Gain on disposal of capital assets	16,586		-		-		16,586
Interest expense	(79,522)		(33,281)		(24,084)		(136,887)
Loan administration fees	 (800)		(1,000)		(300)		(2,100)
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	89,540		57,256		2,275		149,071
		-					
Change in net position	1,014,161		720,345		717,211		2,451,717
Net position - September 30, 2022	 15,427,536		12,791,024		6,410,507		34,629,067
Net position - September 30, 2023	\$ 16,441,697	\$	13,511,369	\$	7,127,718	\$	37,080,784

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUNDS

For the year ended September 30, 2023

	Electric	Water	Sewer	
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:				
Receipts from customers	\$ 11,524,904	\$ 2,374,161	\$ 2,111,966	\$ 16,011,031
Payments to suppliers	(8,983,034)	(725,380)	(416,856)	(10,125,270)
Payments to employees	(1,082,322)	(606,892)	(526,944)	(2,216,158)
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,459,548	1,041,889	1,168,166	3,669,603
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED				
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:				
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,616,427)	(2,480,519)	(1,435,994)	(5,532,940)
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	149,559	-	-	149,559
Grant proceeds	-	10,000	-	10,000
Principal payments on capital debt	(415,000)	(295,000)	(270,000)	(980,000)
Interest paid on capital debt	(80,608)	(34,473)	(24,163)	(139,244)
Loan administration fees	(800)	(1,000)	(300)	(2,100)
Net cash used by capital and related				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
financing activities	(1,963,276)	(2,800,992)	(1,730,457)	(6,494,725)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:				
Increase in certificates of deposit	(39,605)	(707)	(829)	(41,141)
Increase in restricted certificates of deposit	(708)	(1,934)	(1,253)	(3,895)
Interest received	122,228	81,017	25,291	228,536
Net cash provided by investing activities	81,915	78,376	23,209	183,500
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(421,813)	(1,680,727)	(539,082)	(2,641,622)
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of the year	2,604,659	4,482,348	1,840,334	8,927,341
Cash and cash equivalents - end of the year	\$ 2,182,846	\$ 2,801,621	\$ 1,301,252	\$ 6,285,719
Composition of cash and cash equivalents:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,896,161	\$ 2,352,893	\$ 815,854	\$ 5,064,908
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	286,685	448,728	485,398	1,220,811
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,182,846	\$ 2,801,621	\$ 1,301,252	\$ 6,285,719

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUNDS, Continued

For the year ended September 30, 2023

	Enterprise Funds							
	-	Electric		Water		Sewer		
		<u>Fund</u>		<u>Fund</u>		<u>Fund</u>		<u>Total</u>
December 18 de la constant de la con								
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:								
	\$	924,621	\$	663,089	\$	714,936	\$	2 202 646
Operating income	Ф	924,021	Ф	003,089	Ф	/14,930	Ф	2,302,646
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net								
cash provided by operating activities:								
Miscellaneous nonoperating revenue		27,226		-		900		28,126
Depreciation expense		909,166		420,738		523,923		1,853,827
Change in assets and liabilities:								
Accounts receivable		(154,596)		(23,005)		(27,939)		(205,540)
Inventories		(386,432)		3,132		-		(383,300)
Accounts payable		124,740		(8,476)		(33,489)		82,775
Customer deposits		6,444		(40)		-		6,404
Sales tax payable		1,966		-		-		1,966
Accrued expenses		6,413		(13,549)		(10,165)		(17,301)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	1,459,548	\$	1,041,889	\$	1,168,166	\$	3,669,603

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INDEX

		Page
NO	TE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES	
1.	Financial Reporting Entity	25
2.	Basis of Presentation	26
3.	Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting	29
4.	Assets, Liabilities, and Equity	31
5.	Revenues, Expenditures, and Expenses	37
NO	TE B – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY	
1.	Fund Accounting Requirements	39
2.	Deposit Laws and Regulations	39
3.	Revenue Restrictions	40
4.	Debt Restrictions and Covenants	40
5.	Budgetary Data	40
NO	TE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS	
1.	Cash and Investments	41
2.	Restricted Assets	44
3.	Accounts and Notes Receivable	44
4.	Capital Assets	47
5.	Accounts Payable	50
6.	Long-term Debt	51
7.	Interfund Transactions and Balances	57
NO	TE D – OTHER NOTES	
1.	Employee Pension and Other Benefit Plans	58
2.	Risk Management	58
3.	Commitments	60
4.	Interlocal Agreements	61
5.	Tax Abatements/Conduit Debt	63
6.	Related Party Transactions	64
7.	Subsequent Events	64

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the City of Seward, Nebraska (City) are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The City's reporting entity applies all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements.

The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting principles and practices are discussed in subsequent sections of this Note.

1. Financial Reporting Entity

The City of Seward, Nebraska, was incorporated in 1868. The City operates under a Mayor-Council form of government with an elected Mayor, and an elected legislative body, Council, composed of eight members. The Mayor is elected at large for a four-year term, and the eight members of the City Council are elected, two from each of four wards, on alternating four-year terms. The administration of the City government is performed under the direction of the Mayor by the City Administrator. Services provided to residents include public safety, highways and streets, planning and zoning, parks, recreation, development, electric, water, and sanitary sewer systems, transfer station, and general administrative services.

The City's financial reporting entity comprises the following:

Primary Government: City of Seward

Discretely Presented Component Units: Seward Airport Authority

Seward Library Foundation

In determining the financial reporting entity, the City complies with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 61, and has addressed all potential component units (traditionally separate reporting entities) for which the City may be financially accountable, and, as such, should be included within the City's financial statements. The City (the primary government) is financially accountable if it appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) it is able to impose its will on the organization or (2) there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the City. Additionally, the primary government is required to consider other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

1. <u>Financial Reporting Entity, continued</u>

Blended Component Units

Blended component units are separate legal entities that meet the component unit criteria described above and whose governing body is the same or substantially the same as the City Council or the component unit provides services entirely to the City. These component units' funds are blended into those of the City by appropriate activity type to compose the primary government presentation. Currently, the City has no blended component units.

Discretely Presented Component Units

Discretely presented component units are separate legal entities that meet the component unit criteria described above but do not meet the criteria for blending. The following are the discretely presented component units:

Brief Description of Activities and Relationship

to the City:

Seward Airport Authority Established to provide for the operation of the

Seward Airport. The component unit information was obtained from financial statements which can be obtained by contacting the Seward Airport

Authority.

Seward Library Foundation Established to support the Seward library.

2. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange revenues. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

2. Basis of Presentation, continued

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures/expenses. Funds are organized into two major categories: governmental and proprietary. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental and proprietary categories. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the City or meets the following criteria:

- a. Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type; and
- b. Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental fund or enterprise fund are at least five percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

The funds of the financial reporting entity are described below:

Governmental Funds

General Fund

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City and always classified as a major fund. It is used to account for all activities except those legally or administratively required to be accounted for in other funds.

Special Revenue Funds

Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for certain purposes.

Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund accounts for the accumulation of financial resources for the payment of interest and principal on the general long-term debt of the City other than debt service payments made by enterprise funds. Ad valorem taxes are used for the payment of principal and interest on the City's general obligation bonds.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

2. Basis of Presentation, continued

Governmental Funds, continued

Capital Projects Fund

The Capital Projects Fund is used to account for resources restricted for the acquisition or construction of specific capital projects.

Permanent Fund

The Permanent Fund accounts for assets held by the City pursuant to a trust agreement. The principal portion of this fund type must remain intact, but the earnings may be used to achieve the objectives of the fund.

Proprietary Funds

Enterprise Funds

Enterprise Funds are used to account for business-like activities provided to the general public. These activities are financed primarily by user charges and the measurement of financial activity focuses on net income measurement similar to the private sector.

Major and Nonmajor Funds

The funds are further classified as major or non-major as follows:

Fund	Brief Description
Major:	
Governmental: General	See page 27 for description.
Street	The Street Fund is a special revenue fund that accounts for the City's share of highway allocation from the State of Nebraska.
Debt Service	See page 27 for description.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

2. Basis of Presentation, continued

Major and Nonmajor Funds, continued

Fund Brief Description

Major, continued:

Proprietary:

Enterprise:

Electric, Water, and Sewer See page 28 for description.

