

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
SUPERIOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
3040 N. PROSPECT, SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP, MI 48198  
February 1, 2022  
4:30 p.m.  
AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL
4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
6. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Amend Resolution 2022-3, Approve the 2022 Poverty Exemption Guidelines for the Board of Review
  - b. Discussion regarding the Community Center
7. ADJOURNMENT

Lynette Findley, Clerk, Superior Township, 3040 N. Prospect, Superior Township, MI 48198  
Telephone: 734-482-6099; Email: [lynettefindley@superior-twp.org](mailto:lynettefindley@superior-twp.org)

**From:** a.foster <[anna.tlam.foster@gmail.com](mailto:anna.tlam.foster@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 01, 2022 11:30 AM  
**To:** Lynette Findley <[lynettefindley@superior-twp.org](mailto:lynettefindley@superior-twp.org)>  
**Cc:** Ken Schwartz <[kenschwartz@superior-twp.org](mailto:kenschwartz@superior-twp.org)>  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Board meeting tonight (2/1/22)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [anna.tlam.foster@gmail.com](mailto:anna.tlam.foster@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

I was told that e-mailing you was the best way to submit a public comment for tonight's special meeting as I can't be there in person. Given the short notice, I am also cc'ing Supervisor Schwartz. Please find my comment below.

Thanks!

-Anna Foster

Board of Trustees,

As you consider revising the township policy on the poverty property tax exemption tonight, I encourage you to consider two things: first, expanding the eligibility criteria for the exemption; and second, expanding awareness of the program.

1. Many of our neighboring communities have, after careful consideration, expanded eligibility to the program by raising the upper income limit for eligibility. In Chelsea, Saline, and Pittsfield Twp, they have raised the upper limit to 1.85x the federal poverty level. In Dexter, they use 2x the federal poverty level. Ann Arbor recently shifted to 2.2x the federal poverty level. These changes were made after careful consideration of the cost to the city and the benefit to the community. In Ann Arbor, the data released by the city assessor showed that from 2015 to 2020, on average 46 homes received an exemption--a drop in the bucket for their tax revenue--and as I recall from coverage of that at the time, some communities in the county have had fewer than 5 or 6 applications for the program in any year.

How many households apply for the exemption in Superior Township? At present, the upper limit set at about 1.73x the federal limit for a 1-person household, about 1.5x the federal level for 2- and 3-person households, about 1.4x the federal limit for 4- and 5- person households and so forth demonstrating a bias against families. Why has the township chosen to penalize families when calculating income eligibility? What data did the township use to determine these thresholds for families?

In short, my request is this:

*Please raise the upper income limit to 2x the federal poverty limit and remove the anti-family bias in your calculations by making this a standard multiplier regardless of household size.*

2. I encourage you to increase awareness of this program. I think the simplest way to do this would be to add a note about the program into the tax bills mailed out by the Clerk's office.

Admittedly (apologies to the Clerk) this would create some labor and printing costs but it could make a world of difference to a household in need.

I believe that expanding eligibility commensurate with neighboring communities and in response to rising costs of living in the county could help our struggling neighbors to stay in our community and for that reason believe that it is worth the possible loss of revenue to expand the exemption policies.

I apologize that I can't make it to the special meeting tonight. Thank you for your listening/reading my public comment..

-Anna Foster (Superior Twp. Resident)

**From:** [Margy Long](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 1:44 PM

**To:** [Bernice Lindke](#)

**Cc:** [Kelly Goolsby](#); [Colleen Klus](#)

**Subject:** Thank you for your motion to form the community center committee

You don't often get email from [mlong@washtenawisd.org](mailto:mlong@washtenawisd.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

I've been at a number of the recent Township Board meetings and want to thank you for your leadership on the consideration of a community center as well as ensuring that the ARPA funds be used in the MacArthur Blvd. area. I work with Kelly Goolsby who as you know has been doing organizing in that neighborhood for four years and advocating for the residents who live there.

Kelly is part of our Trusted Advisor initiative, which started as a unique outreach to families with young children to ensure access to early childhood programs they are eligible for. Our initiative has expanded to support families with school age children in the Ypsilanti Community Schools District. As you know Kelly is also a Community Health Worker with the Washtenaw Health Department. She has built dozens of trusting relationships with the residents in the MacArthur Blvd. area.

We understand you will be drafting a resolution for the Board to consider at the meeting on February 22. If there's any information Kelly or I can provide as you draft your resolution, please let us know. I understand that the families in the community would like to ensure that the voice of teens in the neighborhood be involved in the discussions about a creation of a community center. We hope you consider including teens in the membership of the advisory committee.

Thanks again for your leadership.

Kelly and I will be at the meeting tonight, (February 1) to learn and participate in the conversation about the community center.

Please let us know how we can help.

Best,

Margy

**Margy Long (she/hers)**

Director

**Washtenaw Success by 6**

**Great Start Collaborative**

**Washtenaw Intermediate School District**

[mlong@washtenawisd.org](mailto:mlong@washtenawisd.org)

734-994-8100 ext. 1277

[www.washtenawsuccessby6.org](http://www.washtenawsuccessby6.org)

**From:** Keith Arthur <[karthuri@umich.edu](mailto:karthuri@umich.edu)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 01, 2022 1:36 PM  
**To:** Lynette Findley <[lynettfindley@superior-twp.org](mailto:lynettfindley@superior-twp.org)>  
**Cc:** Board <[board@superior-twp.org](mailto:board@superior-twp.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Superior Township Contact Page

Okay, thank you, Lynette.

