TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN
North Carolina

AUDIT WRAP UP

February 27, 2026

The following communication was prepared as part of our audit, has consequential limitations, and is intended solely for the information and use of those charged with governance (e.g., Governing Board and Audit Committee) and, if appropriate, management of the Government and is not intended and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

GOULD KILLIAN
CPA GROUP, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

February 27, 2026

To the Members of Town Council
Town of Black Mountain, North Carolina

Professional standards require us to communicate with you regarding matters related to the audit, that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. On April 7, 2025, we presented in the engagement letter an overview of our plan for the audit of the financial statements of Town of Black Mountain (the Town) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, including a summary of our overall objectives for the audit, and the nature, scope, and timing of the planned audit work.

This communication is intended to elaborate on the significant findings from our audit, including our views on the qualitative aspects of the Town's accounting practices and policies, management's judgments and estimates, financial statement disclosures, and other required matters.

We are pleased to be of service to the Town and look forward to meeting with you to discuss our audit findings, as well as other matters that may be of interest to you, and to answer any questions you might have.

Respectfully,

Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A.

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Status of Our Audit

We have completed our audit of the financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025. Our audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*. This audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

- The objective of our audit was to obtain reasonable - not absolute - assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements.
- The scope of the work performed was substantially the same as that described to you in our earlier Audit Planning communications.
- We have issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and released our report dated February 27, 2026.
- Our responsibility for other information in documents containing the Town's audited financial statements (e.g. management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparisons, schedules of pension amounts) does not extend beyond the financial information identified in the audit report, and we are not required to perform procedures to corroborate such other information. However, in accordance with professional standards, we have read the information included by the Town and considered whether such information, or the manner of its presentation, was materially inconsistent with its presentation in the financial statements. Our responsibility also includes calling to management's attention any information that we believe is a material misstatement of fact. We have not identified any material inconsistencies or concluded there are any material misstatements of facts in the other information that management has chosen not to correct.
- All records and information requested by GK were freely available for our inspection.
- Management's cooperation was excellent. We received full access to all information that we requested while performing our audit, and we acknowledge the full cooperation extended to us by all levels of Town of Black Mountain personnel throughout the course of our work.

Results of Our Audit

QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF ACCOUNTING PRACTICES

The following summarizes the more significant required communications related to our audit concerning the Town's accounting practices, policies, and estimates:

The Town's significant accounting practices and policies are those included in Note 1 to the financial statements. These accounting practices and policies are appropriate, comply with generally accepted accounting principles and industry practice, were consistently applied, and are adequately described within Note 1 to the financial statements.

- A summary of recently issued accounting pronouncements is included in the Significant Accounting and Reporting Matters section of this report.
- No new accounting policies were implemented during the year.
- No changes were made to existing accounting policies.
- One new accounting standard was implemented during the year. As described in Note 6 to the financial statements, the Town implemented GASB Statement No. 101 - Compensated Absences, the effects of which are more fully described on page 7.
- We noted no transactions entered into by the Town during the fiscal year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.
- All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Significant estimates are those that require management's most difficult, subjective, or complex judgments, often as a result of the need to make estimates about the effects of matters that are inherently uncertain.

Significant accounting estimates include:
Depreciation methods as described in the Notes to the financial statements,
Allowances for uncollectible receivables, which are based upon management's judgments and the aging of receivables that may by uncollectible, and
Pension obligations, which are based on actuarial assumptions and methods, as well as the allocation of the overall plan data between the plan participants, and
Other post-employment benefits obligations, which are based on actuarial assumptions and methods.

- We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the significant estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management did not make any significant changes to the processes or significant assumptions used to develop the significant accounting estimates in FY 2025.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Results of Our Audit

CORRECTED AND UNCORRECTED MISSTATEMENTS

We have proposed several audit adjustments which have been made by management. Most of these are normal closing entries, which arise during our audit based on information provided to us by management. We assisted management with these adjustments, but do not consider them to be material because by nature, they are closing entries that management would have otherwise prepared and posted. However, others of these entries are considered to be material audit adjustments due to their size and overall impact on the financial statement. Some of these material proposed adjusting entries include:

- An entry to accrue approximately $416,000 in accounts payable
- An entry to record $382,000 in GASB 87 lease proceeds and related capital outlay
- An entry to record $292,000 in insurance proceeds and GASB 87 principal payments

A list of all audit adjustments is available upon request.

