



OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update



Follow us on Twitter
[@MNStateAuditor](https://twitter.com/MNStateAuditor)

State Auditor
Julie Blaha

November 22, 2019

1. Released: 2018 Town Finances Report
2. Released: Pension Newsletter
3. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group
4. Reminder: Review TIF Districts for Decertification Requirements
5. Avoiding Pitfalls: Monitoring Internal Controls
6. Notice: No E-Update Next Week

1. Released: 2018 Town Finances Report

The annual Town Finances Report, a comprehensive report on revenues, expenditures and debt for Minnesota's towns, has been released. The report analyzes town financial operations for the calendar year ended December 31, 2018.

For the complete report, which includes an Executive Summary, graphs and tables, go to:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20191121.000>

The 2018 Minnesota town revenues and expenditures have been updated in the Comparison Tools. The Comparison Tools allows you to compare information for the same town for two different years, or to compare one town to another town. The Comparison Tools can be found at:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=ComparisonTools>

2. Released: Pension Newsletter

The November Pension Newsletter has been released. The Newsletter provides information about supplemental benefit reimbursements and a link to the Department of Revenue's online form used to request reimbursement of supplemental benefits that have been paid. The Newsletter also provides an update on proposals being considered by the Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group, and information about relief association treasurer bond requirements.

The complete Newsletter can be accessed at:

https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/other/PensionDocs/pensionNewsletter_1911.pdf

3. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

The State Auditor's Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group will meet on Tuesday, November 26 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the first floor board room at the Retirement Systems Building in Saint Paul, at 60 Empire Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55103.

Meetings are open to the public. Agendas and materials will be available on the OSA website at:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=reliefworkinggroup>

4. Reminder: Review TIF Districts for Decertification Requirements

TIF districts must often be decertified by the end the year in which a duration limit or other decertification requirement is met, making this a good time of the year to review TIF districts for decertification requirements if this has not already been done. Timely decertification avoids improper receipt of tax increments in following years. To learn more, please visit:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=RevTIFDistDecertReqs>

5. Avoiding Pitfalls: Monitoring Internal Controls

One of the most important steps public entities can take to prevent fraud is to monitor their internal controls on a regular basis. To learn more about monitoring internal controls, please visit the OSA's website at:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20090724.061>

6. Notice: No E-Update Next Week

There won't be a State Auditor's E-Update released on November 29, 2019. We wish you a happy Thanksgiving.

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, send an e-mail with your contact information to signup@osa.state.mn.us.

The Office of the State Auditor is located at 525 Park Street, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55103. Phone: (651) 296-2551 or (800) 627-3529 (TTY) Fax: (651) 296-4755.

Web: <https://www.auditor.state.mn.us>