Nonmajor:

Special Revenue:

CDBG Special revenue fund that accounts for community

development grants and related expenses.

LB840 Special revenue fund that accounts for sales tax to

be used for economic development under LB840.

TIF Special revenue fund that accounts for tax

increment financing projects used to promote

economic development.

Capital Projects See page 28 for description.

Perpetual Care Permanent fund that accounts for the monies in a

permanent care endowment fund for the cemetery.

3. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "which" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to "when" transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Measurement Focus

On the government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, both governmental and business-like activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus as defined in item b, below.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

3. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting, continued

Measurement Focus, continued

In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus or the "economic resources" measurement focus is used as appropriate:

- a. All governmental funds utilize a "current financial resources" measurement focus. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their operating statements present sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. These funds use fund balance as their measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.
- b. The proprietary funds utilize an "economic resources" measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery), financial position, and cash flows. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activities are reported. Proprietary fund equity is classified as net position.

Basis of Accounting

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, governmental and business-like activities and the discretely presented component units are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when "measurable and available." Measurable means knowing or being able to reasonably estimate the amount. Available means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after year end. Expenditures (including capital outlay) are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

3. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting, continued

Basis of Accounting, continued

All proprietary funds and discretely presented component units utilize the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or the economic asset is used.

4. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Investments

For the purpose of the Statement of Net Position, "cash and cash equivalents" include all demand accounts and savings accounts. For the purpose of the proprietary fund Statement of Cash Flows, "cash and cash equivalents" include all cash on hand, demand accounts, savings accounts, and equity in pooled cash which has an original maturity of three months or less. The County Treasurer's cash represents revenues collected not yet remitted to the City.

Certificates of deposit and investments are carried at fair value. Fair value is based on quoted market price. Additional cash and investment disclosures are presented in Notes B2, C1, and D2.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the City's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

4. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity, continued

Receivables

In the government-wide statements, receivables consist of all revenues earned at year end and not yet received. Allowances for uncollectible accounts receivable are based upon historical trends and the periodic aging of accounts receivable. Major receivable balances for the governmental activities include special assessments and property taxes. Business-type activities report utility billings and unbilled revenue as their major receivables.

In the fund financial statements, receivables in governmental funds include revenue accruals such as special assessments and property taxes, since they are usually both measurable and available. Proprietary fund receivables consist of all revenues earned at year end and not yet received. Utility accounts receivable and unbilled revenue compose the majority of proprietary fund receivables. Allowances for uncollectible accounts receivable are based upon historical trends and the periodic aging of accounts receivable.

Due from Other Governments

The total due from other governments consists of the following:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>	Service
General	\$ 397,761	Sales Tax
Street	81,863	Sales Tax
Street	15,754	Motor Vehicle Fees
Street	80,950	Highway Allocation
Capital Projects	132,587	Sales Tax
	\$ <u>708,915</u>	

Inventory

All inventories are valued at cost using the first-in/first-out (FIFO) method.

Restricted Assets

Restricted assets include cash and investments that are legally restricted as to their use. The primary restricted assets are related to debt service and proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for certain purposes.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

4. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity, continued

Capital Assets

The accounting treatment over property, plant, and equipment (capital assets) depends on whether the assets are used in governmental fund operations or proprietary fund operations and whether they are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

Government-wide Statements

In the government-wide financial statements, capital assets that are purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$5,000 or more are capitalized and reported on the Statement of Net Position. Capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual is unavailable, except for donated capital assets, which are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. The City has elected the depreciation approach for reporting infrastructure.

Depreciation of general capital assets and all proprietary capital assets is recorded as an allocated expense in the Statement of Activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. The ranges of estimated useful lives by type of asset are as follows:

Buildings	25-40 years
Improvements	5-25 years
Machinery and Equipment	5-20 years
Utility System	20-50 years
Infrastructure	20-50 years

Prior to July 1, 1980, governmental funds' infrastructure assets were not capitalized. These assets (back to July 1, 1980) have been valued at estimated historical cost. The cost of normal maintenance, preservation, and repairs that do not add to the value of the assets or materially extend the assets' lives are not capitalized.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

4. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity, continued

Capital Assets, continued

Fund Financial Statements

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition. Capital assets used in proprietary fund operations are accounted for the same as in the government-wide statements.

Unavailable Revenues

Unavailable revenues consist of property taxes and special assessments expected to be collected after 60 days.

Compensated Absences

The City's policies regarding vacation time permit employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation leave. A portion of the liability for these compensated absences is recorded as long-term debt in the government-wide statements. The current portion of this obligation is estimated based on historical trends. In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report only the current compensated absence liability payable from expendable available financial resources, while the proprietary funds report the total liability.

Employees generally earn sick leave at the rate of one day per month with the total accumulation up to 900 hours. In the event of retirement, an employee is reimbursed 50 percent of the accumulated sick leave if the employee meets certain eligibility requirements.

Long-term Debt

The accounting treatment of long-term debt depends on whether the assets are used in governmental fund operations or proprietary fund operations and whether they are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

4. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity, continued

Long-term Debt, continued

Government-wide Statements

All long-term debt to be repaid from governmental and business-type resources is reported as liabilities in the government-wide statements. The long-term debt consists primarily of notes payable and accrued compensated absences.

Fund Financial Statements

Long-term debt for governmental funds is not reported as liabilities in the fund financial statements. The debt proceeds are reported as other financing sources and payment of principal and interest reported as expenditures. The accounting for proprietary funds is the same in the fund financial statements as it is in the government-wide statements.

Equity Classifications

Government-wide Statements

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position Consists of net position with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position All other net position that does not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Proprietary fund equity is classified the same as in the government-wide statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

4. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity, continued

Equity Classifications, continued

Fund Financial Statements, continued

Effective October 1, 2010, the City adopted GASB Statement No. 54, which redefined how fund balances of the governmental funds are presented in the financial statements. Fund balances are classified as follows:

Nonspendable—Amounts that cannot be spent either because they are not in a spendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted—Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of the City Charter, City Code, state or federal laws or externally imposed conditions by grantors or creditors.

Committed—Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action by City Council ordinance or resolution.

Assigned—Amounts that are designated by the Mayor for a specific purpose but are not spendable until a budget ordinance is passed by the City Council.

Unassigned—All amounts not included in other spendable classifications.

The details of the fund balances are included in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet (page 16). Restricted funds are used first as appropriate. Assigned Funds are reduced to the extent that expenditure authority has been budgeted by the City Council or the Assignment has been changed by the Mayor. Decreases to fund balance first reduce Unassigned Fund balance; in the event that Unassigned Fund Balance becomes zero, then Assigned and Committed Fund Balances are used in that order.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

5. Revenues, Expenditures, and Expenses

Sales and Use Tax

The City presently levies a 2.0 cent sales tax on taxable sales within the City. The sales tax is collected by the Nebraska Department of Revenue and remitted to the City in the month following receipt. The Nebraska Department of Revenue receives the sales tax approximately one month after collection by vendors. Sales tax collected on the sale of motor vehicles is restricted for street improvements as required by LB904. Effective January 1, 2023, 0.5 percent is allocated to service debt on the new wellness center. The balance of the sales tax is allocated to the General and Debt Service Funds for property tax relief, with up to \$150,000 per year approved for the LB840 Fund to be used for economic development.

Sales taxes collected by the State in September (which represent sales for August) and received by the City in October have been accrued and are included under the caption "Due from other governments."

Property Taxes

The City has the power to levy taxes each year sufficient to pay any judgment existing against the City, the interest on bonded debt, and the principal on bonded debt maturing during the fiscal year or within six months thereafter, as well as taxes authorized by state law.

The tax levies for all political subdivisions in Seward County are certified by the County Board on or before October 20. Real estate taxes are due on December 31 and attach as an enforceable lien and become delinquent in two equal installments on May 1 and September 1. Personal property taxes are due in the same manner as real estate taxes. Delinquent taxes bear 14 percent interest.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

5. Revenues, Expenditures, and Expenses, continued

Property Taxes, continued

Property taxes levied for 2022-2023 are recorded as revenue when expected to be collected within 60 days after September 30, 2023. Prior-year levies were recorded using these same principles, and remaining receivables are re-evaluated annually. Property taxes expected to be collected after 60 days are recorded as deferred revenue on the fund balance sheets.

