

**Township Board Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines
and Asset Test for the Tax Year 2021**

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the 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 Martiny Township, Mecosta County, adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and 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 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) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 5) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.
- 6) Meet additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board.

ASSET CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE TAX BOARD OF REVIEW

Martiny Township has established a maximum asset level of \$15,000 for poverty/hardship tax exemption applicants. This limit does not include the homestead being applied for. Additionally, a maximum of \$100.00 is allowed for annual dividend income from either taxable or non-taxable.

INVESTMENTS (Owner or co-owner stocks, bonds, land contracts, savings bond).

REAL ESTATE (owned or co-owned except homestead being applied for)

LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES (monthly premium – cash value)

MOTOR VEHICLES (automobiles, trucks, off road vehicles owned & co-owned cash value)

OTHER ASSETS (boats, coin collections, antiques, collectables, etc.), Exception of antique family heirlooms.

Applicant must have held ownership of the property for a minimum of three years.

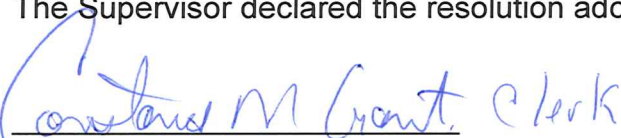
The Board of Review will review the signed application form provided and determine whether or not the applicant meets the Township Asset Level Test. In all cases if the Board of Review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be deviation from the Township or Federal guidelines in granting exemptions these reasons must be communicated in writing to the claimant.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Bill Schoner and supported by Board Member Lois Schmidt.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "Yes:" Schoner, Schmidt, Lattimore, Grant, Hampel
"No:" None

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.


Constance M. Grant, Clerk

Adopted this date: December 15, 2020