ORDINANCE NO. 22-493

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RICHWOOD, BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS, PROVIDING THAT _____ DOLLARS OF THE ASSESSED VALUE OF ANY RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM AD VALOREM TAXES UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; AND PROVIDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

WHEREAS, The Texas Property Tax Code §11.13 (d) (1) states "In addition to any other exemptions provided by this section, an individual is entitled to an exemption from taxation by a taxing unit of a percentage of the appraised value of his residence homestead if the exemption is adopted by the governing body of the taxing unit before July 1 in the manner provided by law for official action by the body. If the percentage set by the taxing unit produces an exemption in a tax year of less than \$5,000 when applied to a particular residence homestead, the individual is entitled to an exemption of \$5,000 of the appraised value. The percentage adopted by the taxing unit may not exceed 20 percent";

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Richwood, Texas, wishes to grant the benefit of such exemption;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHWOOD, TEXAS;

<u>Section One:</u> From and after January 1, 2022, ______ percentage of assessed value of residence homesteads shall be exempt from taxation for all City purposes; provided, however, that where the ad valorem tax has been pledged for the payment of any debt, the taxing officers of the City shall have the authority to continue to levy and collect the tax against the homestead at the same rate as the tax so pledged until the debt is discharged, if cessation of the levy would impair the obligations of contract by which such debt was incurred and created.

<u>Section Two:</u> For purposes of this exemption, "residence homestead" means a structure (including a mobile home) or a separately secured and occupied portion of a structure (together with the land) not to exceed 20 acres and improvements in the residential occupancy of the structure, if the structure and the land and improvements have identical ownership) that:

- 1. Is owned by one or more individuals;
- 2. Is designed or adapted for human residence;
- 3. Is used as a residence; and
- 4. Is occupied as the principal residence by an owner who qualifies for the exemption.

Section Three: The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2022.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 13th day of June, 2022.

Steven Boykin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kirsten Garcia, City Secretary