There were no significant uncorrected misstatements.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Town of Black Mountain's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

We are required to communicate, in writing, to those charged with governance all material weaknesses and significant deficiencies that have been identified in the Town's internal controls over financial reporting. The definitions of control deficiency, significant deficiency and material weakness follow:

Category	Definition
Deficiency in 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.
Significant Deficiency	A deficiency or 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.
Material Weakness	A deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Government's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

In conjunction with our audit, we noted no deficiencies that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Other Required Communications

Following is a summary of other required items, along with specific discussion points as they pertain to the Town:

Requirement	Discussion Points
Significant changes to planned audit strategy or significant risks initially identified	There were no significant changes to the planned audit strategy or significant risks initially identified and previously communicated to those charged with governance.
Obtain information from those charged with governance relevant to the audit	There were no matters noted relevant to the audit, including, but not limited to: violations or possible violations of laws or regulations; risk of material misstatements, including fraud risks; or tips or complaints regarding the Government's financial reporting that we were made aware of as a result of our inquiry of those charged with governance.
If applicable, nature and extent of specialized skills or knowledge needed related to significant risks	There were no specialized skills or knowledge needed, outside of the core engagement team, to perform the planned audit procedures or evaluate audit results related to significant risks.
Consultations with other accountants	We are not aware of any consultations about accounting or auditing matters between management and other independent public accountants. Nor are we aware of opinions obtained by management from other independent public accountants on the application of generally accepted accounting principles.
Disagreements with management	There were no disagreements with management about matters, whether or not satisfactorily resolved, that individually or in aggregate could be significant to the Government's financial statements or to our auditor's report.
Significant difficulties encountered during the audit	There were no significant difficulties encountered during the audit.
If applicable, other matters significant to the oversight of the Government's financial reporting process, including complaints or concerns regarding accounting or auditing matters	There are no other matters that we consider significant to the oversight of the Government's financial reporting process that have not been previously communicated.
Representations requested from management	Please refer to the management representation letter obtained from management.

Independence Communication

Our engagement letter to you dated April 7, 2025 describes our responsibilities in accordance with professional standards with regard to independence and the performance of our services. This letter also stipulates the responsibilities of the Town with respect to independence as agreed to by the Town. Please refer to that letter for further information.

Significant Accounting & Reporting Matters

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has recently issued several new pronouncements. We do not expect these new standards to have a significant effect on the Town's future financial reporting.

Recently issued statements are as follows:

- GASB No. 101 "Compensated Absences" -- This Statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. A liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered, (b) the leave accumulates, and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. However, leave that is more likely than not to be settled through conversion to defined benefit postemployment benefits should not be included in a liability for compensated absences. This Statement also establishes guidance for measuring a liability for leave that has not been used, generally using an employee's pay rate as of the date of the financial statements. A liability for leave that has been used but not yet paid or settled should be measured at the amount of the cash payment or noncash settlement to be made. Certain salary-related payments that are directly and incrementally associated with payments for leave also should be included in the measurement of the liabilities. This Statement amends the existing requirement to disclose the gross increases and decreases in a liability for compensated absences to allow governments to disclose only the net change in the liability (as long as they identify it as a net change). In addition, governments are no longer required to disclose which governmental funds typically have been used to liquidate the liability for compensated absences. The Town implemented this statement during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

- GASB No. 103 "Financial Reporting Model Improvements" -- The objective of this Statement is to improve key components of the financial reporting model to enhance its effectiveness in providing information that is essential for decision making and assessing a government's accountability. This Statement also addresses certain application issues.