The City-owned electric, water, and sewer utilities make payments in lieu of taxes (10 percent of gross revenues for electric and 5 percent of gross revenues for water).

Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues and expenses for proprietary funds are those that result from providing services and producing and delivering goods and/or services. They also include all revenue and expenses not related to capital and related financing, noncapital financing, or investing activities.

Expenditures/Expenses

In the government-wide financial statements, expenses are classified by function for both governmental and business-type activities.

In the fund financial statements, expenditures are classified as follows:

Governmental Funds – by Character and Function

Proprietary Fund – by Operating and Nonoperating

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report expenditures of financial resources. Proprietary funds report expenses relating to use of economic resources.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

5. Revenues, Expenditures, and Expenses, continued

Interfund Transfers

Permanent reallocation of resources between funds of the reporting entity is classified as transfers. For the purposes of the Statement of Activities, all interfund transfers between individual governmental funds have been eliminated.

NOTE B – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

By its nature as a local government unit, the City and its component units are subject to various federal, state, and local laws and contractual regulations. An analysis of the City's compliance with significant laws and regulations and demonstration of its stewardship over City resources follows:

1. Fund Accounting Requirements

The City complies with all state and local laws and regulations requiring the use of separate funds. The legally required funds used by the City include: Special Revenue, Debt Service, and Permanent Funds.

2. <u>Deposit Laws and Regulations</u>

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, a government's deposits may not be returned to it. The City's deposit policy for custodial credit risk requires compliance with the provisions of state law.

State law requires collateralization of all deposits with federal depository insurance or with U.S. Treasury and U.S. agency securities having an aggregate value at least equal to the amount of the deposits. The City's demand deposits are insured up to \$250,000 and certificates of deposit/savings accounts are insured up to \$250,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Any cash deposits or certificates of deposit in excess of the FDIC limits are insured by collateral held by the pledging institution in the City's name.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE B - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY, continued

3. Revenue Restrictions

The City has various restrictions placed over certain revenue sources from state or local requirements. The primary restricted revenue sources are described in Note A2 for the various funds.

4. Debt Restrictions and Covenants

Bonds Payable

The various bond ordinances relating to the bonds payable contain some restrictions or covenants that are financial-related. These include covenants such as debt service coverage requirements and required reserve account balances. The City is in compliance with the bond restrictions and covenants.

5. Budgetary Data

The City is required by state laws to adopt annual budgets for all fund types. Each budget is presented on the cash basis of accounting, which is consistent with the requirements of the state budget act.

The Nebraska Budget Act provides the prescribed budget practices and procedures that governing bodies are required to follow. The amounts that may be budgeted for certain specific funds are subject to various expenditure and/or tax levy limitations.

The City follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

- a. On or before August 1, the City prepares a budget for the fiscal year commencing October 1. The budget includes proposed expenditures and resources available.
- b. The budget is published with subsequent public hearings to obtain taxpayer comments.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE B – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY, continued

5. Budgetary Data, continued

- c. Prior to September 30, the City Council adopts the budget, which is then filed with the appropriate state and county officials.
- d. Total expenditures may not legally exceed total appropriations. Appropriations lapse at year end and any revisions require board approval.
- e. The County Clerk certifies a preliminary property tax levy for each fund of the City which levied property taxes in the county the previous year based on the combined valuation and amount required for the City the prior year. The preliminary levy becomes the final levy unless the governing board passes, by a majority vote, a resolution setting the levy at a different amount.
- f. The property tax requirements resulting from the budget process are utilized by the County Assessor to establish the tax levy. Taxes are levied annually on or before October 20. Real property taxes and personal property taxes are due December 31 with the first half delinquent May 1 and the second half delinquent September 1.
- g. Appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year, except for capital improvement appropriations and certain encumbrances against operating budgets.
- h. The City of Seward adopts a budget by resolution for all fund types.

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS

The following notes present detail information to support the amounts reported in the basic financial statements for its various assets, liabilities, equity, revenues, and expenditures/expenses.

1. Cash and Investments

Deposits

The City's policies regarding deposits of cash are discussed in Note A4. The table presented below is designed to disclose how its deposits were insured or secured with collateral at September 30, 2023. The categories of collateral are defined as follows:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

1. Cash and Investments, continued

Deposits, continued

Category 1 – Insured by FDIC or collateralized with securities held by the City (or public trust) or by its agent in its name.

Category 2 – Uninsured but collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the City's name.

Category 3 – Uninsured and uncollateralized; or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or by its trust department or agent, but not in the City's name; or collateralized with no written or approved collateral agreement.

Types of Deposits	Total Bank <u>Balance</u>	Category <u>1</u>	Category <u>2</u>	Categor <u>3</u>	Total y Carrying <u>Value</u>
Demand deposits and certificates of deposit	\$ 22,403,896	\$ 1,489,463	\$ 20,914,433	\$ -	\$ <u>21,383,609</u>
Reconciliation to Governm Primary Government –		nent of Net Pos	ition:		
Unrestricted cash an		nts			\$ 10,148,084
Unrestricted certific					4,184,906
Restricted cash and	cash equivalents				5,238,712
Restricted certificate	es of deposit				1,390,910
Component Units –					
Unrestricted cash an	d cash equivalen	nts			330,350
Unrestricted certific	ates of deposit				90,647
					\$ <u>21,383,609</u>

Investments

The City's policies and applicable laws regarding investments are discussed in Notes A4 and B2. The table presented below is designed to disclose whether the investments are insured or registered and who holds the security at September 30, 2023. The categories of investments are defined as follows:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C - DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

1. Cash and Investments, continued

Investments, continued

Category 1 – Insured or registered with securities held by the entity or its agent in the entity's name.

Category 2 – Uninsured and unregistered with securities held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the entity's name.

Category 3 – Uninsured and unregistered with securities held by the counterparty or by its trust department or agent but not in the City's name.

Type of Investment	Cate	gory _	Ca	ategory <u>2</u>	Cat	egory <u>3</u>		Carrying Amount	Fair <u>Value</u>
Publicly Traded Equities	\$	-	\$ 6	650,121	\$	-	\$	<u>650,121</u>	\$ <u>650,121</u>
Reconciliation to Govern Component Units –	nment	-wide S	Stater	ment of No	et Posi	ition:			
Unrestricted invest	ments	3					9	5 564,505	
Permanently restric	cted in	vestme	ents					85,616	
							9	§ <u>650,121</u>	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C - DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

2. Restricted Assets

The restricted assets as of September 30, 2023, are as follows:

		Business-	Total	
	Governmental	type	Primary	Component
	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Activities</u>	Government	<u>Unit</u>
Type of Restricted Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,017,901	\$ 1,220,811	\$ 5,238,712	\$ -
Certificates of deposit	15,000	1,375,910	1,390,910	-
Investments				<u>85,616</u>
	\$ <u>4,032,901</u>	\$ <u>2,596,721</u>	\$ <u>6,629,622</u>	\$ <u>85,616</u>

Restricted cash and investments for governmental activities consists of \$2,403,952 of Street Fund cash restricted for street projects, \$175,800 of Debt Service Fund cash restricted for debt service, \$17,511 of CDBG Fund cash restricted for Federal programs, \$401,554 of LB840 Fund cash restricted for economic development, \$301,740 of TIF Fund cash restricted for economic development, \$466,604 of Capital Projects Fund cash restricted for capital projects, and \$265,740 of Perpetual Care Fund cash and certificates of deposit restricted for cemetery perpetual care.

Restricted business-type assets consist of debt service reserves of \$629,514 for the Electric Fund, \$973,263 for the Water Fund, and \$867,233 for the Sewer Fund. The Electric Fund has \$126,551 and the Water Fund has \$160 restricted for customer deposits.

The Seward Library Foundation has \$85,616 of permanently restricted investments endowed for the income only to be used to support the Seward library.

