FILE OF COUNCIL

No. # 6 (2023)

MAYOR MICHAEL A. LOMBARDO, IN PLACE

September 20, 2023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PITTSTON, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING PITTSTON CITY CODE CHAPTER 436 TAXATION, ARTICLE VII HOMESTEAD TAX EXEMPTION, TO REFLECT UPDATED OPERATING PRACTICES.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, by the City Council of the City of Pittston and it is hereby Ordained and Enacted by the Authority of the same as follows:

WHEREAS, Pittston City Code Chapter 436 Taxation, Article VII Homestead Tax Exemption, requires various amendments in order to update the chapter to reflect current regulations and operating practices:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, by the City Council of the City of Pittston, as follows:

Section 1. Amendments to Existing Code.

The following amendments are made to Pittston City Code Chapter 436 Taxation, Article VII Homestead Exemption. Any provision of the chapter not specifically amended by this ordinance remains unaltered and in effect:

§436-43 Process for Claiming Exemption

Remove Current language in §436-43 (A) (B) and (C) and replace with:

§436-43 (A) The City shall utilize the Greater Pittston Area School District's Homestead Exemption list as administered by the Luzerne County Assessor's Office for the purpose of administering the City homestead exemption granted in §436-41. Furthermore, the process for a homeowner to claim the homestead exemption shall follow the guidelines, timelines, deadlines and process as set forth by the Luzerne County Assessor's Office. In the event the Luzerne County Assessor's Office and or School District end administration of the homestead exemption program, the City Council may, by Resolution, establish an administrative policy for the same.

§436-43 (B) Proof of ownership of the residence and occupancy of the residence by the homeowner shall be required for eligibility for the city homestead exemption. Acceptable proofs

of ownership and residence include a deed of ownership; a copy of a government-issued identification listing their address; and a utility bill listing their name and address and or any other proofs that may be required by the policies of the Luzerne County Assessor's Office.

§436-43(C) The city Homestead Exemption program shall be administered by the City Administrator or designee.

Section 2. Severability.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable and if any provision shall be deemed to be invalid for any reason, the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall not affect. It is hereby declared as the intention of the City Council of the City of Pittston that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalidity not been included therein.

Section 3. Repealer.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances or Resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

ATTEST

JOSÉPH CHACKE City Administrator

APPROVED

MICHAEL LOMBARDO Mayor