  Management's Discussion and Analysis
  This Statement continues the requirement that the basic financial statements be preceded by management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), which is presented as required supplementary information (RSI). MD&A provides an objective and easily readable analysis of the government's financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions, or conditions and presents comparisons between the current year and the prior year. This Statement requires that the information presented in MD&A be limited to the related topics discussed in five sections: (1) Overview of the Financial Statements, (2) Financial Summary, (3) Detailed Analyses, (4) Significant Capital Asset and Long-Term Financing Activity, and (5) Currently Known Facts, Decisions, or Conditions. Furthermore, this Statement stresses that the detailed analyses should explain why balances and results of operations changed rather than simply presenting the amounts or percentages by which they changed. This Statement emphasizes that the analysis provided in MD&A should avoid unnecessary duplication by not repeating explanations that may be relevant to multiple sections and that "boilerplate" discussions should be avoided by presenting only the most relevant information, focused on the primary government. In addition, this Statement continues the requirement that information included in MD&A distinguish between that of the primary government and its discretely presented component units.

  Unusual or Infrequent Items
  This Statement describes unusual or infrequent items as transactions and other events that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Furthermore, governments are required to display the inflows and outflows related to each unusual or infrequent item separately as the last presented flow(s) of resources prior to the net change in resource flows in the government-wide, governmental fund, and proprietary fund statements of resource flows.

Presentation of the Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position

This Statement requires that the proprietary fund statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position continue to distinguish between operating and nonoperating revenues and expenses. Operating revenues and expenses are defined as revenues and expenses other than nonoperating revenues and expenses. Nonoperating revenues and expenses are defined as (1) subsidies received and provided, (2) contributions to permanent and term endowments, (3) revenues and expenses related to financing, (4) resources from the disposal of capital assets and inventory, and (5) investment income and expenses. In addition to the subtotals currently required in a proprietary fund statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position, this Statement requires that a subtotal for operating income (loss) and noncapital subsidies be presented before reporting other nonoperating revenues and expenses. Subsidies are defined as (1) resources received from another party or fund (a) for which the proprietary fund does not provide goods and services to the other party or fund and (b) that directly or indirectly keep the proprietary fund's current or future fees and charges lower than they would be otherwise, (2) resources provided to another party or fund (a) for which the other party or fund does not provide goods and services to the proprietary fund and (b) that are recoverable through the proprietary fund's current or future pricing policies, and (3) all other transfers.

Major Component Unit Information

This Statement requires governments to present each major component unit separately in the reporting entity's statement of net position and statement of activities if it does not reduce the readability of the statements. If the readability of those statements would be reduced, combining statements of major component units should be presented after the fund financial statements.

Budgetary Comparison Information

This Statement requires governments to present budgetary comparison information using a single method of communication—RSI. Governments also are required to present (1) variances between original and final budget amounts and (2) variances between final budget and actual amounts. An explanation of significant variances is required to be presented in notes to RSI.

The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025, and all reporting periods thereafter. Earlier application is encouraged.

- GASB No. 104 "Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets" -- This Statement requires certain types of capital assets to be disclosed separately in the capital assets note disclosures required by Statement 34. Lease assets recognized in accordance with Statement No. 87, Leases, and intangible right-to-use assets recognized in accordance with Statement No. 94, Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements, should be disclosed separately by major class of underlying asset in the capital as-sets note disclosures. Subscription assets recognized in accordance with Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements, also should be separately disclosed. In addition, this Statement requires intangible assets other than those three types to be disclosed separately by major class. This Statement also requires additional disclosures for capital assets held for sale. A capital asset is a capital asset held for sale if (a) the government has decided to pursue the sale of the capital asset and (b) it is probable that the sale will be finalized within one year of the financial statement date. Governments should consider relevant factors to evaluate the likelihood of the capital asset being sold within the established time frame. This Statement requires that capital assets held for sale be evaluated each reporting period. Governments should disclose (1) the ending balance of capital assets held for sale, with separate disclosure for historical cost and accumulated depreciation by major class of asset, and (2) the carrying amount of debt for which the capital assets held for sale are pledged as collateral for each major class of asset.

  The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025, and all reporting periods thereafter. Earlier application is encouraged.