3. Accounts and Notes Receivable

Accounts receivable of the business-type activities consist of utilities receivable. Accounts receivable for the governmental activities and component units consist of minor receivables. Receivables detail at September 30, 2023, is as follows:

		Business-	Total	
	Governmental	type	Primary	Component
	<u>Activities</u>	Activities	Government	<u>Units</u>
Accounts receivable	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,683,333	\$ 1,685,033	\$ 4,594
Allowance for doubtful accounts		(<u>11,430</u>)	(<u>11,430</u>)	
Net accounts receivable	\$ <u>1,700</u>	\$ <u>1,671,903</u>	\$ <u>1,673,603</u>	\$ <u>4,594</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

3. Accounts and Notes Receivable, continued

Notes receivable for the governmental activities consist of the following at September 30, 2023:

		Note Balance at September 30,	
Type of Loan	<u>Due From</u>	2023	<u>Terms</u>
LB840	Squire Wards, LLC	\$ 13,119	1.625%; monthly payments due over 42 months; final payment due 9/1/24
LB840	La Cocina	10,000	5.0%; 20 percent forgivable annually if borrower retains improvements; due 1/7/24
LB840	Seward Hotel Group	32,069	3.25%; monthly payments over 15 years; final payment due 9/1/27
LB840	ECES, Inc	22,950	2.625%; monthly payments due over 10 years; final payment due 1/1/29
LB840	Barely Legal Distilling, LLC	70,000	2.25%; monthly payments due over 5 years; final payment due 2/1/25
LB840	Green Future Properties	181,473	2.75%; monthly payments due over 15 years; 12% of the loan will be forgiven after 166 payments have been made; final payment due 9/1/34
LB840	Cornerstone Interiors & Design	29,923	2.13%; monthly payments due over 10 years; final payment due 1/1/28
LB840	Gilgorevic	729	5.0%; 20 percent forgivable annually if borrower retains improvements; due 10/16/24
LB840	Turning Point Behavioral Health & Addiction Counseling	8,629	1.75%; monthly payments due over 10 years; final payment due 12/1/26

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

3. Accounts and Notes Receivable, continued

Note Hald Dy	Due From	Note Balance at September 30,	
Note Held By	<u>Due Floin</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Terms</u>
LB840	Nixon Restaurant and Property, Inc.	35,424	1.625%; monthly payments due over 5 years; final payment due 3/1/27
LB840	14tin, LLC	50,295	1.625%; monthly payments due over 10 years; final payment due 9/1/32
LB840	Bottle Rocket Brewing	1,264	5.0%; 20 percent forgivable annually if borrower retains improvements; due 9/30/24
LB840	Kirby Roth Insurance	2,609	5.0%; 20 percent forgivable annually if borrower retains improvements; due 7/23/25
LB840	Hexagon Properties	61,369	1.875%; monthly payments due over 15 years; final payment due 3/30/32
LB840	Red Path Gallery & Tasting Room	28,342	2.375%; monthly payments due over 10 years; final payment due 8/1/28
LB840	The Alps Dog Retreat	43,645	2.375%; monthly payments due over 72 months; \$13,081.50 is forgivable after 64 payments; final payment due 12/1/26
LB840	Fullfield Ag, LLC	118,592	1.875%; monthly payments due over 15 years; final payment due 2/15/32
LB840	I. H. Freary Building, LLC	48,626	3.875%; monthly payments due over 10 years; final payment due 5/1/28
	Allowance for uncollectible note receivable	(70,000)	
Total notes receivable		\$ <u>689,058</u>	
Current portion Noncurrent portion		\$ 123,087	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

4. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2023, was as follows:

	Balance at October 1, 2022 Additions Disposals		Reclass	Balance at September 30, 2023	
Governmental Activities:					
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 852,951	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 852,951
Construction in progress	465,679	2,226,342		(153,722)	2,538,299
Total capital assets not being					
depreciated	1,318,630	2,226,342	-	(153,722)	3,391,250
Other capital assets being depreciated:					
Infrastructure	22,649,048	373,932	-	153,722	23,176,702
Buildings	11,991,533	354,260	(61,151)	-	12,284,642
Machinery and equipment	6,973,066	400,478	(211,136)		7,162,408
Total other capital assets at					
historical cost	41,613,647	1,128,670	(272,287)	153,722	42,623,752
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Infrastructure	(7,139,505)	(805,155)	-	-	(7,944,660)
Buildings	(4,197,819)	(247,099)	58,475	-	(4,386,443)
Machinery and equipment	(5,090,638)	(475,351)	211,136		(5,354,853)
Total accumulated depreciation	(16,427,962)	(1,527,605) *	269,611	_	(17,685,956)
Other capital assets, net	25,185,685	(398,935)	(2,676)	153,722	24,937,796
Governmental activities capital					
assets, net	\$ 26,504,315	\$1,827,407	\$ (2,676)	\$ -	\$ 28,329,046

^{*} Depreciation expense was charged to governmental activities as follows:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

4. Capital Assets, continued

Governmental Activities, continued:

General government	\$	16,477
Public safety		
Fire		104,305
Police	_	69,684
Total public safety		173,989
Public works:		
Streets and storm sewers		822,262
Cemetery	_	29,126
Total public works		851,388
Environment and leisure:		
Civic Center		16,443
Golf		74,871
Library		119,028
Parks and recreation		188,899
Senior Center		16,497
Trails	_	70,013
Total environment and leisure	_	485,751
Total governmental depreciation expense	\$]	1,527,605

Construction in progress at September 30, 2023, consists of \$1,631,425 for the East Seward Street project, \$62,718 for the Pinewood Avenue project, \$69,548 for the Plum Creek bridge project, \$681,989 for the Park Avenue/Bradford storm drainage project, \$25,429 for the Civic Center ADA design project, and \$67,190 for the Izaak Walton and Highway 15 improvement project. See Note D3 for additional details on these projects.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C - DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

4. Capital Assets, continued

	Balance at October 1, 2022	Additions	<u>Disposals</u>	Reclass	Balance at September 30, 2023
Business-type Activities:					
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 2,098,174	\$ -	\$ (132,973)	\$ -	\$ 1,965,201
Construction in progress	1,715,364	3,141,746		(1,194,203)	3,662,907
Total capital assets not being					
depreciated	3,813,538	3,141,746	(132,973)	(1,194,203)	5,628,108
Other capital assets being depreciated:					
Buildings	1,370,795	40,385	-	-	1,411,180
Distribution systems	50,308,996	1,409,584	-	1,020,479	52,739,059
Equipment	4,682,379	697,503	(121,174)	173,724	5,432,432
Total other capital assets at					
historical cost	56,362,170	2,147,472	(121,174)	1,194,203	59,582,671
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings	(604,916)	(37,529)	-	-	(642,445)
Distribution systems	(28,228,685)	(1,498,991)	-	-	(29,727,676)
Equipment	(3,157,191)	(317,307)	121,174		(3,353,324)
Total accumulated depreciation	(31,990,792)	(1,853,827)	* 121,174	-	(33,723,445)
Other capital assets, net	24,371,378	293,645		1,194,203	25,859,226
Business-type capital assets, net	\$ 28,184,916	\$3,435,391	\$ (132,973)	\$ -	\$31,487,334
* Depreciation expense was charg	ed to functions as	s follows:			
Electric			\$ 909,166		
Water			420,738		
Sewer			523,923		
Total business-type activiti	es depreciation es	xpense	\$ <u>1,853,827</u>		

Construction in progress at September 30, 2023, consists of \$1,201,318 for the water tower project, \$26,136 for the water tower electric service, \$337,134 for the East Seward Street water improvements, \$424,685 for the East Seward Street sewer improvements, \$1,380,807 for the wastewater treatment plant improvement project, \$140,577 for the 6th Street water main replacement project, and \$152,250 for the Park/Bradford Street storm sewer improvement project. See Note D3 for additional detail of the construction in progress at September 30, 2023.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

4. Capital Assets, continued

	Balance at October 1, 2022		Additions		<u>Disposals</u>		Reclass		Balance at September 30, 2023	
Airport Authority:										
Capital assets not being depreciated:										
Land	\$ 105,156	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	105,156	
Other capital assets being depreciated:										
Buildings	4,311,353		-		-		-		4,311,353	
Improvements	2,543,114		-		-		-		2,543,114	
Equipment	265,673		1,155		-		-		266,828	
Total other capital assets at										
historical cost	7,120,140		1,155		-		-		7,121,295	
Less accumulated depreciation for:										
Buildings	(1,504,745)	(1	16,449)		-		-		(1,621,194)	
Improvements	(1,566,337)	(80,284)		-		-		(1,646,621)	
Equipment	(155,145)	(26,955)				-		(182,100)	
Total accumulated depreciation	 (3,226,227)	(2	23,688)		-		-		(3,449,915)	
Other capital assets, net	3,893,913	(2	22,533)				-		3,671,380	
Airport Authority capital assets, net	\$ 3,999,069	\$ (2	22,533)	\$		\$	-	\$	3,776,536	

5. Accounts Payable

Payables in the general, capital projects, other governmental, and proprietary funds are primarily composed of payables to vendors.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

6. Long-term Debt

The reporting entity's long-term debt is segregated between the amounts to be repaid from governmental activities and amounts to be repaid from business-type activities.

