

**BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF BERRIEN, STATE OF MICHIGAN RESOLUTION TO
ADOPT 2024 FEDERAL POVERTY EXEMPTION INCOME GUIDELINE AND ASSET TEST
RESOLUTION #12192023**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Benton charter Township Board held on December 19, 2023.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by _____; seconded by _____:

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in judgment of the supervisor and 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, the township board is required by Section 7u of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893 (MCL 211.7u), to adopt guidelines for poverty exemptions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, that Benton Charter Township, Berrien County, adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement.

The guidelines shall include but not limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all personal 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 homestead, the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) File the claim after January 1 but before the day prior to the last day of the board of review.
- 4) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 5) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 6) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United State Office of Management and Budget.
- 7) Meet any additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a

deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

AYES:

NAYS:

RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of Benton Charter Township, County of Berrien, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on December 19, 2023, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

Carolyn Phillips, Township Clerk