

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ROYAL OAK**  
**RESOLUTION 21- 002**

**A Resolution Approving a Policy with Guidelines for Granting Poverty Exemption to Those Residents Who Apply to the Board of Review and Meet the Criteria Necessary for a 25% Hardship Exemption Under MCL 211.7u As Amended by P.A. 253 of 2020**

**WHEREAS**, the General Property Tax Act, MCL 211.7u, states that the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the Board of Review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under the General Property Tax Act; and

**WHEREAS**, a Township Board is required by MCL 211.7u to adopt guidelines for the poverty exemption including, but not limited to, the following;

1. The poverty exemption applicant's total household income cannot exceed the most current Federal Poverty Guidelines from the prior tax year set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as established by the State Tax Commission-to be updated annually; and
2. A poverty exemption shall not be granted to any applicant whose assets exceeds \$10,000. An applicant's homestead and principal vehicle(s) shall be excluded from consideration as an asset. All other property, including from all other persons residing in the household, shall be included as an asset. Property shall include, but is not limited to: cash, savings, stocks, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, insurance commodities, coin collections, art, motor vehicles, recreation vehicles, etc.; and,
3. A poverty exemption shall not be granted to any applicant who owns real property, whether singly or jointly, regardless of location, other than his or her homestead; and,
4. A property exemption shall not be granted to an applicant with cash on deposit in excess of the proposed tax obligation for the ensuing year, unless the applicant can show evidence that the cash is subject to a legitimate cost of living expense; and,
5. A poverty exemption shall not be granted to an applicant whose investments will produce an income, which when added to the applicant's household income exceeds the federal poverty guidelines; and,
6. The applicant for a poverty exemption must provide specific documentation along with a completed application on a form approved by the Michigan State Tax Commission.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, as amended by P.A. 253 of 2020, that the Charter Township of Royal Oak, Oakland County, adopts the attached Policy and 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, filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if a person meets all eligibility requirements in the statute and the attached Policy and Guidelines adopted by the Township Board, the Board of Review must grant an exemption equal to a 25% reduction in taxable value.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Review shall follow the policy and guidelines adopted by the Township Board when granting and denying poverty exemptions. The same standards shall apply to each taxpayer within the Township claiming the poverty exemption for the assessment year.

**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 Township Board 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 the date immediately preceding the last date 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.


The foregoing resolution offered by TURNER and supported by Vasquez.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "Aye:" ALL  
"Nay:" NONE

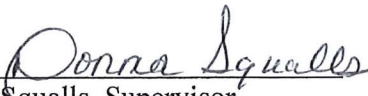
**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

I, Gwendolyn Turner, Clerk for the Charter Township of Royal Oak, Oakland County, Michigan, hereby acknowledge that I have been authorized by this Resolution of the Charter Township of the Board of Trustees, to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Charter Township of Royal Oak, and hereby accept this authorization and authority to bind the Charter Township of Royal Oak to the terms and conditions of the Interlocal Agreement with Oakland County.

I, Gwendolyn Turner, Clerk for the Charter Township of Royal Oak, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Royal Oak.

  
Gwendolyn Turner, Clerk  
Charter Township of Royal Oak

Date: February 11, 2021

Attest:   
Donna Squalls, Supervisor  
Charter Township of Royal Oak