Changes in Long-term Debt

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt for the year ended September 30, 2023:

Type of Debt	Balance 9/30/2022	Additions	<u>Deductions</u>	Balance 9/30/2023	Due Within One Year	
Governmental Activities:						
Bonds payable	\$ 4,957,000	\$ -	\$ (933,000)	\$ 4,024,000	\$ 709,000	
Note payable	26,966	-	(26,966)	· -	- -	
Financing agreements	250,454	-	(72,181)	178,273	62,780	
Total governmental	\$ 5,234,420	\$ -	\$ (1,032,147)	\$ 4,202,273	\$ 771,780	
Business-type Activities						
Bonds payable	\$ 8,040,000	\$ -	\$ (980,000)	\$ 7,060,000	\$ 1,015,000	
Component Units:	¢ 262.266	\$ 100.436	¢ (197.940)	¢ 175.940	\$ 161,300	
Airport Authority	\$ 263,266	\$ 100,436	\$ (187,860)	\$ 175,842	\$ 161,300	

Governmental Activities

As of September 30, 2023, the governmental long-term liabilities consisted of the following:

Bonds payable:

General obligation refunding bonds - series 2012, with original issue amount of \$1,373,850 (71 percent of the issue). Interest ranges from 0.30 to 2.15 percent with final maturity December 15, 2022.

\$

Highway allocation bonds - series 2012, with original issue amount of \$190,000. Interest is 2.35 percent with maturity December 15, 2023.

190,000

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

6. <u>Long-term Debt, continued</u>

Governmental Activities, continued

Bonds payable, continued:

General	obligation	refunding	bonds	-	series	2020,	with
original	issue amou	nt of \$4,72	25,000.	I	nterest	ranges	from
1.15 to 1	.80 percent	with final n	naturity	Аp	ril 15, i	2030.	

3,330,000

Public safety tax bonds - series 2014, with original issue amount of \$404,000. Interest ranges from 1.15 to 2.55 percent with final maturity April 1, 2024.

44,000

General obligation refunding bonds - series 2014, with original issue amount of \$500,000. Interest ranges from 0.20 to 2.25 percent with final maturity December 15, 2022.

_

Highway allocation bonds – series 2016, with original issue amount of \$825,000. Interest ranges from 2.0 to 4.0 percent with final maturity October 1, 2031.

460,000

General obligation refunding bonds - series 2016, with original issue amount of \$1,085,000. Interest ranges from 0.60 to 1.50 percent with final maturity December 15, 2022.

-

Total bonds payable

4,024,000

Note payable:

On February 19, 2016, the City borrowed \$350,000 from Jones National Bank to finance the golf course purchase. The note bears interest of 2.75 percent and is due in 14 semi-annual installments of \$27,430 through November 1, 2022.

-

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C - DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

6. Long-term Debt, continued

Governmental Activities, continued

Financing Agreements:

Financing agreement due to Cattle National Bank dated January 18, 2019, with original issue amount of \$65,625 to finance a Groundmaster mower. The note bears interest of 3.75 percent and is due in five annual principal and interest payments of \$15,000 commencing June 30, 2019 through June 30, 2023.

Financing agreement due to Exchange Bank dated September 1, 2020, with original issue amount of \$148,882 to finance golf carts. The note bears interest of 3.25 percent and is due in 30 monthly principal and interest payments of \$3,300, commencing April 1, 2021 through September 1, 2025 (no note payments are due October through March each year), with a final installment of \$64,762 due September 1, 2025.

98,672

Financing agreement due to Jones National Bank dated November 20, 2019, with original issue amount of \$63,797 to finance a Kubota tractor and mower. The note bears interest of 3.29 percent and is due in five annual principal and interest payments of \$13,760, commencing March 21, 2020 through March 31, 2024.

13,321

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

6. <u>Long-term Debt, continued</u>

Governmental Activities, continued

Financing Agreements, continued:

Financing agreement due to Cattle National Bank dated October 1, 2020, with original issue amount of \$115,700 to finance a 2020 Case 621GXR wheel loader. The note bears interest of 2.20 percent and is due in five annual principal and interest payments of \$24,245, commencing November 30, 2020 through November 30, 2024.

46,936

Financing agreement due to Jones National Bank dated December 4, 2020, with original issue amount of \$47,459 to finance a Toro Reelmaster 3555-D. The note bears interest of 2.13 percent and is due in five annual principal and interest payments of \$9,980, commencing April 30, 2021 through April 30, 2025.

April 30, 2025. Total financing agreements	19,344 178,273
Total governmental activities long-term obligations	\$ <u>4,202,273</u>
Current portion	\$ 771.780

Current portion	\$ //1,/80
Noncurrent portion	<u>3,430,493</u>
Total	\$ <u>4,202,273</u>

The Debt Service Fund is making the bond payments, the General Fund is making the note payments, and the General Fund and Street Fund are making the payments on the financing agreements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

6. Long-term Debt, continued

Business-type Activities

As of September 30, 2023, the long-term debt payable from proprietary fund resources consisted of the following:

Bonds and notes payable:

Electric revenue refunding bonds - series 2012, with original issue amount of \$1,855,000. Interest ranges from 0.40 to 2.55 percent with final maturity February 15, 2025.	\$ 185,000
Electric revenue refunding bonds - series 2016, with original issue amount of \$4,755,000. Interest ranges from 0.85 to 3.20 percent with final maturity February 15, 2036.	2,780,000
Water revenue refunding bonds - series 2020, with original issue amount of \$1,635,000. Interest ranges from 1.20 to 2.15 percent with final maturity February 15, 2036.	1,100,000
Water revenue refunding bonds - series 2016, with original issue amount of \$1,205,000. Interest ranges from 0.95 to 1.80 percent with final maturity June 1, 2026.	730,000
Sewer revenue refunding bonds – series 2021, with original issue amount of \$3,055,000. Interest ranges from 0.25 to 1.50 percent with final maturity September 1, 2032.	2,265,000
Total business-type activity debt	\$ 7,060,000
Current portion Noncurrent portion Total	1,015,000 6,045,000 7,060,000

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C – DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

6. Long-term Debt, continued

Component Unit

Airport debt:

Series 2011 bonds payable with original principal amount of \$545,000, bearing interest ranging from 1.20 to 3.55 percent with final maturity January 15, 2024.	\$ 25,000
Series 2009 bonds payable with original principal amount of \$20,000, bearing interest of 4.75 percent with maturity January 15, 2024.	20,000
Note payable with original principal amount of \$155,761, to fund project costs until Federal and state grant money is received, bearing interest of 6.20 percent, due December 31, 2026.	100,436
Nebraska Department of Aeronautics loan with original principal amount of \$220,253, due in 120 monthly installments of \$1,322, bearing no interest through August 31,	20.407
2025. Total Airport notes and bonds payable	30,406 \$ 175,842
Current portion Noncurrent portion	\$ 161,300 14,542
Total	\$ <u>175,842</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE C - DETAIL NOTES ON TRANSACTION CLASSES/ACCOUNTS, continued

6. Long-term Debt, continued

Annual debt service requirements to maturity, including principal and interest, for long-term debt as of September 30, 2023, are as follows:

