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September 15, 2020

Michael J. Campo, CPA, MACCY

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen Town of Lyndeborough 9 Citizens Hall Road Lyndeborough, NH 03082

Scott T. Eagen, CPA, CFE

Donna M. LaClair, CPA\*\*

Ashley Miller Klem, CPA, MSA

Tyler A. Paine, CPA\*\*\*

Kyle G. Gingras, CPA

Ryan T. Gibbons, CPA, CFE

Derek M. Barton, CPA

Sylvia Y. Petro, MSA, CFE

\* Also licensed in Maine

\*\* Also licensed in Massachusetts
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Dear Members of the Board:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Lyndeborough for the year ended December 31, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated October 5, 2018. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

# Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Town of Lyndeborough are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 2-C to the financial statements, the Town of Lyndeborough changed accounting policies to change the way the Town reports its fiduciary activities by adopting Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB Statement) No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities* in fiscal year 2019. Accordingly, the cumulative effect of the accounting change as of the beginning of the year is reported in Note 16, Prior Period Adjustment.

We noted no transactions entered into by the Town of Lyndeborough during the 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.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the Town of Lyndeborough's financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the allowance for uncollectible property taxes are based on historical data and information known concerning the assessment appeals. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the uncollectible property taxes in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the net pension liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are based on assumptions of future events, such as employment, mortality and estimates of value of reported amounts. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the net pension liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

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Certified Public Accountants

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Management's estimate of the other postemployment benefit liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources are based on the assumption of future events, such as employment, mortality and the healthcare cost trend, as well as estimates of the value of

reported amounts. We evaluated key factors and assumptions used to develop the other postemployment benefits liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to the other postemployment benefits in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

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

# Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

Although we ultimately received the full cooperation of Town personnel and believe that we were given direct and unrestricted access to the Town's records and employees, we experienced significant difficulties in the performance of the audit of the tax collector due to the current COVID-19 crisis which resulted in a staffing reduction and reorganization in that office. As a result, this caused a delay in providing the necessary requested audit information.

#### Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Adjustments proposed and approved were primarily of a routine nature which management expects the independent auditors to record as part of their year-end procedures. A list of these adjustments for the general fund is attached to this letter.

# Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

## Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated September 9,, 2020.

## Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Town of Lyndeborough's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Town of Lyndeborough's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

In our review of reports from the Tax Collector's software, it was identified that property tax payments are incorrectly included on reports for unapplied credits. It was also noted that taxes receivables were not properly reconciled with the finance office. This creates confusion and additional work to properly track uncollected balances owed to the Town.

Upon review of this matter with management, it has been decided that the Tax Collector will work closely with the Finance Coordinator to perform proper reconciliations; additional guidance will be obtained from the software provider to eliminate any confusion moving forward; also, the Town is in the process of assessing its software and will be exploring updating the Tax Collector software to increase and/or eliminate the problem cited.



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#### Other Matters

## Implementation of New GASB Pronouncements

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued several pronouncements that have effective dates that may impact future financial presentations.

Management has not currently determined what, if any, impact implementation of the following statements may have on the financial statements.

**GASB Statement No. 87, Leases,** issued in June 2017, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ending December 31, 2022. This Statement will improve accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases.

GASB Statement No. 89, Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred Before the End of a Construction Period, issued June 2018, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ending December 31, 2021. This Statement will enhance the relevance and comparability of information about capital assets and the cost of borrowing for a reporting period and to simplify accounting for interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period.

**GASB Statement No. 91,** *Conduit Debt Obligations*, issued June 2019, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ending December 31, 2022. This Statement provides for a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations and clarifies the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation and improves note disclosures.

GASB Statement No. 92, *Omnibus 2020*, issued in January 2020, will be effective for the Town with its fiscal year ended December 31, 2022. The objectives of this Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements.

We applied certain limited procedures to the following, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements:

- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions Pensions
- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions Other Postemployment Benefits, and
- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the combining and individual fund schedules, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

#### Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the members of the Board of Selectmen and management of the Town of Lyndeborough and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



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Respectfully,

Pladzik & Landerson

PLODZIK & SANDERSON Professional Association

Attachment:
Journal Entry Attachment

