

RESOLUTION FOR POVERTY EXEMPTION

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the principal residence of persons, who the Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 390 of 1994 and most recently PA 253 of 2020, the City of Rochester, Oakland County adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a principal residence the property for which an exemption is requested. The person shall affirm this ownership and occupancy status in writing by filing a form prescribed by the State Tax Commission.
- 2) The subject property must have a valid Homeowner's Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) currently in effect.
- 3) The applicant must complete and timely file an application requesting a poverty exemption on a form prescribed by the City , accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year or a signed State Tax Commission Form 4988, Poverty Exemption Affidavit. The application with all supporting documentation must be received by the City not later than the day prior to the last day of the Board of Review session at which the property owner is requesting consideration.
- 4) Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
- 5) Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the applicant's total household income cannot exceed one and one-half (1 ½) times the prior calendar year poverty income figure, as reported by household size, in the "Federal Poverty Guidelines" updated annually in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (Income requirement)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the value of the applicant's total assets plus the assets of all individuals living in the household, excluding the property for which the exemption is requested and one automobile, but including all savings, stocks and bonds and retirement accounts, cannot exceed \$100,000. **(Asset requirement)**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PA 253 of 2020 lists the specific percentage reductions in taxable value that may be used by the Board of Review in granting a poverty exemption. MCL 211.7u(5) for the City of Rochester, if a person claiming the poverty exemption meets all eligibility requirements, the Board of Review shall grant the poverty exemption equal to a 50% reduction in taxable value for the year in which the exemption is granted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to ease the burden on taxpayers, the assessor and the Board of Review and to ensure that all taxpayers have an equal opportunity to be heard by the Board of Review, the City of Rochester hereby resolves, according to provisions of MCL 211.30(8) of the General Property Tax Act, that the Board of Review shall receive letters of protest regarding assessments from resident taxpayers from the first Tuesday in March until it adjourns from the public hearings for which it meets to hear such protests. All notices of assessment change and all advertisements of Board of Review meetings are to include a statement that the resident taxpayers may protest by letter to the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to conform with the provisions of P.A. 253 of 2020, this resolution is hereby given immediate effect and will stay in effect for subsequent years until amended or voided.

CERTIFICATION

I, Lee Ann O'Connor, the duly authorized Clerk of the City of Rochester do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Rochester City Council on the ________ of June 2022.

Lee Ann O'Connor, City Clerk