	Governmental Activities						
Year Ending	Direct Placement Debt Other Debt Issues				sues		
September 30,		Principal Principal		Interest	<u>Interest</u>	;	<u>Interest</u>
2024	\$	62,780	\$	5,005	\$ 709,000	\$	71,903
2025		115,493		3,294	530,000		60,874
2026		-		-	535,000		52,800
2027		=		-	545,000		44,238
2028		-		=	550,000		34,860
2029-2032		-		-	1,155,000		44,430
	\$	178,273	\$	8,299	\$ 4,024,000	\$	309,105
		Business-typ	e Ac	tivities	Compon	ent I	Init
Year Ending		Other De			 Other De		
September 30,		Principal		Interest	Principal		Interest
2024	\$	1,015,000	\$	126,364	\$ 161,300	\$	919
2025		1,035,000		111,082	14,542		-
2026		1,040,000		95,005	-		-
2027		595,000		80,385	-		=
2028		515,000		72,168	-		=
2029-2033		2,200,000		217,559	-		-
2033-2037		660,000		28,435	 -		
	\$	7,060,000	\$	730,998	\$ 175,842	\$	919

7. Interfund Transactions and Balances

The General Fund transferred \$2,490,000 to the Street Fund during the year ended September 30, 2023. Also, the Street Fund transferred \$190,480 to the Debt Service Fund during the year ended September 30, 2023.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE D – OTHER NOTES

1. Employee Pension and Other Benefit Plans

Under Nebraska statutes, the City is to maintain a retirement plan for City police officers. This plan is funded through employee and employer contributions. The total contributions under this plan are deposited under a money purchase retirement plan with Ameritas Retirement. This plan requires that covered employees and the City contribute an amount equal to seven percent of the employee's monthly salary until such employee becomes eligible for regular retirement, at which time contributions shall cease. The eligible and covered payroll amounted to \$831,246 for the year ended September 30, 2023. Both the City and the covered employees' required contribution of \$58,187 was made for the year ended September 30, 2023. The employer contributions vest at the following rate: 0 to 2 years - 0 percent, 2 to 3 years - 40 percent, 4 years - 60 percent, 5 to 6 years - 80 percent, 7 years - fully vested. The employees also have the ability to make voluntary contributions to a deferred compensation plan in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Voluntary 457 contributions totaled \$0 during the year ended September 30, 2023.

The City maintains a defined contribution plan for the City employees in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Sections 457 and 401(a). The plan is available to all full-time City employees after six months of service. This plan is funded through employee and employer contributions. The total contributions under this plan are deposited with Ameritas Retirement. This plan requires that both covered employees and the City contribute six percent of the employee's salary to the plan. The total payroll amounted to \$3,529,627 and the covered payroll amounted to \$2,895,177 for the year ended September 30, 2023. The City and the employees contributed \$173,711 and \$173,711, respectively, for the year ended September 30, 2023. The employees also contributed \$14,012 to a deferred compensation plan in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457 during the year ended September 30, 2023.

2. Risk Management

Insurance

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; thefts of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees; or natural disasters. The City purchases commercial insurance to protect against risks listed above. Insurance is maintained for the various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; dishonest employees; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the year ended September 30, 2023, the City did not reduce insurance coverage from levels in place during the prior year. No settlements have exceeded coverage levels in place during the past three fiscal years.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE D – OTHER NOTES, continued

2. Risk Management, continued

Deposits and Investments

Custodial Credit Risk. For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the City will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. All of the underlying securities for the City's investments at September 30, 2023, are held by the counterparties not in the name of the City. The underlying securities consist of cash, direct obligations of or guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, and other similar obligations of the U.S. Government or its agencies.

Interest Rate Risk. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates, the City's investment policy requires that market conditions and investment securities be analyzed to determine the maximum yield to be obtained and to minimize the impact of rising interest rates. The certificate of deposit maturities are as follows:

Maturities by Month	<u>Amount</u>
December 2023	\$ 429,798
January 2024	459,065
March 2024	109,554
May 2024	84,298
June 2024	1,802,400
August 2024	809,616
October 2024	512,000
November 2024	59,281
January 2025	125,499
March 2025	81,953
May 2025	251,790
January 2026	223,842
September 2026	311,175
March 2027	300,545
May 2027	15,000
	\$ <u>5,575,816</u>

Credit Risk. Credit risk is the risk that the issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The City's investments consist of certificates of deposit and money market funds, minimizing credit risk associated with the City's investment portfolio.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE D - OTHER NOTES, continued

2. Risk Management, continued

Deposits and Investments, continued

Concentration of Credit Risk. The City's investment policy places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. At September 30, 2023, the City's investments in certificates of deposit consisted of the following:

Financial Institution	Amount
Cattle National Bank	\$ 2,994,591
Jones National Bank	2,357,383
Union Bank	223,842
	\$ <u>5,575,816</u>

Foreign Currency Risk. This risk relates to adverse effects on the fair value of an investment from changes in exchange rates. The City's investments had no exposure to foreign currency risk and the City held no investments denominated in foreign currency at September 30, 2023.

3. <u>Commitments</u>

Construction/Contractual Commitments

The City has numerous construction projects and other contracts in progress. The City intends to fund the construction through operations or long-term financing.

		Paid		Expected
	Contract	Through	Obligation	Completion
<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>	9/30/23	<u>Pending</u>	<u>Date</u>
Water tower	\$ 4,191,485	\$ 1,045,808	\$ 3,145,677	Fall 2024
6 th Street water main replacement	221,902	133,141	88,761	July 2024
Substation heat pump units	22,000	-	22,000	September 2024
E Seward St improvements	2,615,717	2,266,201	349,516	Winter 2024
Izaak Walton & Highway 15 project	78,669	67,190	11,479	Spring 2024
Park Ave/Bradford storm drainage	876,319	644,460	231,859	July 2024
Caselle software conversion	46,496	23,248	23,248	September 2024
Levee accreditation	419,780	19,076	400,704	September 2024
GIS services update	128,490	105,412	23,078	September 2024

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE D – OTHER NOTES, continued

3. Commitments, continued

Power Contract

In December 2015, the City entered into a contract with the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) for the purchase of electric power on a wholesale basis for a term of 20 years. The contract stipulates that if the City determines at any time that it wished to obtain power from another source, it must give written notice to NPPD five years prior to the time it proposes to change wholesale providers. Beginning on the date of the change, the City would be obligated to pay each month for an amount of power equal to an average of the maximum amounts of power purchased during the same month in each of the five years prior to the date of change. As of the date of this report, the City plans to continue its contract with NPPD and thus, no liability associated with this commitment has been accruing in the financial statements.

Other Commitments

The City also entered into a 60 month copier lease on February 1, 2020. The lease requires monthly payments of \$351 through January 2025.

4. <u>Interlocal Agreements</u>

The City has the following interlocal agreements in effect as of September 30, 2023:

Parties to Agreement	Agreement Period	Descriptions
Civil Defense	1981 - ongoing	Joint City/County Organization
Police Department	1990 – ongoing	Interlocal cooperative "RAP"/Rural Apprehension Program
Nebraska Community Energy	6/17/14 thru	Advancement of Natural Gas & Electric
Alliance	6/17/2074	Vehicle Infrastructure and Use
Seward County	6/01/2023 thru 5/31/2024	Prosecution Services/Per Year
Seward County	2004 – ongoing	Emergency Management Organization (Joint County-City)
Seward County	1997 – ongoing	EL overhead line-Section 27 & 28, Township N Range 3E
Seward County	1995 – ongoing	Combined Communications Center (Enhanced 911)
Seward County	1999 – ongoing	Police firearms range
Seward County	2011 – ongoing	Wellhead protection/City pays admin & Legal fees

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE D – OTHER NOTES, continued

