Auditor and Inspector for the State of Oklahoma, Gary Jones, told the Hugo Daily News that the Hugo Budget did not conform to legal requirements set forth in the state budget act.

“My staff hasn’t had time to go over the individual numbers in the Hugo Budget, but we do know that the information provided falls short of satisfying the state statutes,” Jones told the Hugo Daily News.

Jones said Hugo’s budget did not include actual revenues and expenditures for the “immediate prior fiscal year,” which are required in addition to the current fiscal year figures. Jones said the law required that the budget not only be submitted in a timely manner, but that it be “properly executed.”

Jones did not comment on the accuracy of information within the budget concerning questionable entries, such as benefits exceeding payroll and wages in the general and administrative fund. The budget also shows zero funds expended in the city garage fund during the past fiscal year and zero funds budgeted in the upcoming fiscal year. The proposed budget also indicates a drop of nearly $300,000 in anticipated trash fees for the next fiscal year in the HMA budget while revenues in past years have remained steady. None of the above were questioned by members of the council during recent public hearings.

Jones also said his staff would investigate why the Hugo Airport accounts were not made a part of the budget as they have been in previous years.