

## **Poverty Resolution for the City of Omer**

**Resolution No. [XXXXX]**

### **A Resolution Adopting Guidelines for Property Tax Poverty Exemptions**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Omer is committed to ensuring that its residents who are struggling financially receive the support they need to remain in their homes and contribute to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with MCL 211.7u(1), the City of Omer is authorized to grant property tax exemptions for principal residences to individuals who are unable to contribute towards public charges due to poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Omer recognizes the guidelines established by the City of Ann Arbor for poverty exemptions and seeks to adopt similar guidelines to ensure fairness and consistency in the administration of such exemptions;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Omer, as follows:

#### **Section 1: Purpose**

**This resolution sets forth guidelines for granting property tax exemptions for residents who, due to poverty, are unable to contribute towards public charges. These guidelines are designed to align with the principles established by the City of Ann Arbor to ensure fairness and transparency.**

#### **Section 2: Eligibility Requirements**

- 1. Principal Residence: Exemptions are available only to individuals who own and occupy the property as their principal residence.**
- 2. Annual Application: Applicants must submit a completed application for a poverty exemption to the Assessor after each January 1st and before the day prior to the last day of the Board of Review for the applicable year.**
- 3. Income Test: The total income of the applicant and each member of the applicant's household must not exceed 1.50 times the Federal Poverty Income Standards as determined annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For 2024, the income threshold is \$24,786 for a family of one and \$49,000 for a family of four.**
- 4. Asset Test: The maximum allowable assets, excluding the homestead and standard mode of transportation, are set at \$50,000.**

#### **Section 3: Reduction Guidelines**

- 1. Income Brackets and Reductions:**
  - 100% Reduction: If the applicant's income is equal to or less than 1.50 times the Federal Poverty Income Standards.**
  - 75% Reduction: If the applicant's income is between 1.50 times and 1.75 times the Federal Poverty Income Standards.**
  - 50% Reduction: If the applicant's income is greater than 1.75 times but less than 2.00 times the Federal Poverty Income Standards.**

- **25% Reduction: If the applicant's income is equal to or greater than 2.00 times the Federal Poverty Income Standards.**

#### **Section 4: Administration and Appeals**

1. **Personal Appearance: The Board of Review may request that an applicant appear in person to respond to questions from the Board or Assessor.**
2. **Annual Review: Poverty exemptions must be applied for each year. If granted, the exemption applies to the tax year only. For residents with fixed incomes from public assistance sources not subject to significant annual increases, such as Supplemental Security Income or Social Security benefits, exemptions may be extended for up to three additional years, subject to annual audit.**
3. **Authority: The Board of Review has the authority to grant exemptions in whole or in part based on the income and asset guidelines set forth in this resolution.**

#### **Section 5: Transparency and Publication**

1. **Policy Publication: The City Council will make the policy and guidelines for granting poverty exemptions available to the public to ensure transparency and accessibility.**

#### **Section 6: Effective Date**

**This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council of Omer.**

**ADOPTED this [day] of [month], [year], by the City Council of the City of Omer.**

**[Signature] [Name], Mayor**

**[Signature] [Name], City Sandra Rood**

City of Omer

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