4. <u>Interlocal Agreements, continued</u>

Parties to Agreement	Agreement Period	Descriptions
Seward County Public Power	1980 – ongoing	Joint use of poles/SPPD to pay \$1.50/pole
South Crest Subdivision	1982 – ongoing	Sanity Imp Dist #3-WA & SE/City to provide routine maintenance
Staplehurst, Village of	2000 – ongoing	Use of burnsite for brush & untreated wood/Staplehurst pays \$1,000/yr
Statewide Communications Alliance	2002 – 2032	Jointly own, operate, regulate, manage and maintain statewide system
Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District	5/02/2017 thru 6/30/2023	Construction costs for hiking/bicycle trail \$150,000 paid by Upper Big Blue Natural Resource
Seward County Rural Fire Protection District	07/01/2023 thru 06/30/2024	Fire Protection/Equipment
Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership	10/1/2022 thru 9/30/2023	Economic Development
H-GAC	10/1/2022 thru 9/30/2023; auto renews	Cooperative purchasing program #17-5994
Seward County	4/26/2022 – project completion	E Seward St construction
Seward County School District	2/15/22 – 2/15/32	Wellness Center construction and board
Butler, Saline, Seward, York Counties and Cities of Seward and York	01/14/2020 - 01/14/2025	Public safety software, hardware, and services with Zuercher
Statewide Communications Alliance	2002 – 2032	Jointly own, operate, regulate, manage and maintain statewide system
Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District	02/20/2018 - 06/30/2023	Pay up to 50% of Levee accreditation
Seward County, Saline County, Cities of: Seward, Milford, Crete, Friend, Villages of: Goehner, Staplehurst, Bee, Tamora, Pleasant Dale, Beaver Crossing, Dorchester	09/14/1993- 09/14/2043	Seward/Saline County Solid Waste Management Agency

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

NOTE D – OTHER NOTES, continued

5. <u>Tax Abatements/Conduit Debt</u>

The Community Development Agency (CDA), who is authorized by Nebraska statutes to enter into property tax abatement agreements for the purpose of developing properties in blighted areas, has entered into tax increment financing (TIF) agreements with various redevelopers. The TIF program has the stated purpose of increasing valuation, business activity and employment in the community.

Under the TIF program, redevelopers can apply for TIF financing whereby the property tax they pay on the increased valuation of property under a TIF agreement is returned to the redeveloper (in the form of payments on conduit debt) by the CDA to finance the project for a period of up to 15 years.

Information relevant to the abatements granted by the CDA for the year ended September 30, 2023 is as follows:

TIT D

			TIF Proceeds
	Years Remaining		Received
	on	2023 TIF	during the year
TIF Project:	TIF Agreements	<u>Valuation</u>	<u>9-30-2023</u>
Progressive Sheet Metal	5	\$ 183,594	\$ 4,890
Sports Express	5	179,903	3,056
Cobblestone Inn	5	1,883,763	36,374
B & M Seed	5	449,098	11,246
Jones Bank	7	1,035,594	47,768
Jones Insurance	6	599,584	10,186
Grimes Construction	7	353,931	6,043
CNG, Inc.	8	7,057,881	89,169
Lindner	7	332,463	9,331
Two Creeks Holding	8	370,616	6,296
Bottle Rocket Brewing	8	290,847	6,969
Bradford	9	260,364	4,423
Peek Properties	7	95,061	2,810
Plex Homes (Phase 1)	12	1,165,281	28,880
Project Superior	12	22,014,154	256,563
Green Futures	12	737,832	9,627
		•	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued

September 30, 2023

TIL D

NOTE D – OTHER NOTES, continued

5. Tax Abatements/Conduit Debt, continued

			TIF Proceeds
	Years Remaining		Received
	on	2023 TIF	during the year
TIF Project:	TIF Agreements	<u>Valuation</u>	9-30-2023
Kach 647	13	99,071	105
Kach 640/644	13	95,152	851
Else & Burger	13	314,315	5,340
Seward Dairy Queen	13	626,025	10,635
Alps Dog Retreat	14	249,640	3,125
GH Coffee	13	261,369	4,440
Levanders Body Shop	13	508,655	8,641
Two Creeks Storage	11	134,362	2,586
Old Town Square	14	194,900	3,311
Ironhide (IHC)	14	772,713	428
Plex Homes (Phase 2)	14	968,580	8,045
Plex Homes (Phase 3)	15	473,687	-
Fast Mart	10	744,665	15,034
			\$ <u>596,172</u>

6. Related Party Transactions

A former council member is the redeveloper on three TIF projects in Note D5 (Bradford, Kach 647, and Kach 640/644). Another entity owned by this council member (Kach Investment) received CDBG grant proceeds totaling \$22,654 for downtown revitalization during the year ended September 30, 2023.

7. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through January 17, 2024, the date on which the financial statements were available for issue.

On October 3, 2023, Council approved a \$850,988 contract with Gehring Construction for the Izaak Walton and Highway 15 intersection project and approved an addendum to the agreement with The Schemmer Associates for construction phase services on this project for \$100,652.

On October 17, 2023, Council approved a redevelopment plan for Focus Properties 511, LLC.

On October 17, 2023, Council approved a change order with General Excavating for the Bradford Street storm sewer improvements project for \$130,455.

On November 21, 2023, Council approved an agreement with Clark & Enersen for design services for the Civic Center for 8.5 percent of construction costs.



BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND

Year ended September 30, 2023

	(O	Budget original and <u>Final</u>)		<u>Actual</u>	A	ariances - ctual Over nder) Final <u>Budget</u>
RESOURCES (INFLOWS)						
Taxes:	_		_		_	
Property	\$	1,823,431	\$	1,832,369	\$	8,938
Motor vehicle		160,000		184,725		24,725
Sales tax		951,963		1,670,396		718,433
Franchise		1,222,450		1,308,947		86,497
Occupation		278,000		285,523		7,523
Intergovernmental		125,966		131,694		5,728
Charges for services		1,238,592		1,334,994		96,402
Interest income		9,100		110,439		101,339
Grants		217,750		27,897		(189,853)
Contributions		565,208		343,615		(221,593)
Insurance proceeds		40,000		-		(40,000)
Other		3,510		702		(2,808)
Total resources		6,635,970		7,231,301		595,331
CHARGES TO APPROPRIATIONS (OUTFLOWS)						
General government		378,653		358,914		(19,739)
Public safety		2,067,577		1,643,492		(424,085)
Public works		525,891		512,959		(12,932)
Environment and leisure		2,478,981		2,766,851		287,870
Capital outlay		1,466,905		659,574		(807,331)
Principal payments on debt		49,468		49,468		-
Interest expense		5,432		5,432		
Total charges to appropriations		6,972,907		5,996,690		(976,217)
Resources over (under) charges						
to appropriations		(336,937)		1,234,611		1,571,548
OTHER FINANCING USES						
Transfers out		(2,490,000)		(2,490,000)		
RESOURCES UNDER CHARGES TO APPROPRIATIONS AND OTHER FINANCING USES	\$	(2,826,937)	\$	(1,255,389)	\$	1,571,548

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - STREET FUND

Year ended September 30, 2023

				V	ariances -
		Budget		A	ctual Over
	(Oı	riginal and		(U	Inder) Final
		<u>Final</u>)	<u>Actual</u>		Budget
RESOURCES (INFLOWS)					
Taxes:					
Sales tax	\$	220,000	\$ 360,410	\$	140,410
Intergovernmental		965,111	1,010,355		45,244
Charges for services		29,616	34,763		5,147
Interest income		-	29		29
Grants		182,592	202,889		20,297
Total resources		1,397,319	1,608,446		211,127
CHARGES TO APPROPRIATIONS (OUTFLOWS)					
Public works		989,457	933,238		(56,219)
Capital projects		4,517,232	2,390,012		(2,127,220)
Principal payments on debt		22,713	22,713		-
Interest on long-term debt		1,532	1,532		
Total charges to appropriations		5,530,934	 3,347,495		(2,183,439)
Resources under charges					
to appropriations		(4,133,615)	(1,739,049)		2,394,566
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in		2,490,000	2,490,000		-
Transfers out		_	(190,480)		(190,480)
Net transfers		2,490,000	2,299,520		(190,480)
RESOURCES AND OTHER FINANCING					
SOURCES (USES) OVER (UNDER)					
CHARGES TO APPROPRIATIONS	\$	(1,643,615)	\$ 560,471	\$	2,204,086

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - DEBT SERVICE FUND

Year ended September 30, 2023

	Budget (Original and <u>Final</u>)	<u>Actual</u>	Variances - Actual Over (Under) Final <u>Budget</u>	
RESOURCES (INFLOWS)				
Sales tax	\$ 847,926	\$ 678,037	\$ (169,889)	
Interest income	1,800	6,592	4,792	
Total resources	849,726	684,629	(165,097)	
CHARGES TO APPROPRIATIONS (OUTFLOWS)				
Principal payments	960,055	959,966	(89)	
Interest and fees	87,871	87,565	(306)	
Total charges to appropriations	1,047,926	1,047,531	(395)	
Resources under charges to appropriations	(198,200)	(362,902)	(164,702)	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES Transfer in		100 490	100.480	
Transici in	-	190,480	190,480	
RESOURCES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES UNDER CHARGES TO APPROPRIATIONS	\$ (198,200)	\$ (172,422)	\$ 25,778	