It might be too late to add my thoughts but if I can; I have been reviewing the meeting notes every month and I do want to echo what many other people in the township have already said that I think we need a community center and hopefully coordinated in a way that the people of the township can be informed on the progress and how to get involved if there is a way to. It seems like from the notes I've read there's lots of talk about the community center but doesn't seem to be a point person/group for citizens to get involved.

**Keith Arthur**

*Pronouns:* [he / him/ his](#)

*Sr. Financial Administrative Assistant*

University of Michigan - Health Management & Policy

PH: 734-763-9900

"If you could only sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to the people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person."

- *Fred Rogers*

On Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 1:21 PM Lynette Findley <[lynettfindley@superior-twp.org](mailto:lynettfindley@superior-twp.org)> wrote:

Sorry, we have not been able to accommodate both forms of meetings as of yet.

Lynette Findley

Clerk, Charter Township of Superior

3040 N. Prospect Rd.

Superior Township, MI 48198

Ph: 734-482-6099

[www.superiortownship.org](http://www.superiortownship.org)

Check the status of your voter information at [www.michigan.gov/vote](http://www.michigan.gov/vote)

**From:** Superior Township Website <[noreply@superiortownship.org](mailto:noreply@superiortownship.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 01, 2022 1:15 PM

**To:** Lynette Findley <[lynettfindley@superior-twp.org](mailto:lynettfindley@superior-twp.org)>

**Subject:** Superior Township Contact Page

## Get In Touch With Us

**APPLICANT:** Keith

**Email:** [karthuri@umich.edu](mailto:karthuri@umich.edu)

**Recipient:** [lynettefindley@superior-twp.org](mailto:lynettefindley@superior-twp.org)

**Subject:** Special Meeting Today

**Message Body:** Is there a Zoom link for the special meeting today for those who cannot attend in person? -- This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Superior Township

(<https://superiortownship.org>)

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING 2022 POVERTY EXEMPTION  
GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD OF REVIEW**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2022-3**

**DATE: JANUARY 18, 2022**

**WHEREAS** the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the Township Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the principal residence of persons, who the Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to PA 390 of 1994, the Charter Township of Superior, Washtenaw County adopts the following guidelines for the 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 principal residence the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the assessor or Board of Review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) File a claim reporting that the combined assets of all persons do not exceed the current guidelines. Assets include but are not limited to, real estate other than the principal residence, personal property, motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement funds, etc.
- 4) Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
- 5) Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 6) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services or alternative guidelines adopted by the governing body providing the alternative guidelines do not provide eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines.
- 7) The application, Michigan Department of Treasury form 5737 (01-21) shall be filed after January 1, but one day prior to the last day of the December Board of Review. The filing of this claim constitutes an appearance before the Board of

Review for the purpose of preserving the right of appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

The following are the federal poverty income guidelines which are updated annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The annual allowable income includes income for all persons residing in the principal residence. The Superior Township annual allowable income is also included for all persons residing in the principal residence.

### ***Annual Allowable Income for 2022 Assessments***

**Number of Persons Residing in the Principal Residence**      **Federal Poverty Guideline Annual allowable income**      **Superior Township Annual allowable income**

1 Person	\$12,880	\$22,500
2 Persons	\$17,420	\$27,100
3 Persons	\$21,960	\$31,700
4 Persons	\$26,500	\$36,300
5 Persons	\$31,040	\$40,900
6 Persons	\$35,580	\$45,500
7 Persons	\$40,120	\$50,100
8 Persons	\$44,660	\$54,700
For each additional person	\$4,540 per each additional person	\$4,600

#### **Asset Test**

The applicant is required to provide a list of assets for all persons residing in the residence. Expenses and extenuating financial circumstances that are temporarily beyond the control of the applicant will be considered. Based upon the assets and income listed on a poverty exemption application, the Board of Review may grant the applicant 100%, 50% or 25% reduction in taxable value. An applicant could meet the income guidelines but not the asset guidelines.

The total assets for all persons residing in the residence excluding the homestead shall not exceed \$20,000.

#### **Assets include but are not limited to:**

- A second home, land, vehicles
- Recreational vehicles such as campers, motorhomes, boats, and ATV's
- Buildings other than the residence
- Equipment, other personal property of value
- All Bank accounts, stocks
- Money received from the sale of property, such as, stocks, bonds, or a house or car (unless a person is in the specific business of selling such property)
- Withdrawals of bank deposits and borrowed money
- Gifts, loans, lump-sum inheritances, and one-time insurance payments

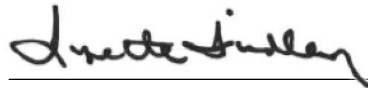


- Food or housing received in lieu of wages
- Federal non-cash benefits programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps and school lunches

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption. Based upon the assets and income listed on a poverty exemption application, the Board of Review may grant the applicant 100%, 50% or 25% reduction in taxable value.

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

I, Lynette Findley, the duly qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of Superior, Washtenaw County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Charter Township of Superior Board held on January 18, 2022, and that public notices of said meeting were given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynette Findley, Township Clerk

01/18/2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Certified

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING 2022 POVERTY EXEMPTION  
GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD OF REVIEW**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2022-3**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2022**

**WHEREAS** the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the Township Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the principal residence of persons, who the Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

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- 4) Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
- 5) Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested.
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