

## **FINANCE**

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Chris Landrum, Finance Director

**Through: Mario Canizares, Town Manager** 

**Bob Scott, Deputy Town Manager** 

Re: Homestead Tax Exemption

**Town Council Meeting – June 27, 2023** 

### Agenda Item:

Consider and act upon an ordinance establishing a Homestead Tax Exemption. (CL)

### **Description of Agenda Item:**

Chapter 11.13(n) of the State of Texas Tax Code provides for an optional residential homestead exemption by any taxing unit. Each taxing unit decides if it will offer the exemption and at what percentage. This optional homestead exemption cannot be less than \$5,000 or greater than twenty percent of the qualifying property's assessed value.

The Town Council initially approved a homestead exemption for the fiscal year 2016-2017 at seven and a half percent (7.5%). The Council increased the exemption for fiscal year 2017-2018 to ten percent (10%). The Council raised the homestead exemption to the current rate of twelve and a half percent (12.5%) for the fiscal year 2022-2023.

Finance staff presented multiple homestead exemption rate options to the Finance Sub-committee on June 6, 2023. The Finance Sub-committee recommended raising the homestead exemption rate to fifteen percent (15%).

#### **Budget Impact:**

Staff estimates total savings to homestead property owners of \$770,697. The average savings per homestead property owner is \$87.90.

### **Legal Obligations and Review:**

Terrence Welch of Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P., has approved the attached documents as to form and legality.

### **Attached Documents:**

1. Ordinance

# **Town Staff Recommendation:**

Town Staff recommends that the Town Council establish a Homestead Tax Exemption of fifteen percent (15%).

# **Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve an ordinance establishing a Homestead Tax Exemption of fifteen percent (15%).