

RESOLUTION NO. 6477

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHERMAN, TEXAS, DECLARING THE CITY OF SHERMAN'S ELIGIBILITY AND INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESIDENTIAL TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM TO PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS OF THE CITY; ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA; FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Sherman, Texas, desires to promote the development/redevelopment of certain contiguous geographic areas within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sherman, Texas, is authorized to enter into Tax Abatement Agreements for commercial-industrial or residential purposes as authorized by Chapter 312 of the Texas Property Tax Code (Code); and

WHEREAS, Section 312.002 of the Code requires the City of Sherman, Texas, to establish guidelines and create criteria every two (2) years for the designation of reinvestment zones and the entering into Residential Tax Abatement Agreements; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 6210 was approved by the City Council at the April 17, 2017 meeting, renewing the City's program for an additional two (2) years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHERMAN, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Sherman, Texas, declares it is eligible for and intends to participate in a Residential Tax Abatement Program.

SECTION 2. That the City of Sherman, Texas, hereby adopts the following Guidelines and Criteria for Tax Abatement for use in its Residential Tax Abatement Program:

**CITY OF SHERMAN
RESIDENTIAL TAX ABATEMENT GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA**

GENERAL PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The City of Sherman is committed to an expansion of its tax base, an increase to its population, the promotion of development in all parts of the City, and to an ongoing improvement in the quality of life for its citizens. As these objectives are generally served by the enhancement and expansion of the local economy, the City of Sherman will offer residential tax abatement as a stimulus for economic development in Sherman. The policy of the City of Sherman is to make residential tax abatement available to new structures. Likewise, residential tax abatement is intended for residential structures built upon vacant lots within existing subdivisions as well as

within new subdivisions of the City. It is the policy of the City of Sherman that such tax abatement will be provided in accordance with the procedures and criteria outlined in this document and as permitted by State statute. The guidelines and criteria herein adopted shall expire two (2) years from and after April 15, 2019. The provisions herein are severable, and if any provision or requirement of these guidelines or criteria is declared or found to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, since the City Council would have adopted these guidelines and criteria without the incorporation of the portions found to be invalid.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Act — means the Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act, Texas Tax Code Ann. 312.001, et seq., as amended from time to time.

Agreement — means a contractual agreement between a property owner and the City of Sherman for the purposes of tax abatement.

Applicant — means an owner of real property who requests tax abatement in accordance with these guidelines.

Base Year Value — means the assessed value of eligible property on January 1 preceding the date of execution of the agreement.

Economic Life — means the number of years a property improvement is expected to be in service.

New Structure — means residential improvements made to a property previously undeveloped which is placed into use by means other than or in conjunction with expansion.

Reinvestment Zone — means a contiguous geographic area in the jurisdiction of the municipality in which tax abatements may be granted to promote residential development or redevelopment if the governing body determines that residential development or redevelopment would not occur solely through private investment in the reasonably foreseeable future.

Residential Improvements — means the construction of residential building(s), and all the appurtenances thereto, single-family in purpose. This does not include duplexes or multi-family structures.

Total Facility — means all buildings and structures along with the appurtenances thereto.

ELIGIBILITY

All residentially zoned property is eligible for designation as a Reinvestment Zone. A new structure anywhere within the corporate limits of a value in excess of \$15,000.00 may receive abatement. As provided in the Act, abatement may only be granted for the value of eligible property subsequent to and listed in an abatement agreement between the City of Sherman and the property owner. Abatement will be granted for residential improvements only.

Eligible Property — Abatement will be extended to the increased value of real estate, buildings, structures, and site improvements along with the appurtenances thereto for properties which are single-family in purpose. This does not include duplexes or multi-family structures.

Value and Term of Abatement — Upon determination that all requirements for tax abatement have been satisfied by the applicant, the value and terms of the abatement will be for a period of ten (10) years in accordance with the following schedule for the abatement of taxes on the added value above the base year value. Abatement shall be granted effective with the January 1 valuation date immediately following the date of completion of the improvements.

SCHEDULE OF TAXES ASSESSED

<u>TAX YEAR</u>	<u>ABATEMENT</u>
1	100%
2	100%
3	100%
4	100%
5	100%
6	100%
7	80%
8	60%
9	40%
10	20%

CRITERIA

Any request for tax abatement shall be reviewed for completeness. The City staff shall determine whether the application satisfies the guidelines and criteria. Tax abatement shall be based upon an evaluation of the following criteria which each applicant will be requested to address in narrative format:

Fiscal Impact

- Addition of real property improvements to the tax rolls.
- No utility construction by the City would be required other than routine.

Community Impact

- The project is compatible with the City’s comprehensive plan.
- No adverse environmental impact will be created by the project.

PROCEDURES

Any person, partnership, organization, corporation or other entity desiring that the City of Sherman consider providing tax abatement to encourage location of residential improvements

within the City limits of Sherman shall be required to comply with the following procedural guidelines:

1. Preliminary Application Steps
 - A. Applicant shall submit an "Application for Tax Abatement" contemporaneously with the application for a building permit, and shall pay a filing fee of \$75.00 to cover publication, notice cost, review and processing. If the applicant for the building permit is not the owner of the real estate and does not make application for residential tax abatement on behalf of the owner, the City staff shall notify the owner by certified mail, return receipt requested, that residential tax abatement must be filed with the City within ten (10) business days of receipt of the notice.
 - B. If the applicant does not wish to apply for residential tax abatement at the time that the building permit is issued, or if the owner fails to respond to the written notice of availability for residential tax abatement, the opportunity for residential tax abatement is waived. The staff shall prepare forms necessary to reflect the refusal of an applicant to participate and to document the lack of response by the owner to the written notice. The refusal or waiver to participate in residential tax abatement by the owner or applicant shall be binding on subsequent owners of the real property.
 - C. The City may request applicant to provide substantiation of economic feasibility of the overall project to assist in determining the long-term benefit to the City.
 - D. A complete legal description shall be provided.
 - E. Applicant shall complete all forms and information detailed above and submit them to the City of Sherman.
2. All information in the application package detailed above will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy. Additional information may be requested as needed.

If necessary, applicant will meet with City to discuss details of the application and prepare for presentation of application to the City Council.
3. The application shall include the total capital investment for real property improvements and type of project.

LEGAL DOCUMENTATION PREPARATION

The City will be responsible for drafting the proposed agreement pursuant to the approved Tax Abatement, as well as all associated documentation.

The legal document is to include the following:

1. