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CITY OF NEWTON

#485-22

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 21, 2022

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, with the Chair of Programs and Services, Joshua Krintzman presiding, the following item be and is hereby voted

NO ACTION NECESSARY:

#485-22

Requesting a Home Rule Petition

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting to seek Home Rule legislation allowing the City to increase the maximum real property tax exemptions and reductions for certain programs authorized under M.G.L c. 59 beyond that amount currently allowed by the state. The requested enhancements for the following tax assistance programs:

VETERAN - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 22

Clause 22 authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of qualifying veterans or spouses of veterans in the maximum amount of \$400. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$800.

VETERAN - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 22

Clause 22 authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of qualifying veterans or spouses of veterans in the maximum amount of \$500. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$1,000.

DISABLED VETERAN - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 22E

Clause 22E authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of qualifying veterans determined to have suffered total disability in the line of duty in the maximum amount of \$1,000. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$2,000.

BLIND PERSON - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 37A

Clause 37A authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of a blind person in the maximum amount of \$500. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$1,000.

SENIOR CITIZENS -EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41C

Clause 41C authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of seniors over the age of 65 in the maximum amount of \$1,000. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$2,000.

SENIOR CITIZENS - REDUCTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5K and VETERANS -REDUCTION - G.L.

c. 59, sec. 5N

Section 5K and 5N, respectively, authorize a reduction for the real property taxes of seniors over the age of 60 or veterans in exchange for volunteer services to the city. The statute permits a maximum reduction based on either 125 volunteer service hours or \$1,500. The City currently allows a reduction based on the maximum 125 volunteer service hours. It is requested that the maximum reduction in exchange for volunteer services be increased to 200 volunteer services hours or \$3,000.

ELDERLY SURVIVING SPOUSE, MINOR CHILD -EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 17D

Clause 17D authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of a surviving spouse, a minor child whose parent is deceased, or seniors over the age of 70, in the maximum amount of \$219. It is requested that the maximum be doubled, increasing the exemption amount to \$438.

Under Suspension of Rules

Readings Waived and Item Voted No Action Necessary

22 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Councilors Greenberg and Markiewicz)


(SGD) CAROL MOORE
City Clerk