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Independent Auditors' Report

 RAN ONE | member

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town of Duxbury, Massachusetts

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Duxbury, Massachusetts, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Duxbury, Massachusetts' management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

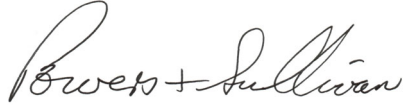
We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Duxbury, Massachusetts, as of June 30, 2003, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As more fully described in Note 16, the Town has implemented several Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements, which changed the beginning fund equity position of several funds and established net assets for governmental activities and business-type activities.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated October 23, 2003, on our consideration of the Town of Duxbury, Massachusetts' internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis, located on the following pages, and schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance – general fund – budgetary basis, located after the notes to the basic financial statements, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bowers + Sullivan".

October 23, 2003