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULES - NOTE TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Year ended September 30, 2023

Note A - Explanation of Differences between Budgetary Inflows and Outflows and GAAP Revenue and Expenditures

	General <u>Fund</u>	Street <u>Fund</u>	Ι	Debt Service Fund
Sources/inflows of resources:				
Actual amounts of resources				
(budgetary basis) from the				
budgetary comparison schedules	\$ 7,231,301	\$ 1,608,446	\$	684,629
Differences - budget to GAAP:				
Cash to accrual adjustments	 (64,925)	 7,697	. <u> </u>	-
Total revenues as reported on the				
statement of revenues, expenditures,				
and changes in fund balances -				
governmental funds	\$ 7,166,376	\$ 1,616,143	\$	684,629
Uses/outflows of resources:				
Actual amounts (budgetary basis)				
total charges to appropriations				
from the budgetary comparison				
schedules	\$ 5,996,690	\$ 3,347,495	\$	1,047,531
Differences - budget to GAAP:				
Cash to accrual adjustments	(62,915)	308,373		-
Total expenditures as reported on	 		· <u></u>	_
the statement of revenues,				
expenditures, and changes in				
fund balances - governmental funds	\$ 5,933,775	\$ 3,655,868	\$	1,047,531



COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

September 30, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds						
	<u>!</u>	<u>CDBG</u>		<u>LB840</u>		<u>TIF</u>	
ASSETS							
Interest receivable	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
Due from other governments		-		-		-	
Restricted assets:							
Cash and cash equivalents		17,511		401,554		301,740	
Certificates of deposit							
Total assets	\$	17,511	\$	401,554	\$	301,740	
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES							
Liabilities:							
Accounts payable	\$	-	\$	-	\$	78,808	
Fund balances:							
Nonspendable:							
Cemetery perpetual care		-		-		-	
Restricted for:							
Capital projects		-		-		-	
Federal programs		17,511		-		-	
Economic development				401,554		222,932	
Total fund balances		17,511		401,554		222,932	
Total liabilities and fund		<u></u>		<u> </u>			
balances	\$	17,511	\$	401,554	\$	301,740	

			nanent Fund		l Nonmajor
	Capital	P	Perpetual	Gov	vernmental
	<u>Projects</u>		<u>Care</u>		<u>Funds</u>
\$	-	\$	31	\$	31
·	132,587	·	-	·	132,587
	466,604		250,740		1,438,149
			15,000		15,000
\$	599,191	\$	265,771	\$	1,585,767
		\$	-	\$	78,808
	-		265,771		265,771
	599,191		-		599,191
	-		-		17,511
	-				624,486
	599,191		265,771		1,506,959
\$	599,191	\$	265,771	\$	1,585,767

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

For the year ended September 30, 2023

			Special 1	Revenue Funds	
	<u>C</u>	<u>DBG</u>		<u>LB840</u>	TIF
REVENUES					
Sales tax	\$	-	\$	150,000	\$ -
TIF proceeds		-		-	596,172
Grant revenue		151,447		-	-
Charges for services		-		-	45,953
Contributions		-		-	-
Loan collections		-		116,144	-
Interest income		-		5,814	3,547
Total revenues		151,447		271,958	645,672
EXPENDITURES					
General government		151,447		-	-
Economic development		-		125,000	603,277
Total expenditures		151,447		125,000	603,277
Net change in fund balances		-		146,958	42,395
Fund balances - September 30, 2022		17,511		254,596	180,537
Fund balances - September 30, 2023	\$	17,511	\$	401,554	\$ 222,932

		Pern	nanent Fund	Total Nonmajor		
	Capital	P	erpetual	Go	vernmental	
]	Projects Projects		Care		<u>Funds</u>	
\$	598,600	\$	-	\$	748,600	
	-		-		596,172	
	-		-		151,447	
	-		248		46,201	
	-		10,800		10,800	
	-		-		116,144	
	611		3,738		13,710	
	599,211		14,786		1,683,074	
	20		-		151,467	
					728,277	
	20		_		879,744	
	599,191		14,786		803,330	
			250,985		703,629	
\$	599,191	\$	265,771	\$	1,506,959	

COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - COMPONENT UNITS

September 30, 2023

	Seward Airport	Seward Library	Total Component
	Authority	Foundation	Units
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 235,621	\$ 94,729	\$ 330,350
Certificates of deposit	30,000	60,647	90,647
County treasurer cash	4,349	-	4,349
Investments	-	564,505	564,505
Receivables:			
Property tax	5,002	-	5,002
Accounts receivable	4,594	-	4,594
Interest	5	-	5
Prepaid insurance	24,007		24,007
Total current assets	303,578	719,881	1,023,459
Noncurrent assets:			
Permanently restricted investments	_	85,616	85,616
Capital assets:		05,010	02,010
Land	105,156	_	105,156
Other capital assets, net	103,130		100,100
of depreciation	3,671,380	_	3,671,380
Net capital assets	3,776,536		3,776,536
Total noncurrent assets	3,776,536	85,616	3,862,152
Total assets	4,080,114	805,497	4,885,611
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities:			
Accrued interest payable	4,965	-	4,965
Unearned revenue	24,519	-	24,519
Current portion of long-term debt	161,300	-	161,300
Total current liabilities	190,784		190,784
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Noncurrent portion of long-term debt	14,542	_	14,542
Noncurrent portion of long-term deot	17,572		17,572
Total liabilities	205,326		205,326
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	3,600,694	-	3,600,694
Permanently restricted-Guthal	-	85,616	85,616
Unrestricted	274,094	719,881	993,975
Total net position	\$ 3,874,788	\$ 805,497	\$ 4,680,285

COMBINING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - COMPONENT UNITS

For the year ended September 30, 2021

					Progran	n Revenues
			· ·		Oj	perating
			Cl	narges for	Gr	ants and
Functions/Programs	<u> </u>	Expenses	5	Services	Con	tributions
Seward Airport Authority:						
Airport	\$	477,101	\$	122,569	\$	-
Seward Library Foundation:						
Library support		60,487				41,692
Total component units	\$	537,588	\$	122,569	\$	41,692

	 Net (Expenses)	(Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position				
Capital		-	Seward	Total		
Grants and	Airport]	Library	C	omponent	
<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Authority</u>	<u>Fc</u>	<u>undation</u>		<u>Units</u>	
\$ -	\$ (354,532)	\$	-	\$	(354,532)	
<u>-</u>	 		(18,795)		(18,795)	
\$ -	(354,532)		(18,795)		(373,327)	
General revenues: Taxes:						
Property	214,051		-		214,051	
Interest income	2,158		1,018		3,176	
Dividends	-		256		256	
Gain on investments	-		110,059		110,059	
Other income	 37,915		-		37,915	
Total general revenues	 254,124		111,333		365,457	
Change in net position	(100,408)		92,538		(7,870)	
Net position - beginning of year	3,975,196		712,959		4,688,155	
Net position - end of year	\$ 3,874,788	\$	805,497	\$	4,680,285	



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 Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council City of Seward, Nebraska

We have audited, in accordance with 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, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Seward, Nebraska, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 17, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

SHAREHOLDERS:

Robert D. Almquist Phillip D. Maltzahn Marcy J. Luth Heidi A. Ashby Christine R. Shenk Michael E. Hoback Joseph P. Stump Kyle R. Overturf Tracy A. Cannon Jamie L. Clemans

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A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting 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. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described below, that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

Segregation of Duties

Due to limited number of personnel, there is not adequate segregation of duties to ensure internal control over cash receipts, disbursements, and recording of transactions.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City of Seward's financial statements are free of 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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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*.

City of Seward's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City of Seward's response to the findings identified in our audit and described above. The City of Seward's response to the findings identified in our audit is that due to the small size of the City, it is impractical to further segregate duties. The City's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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.

AMGL, PC.

Grand Island, Nebraska January 17, 2024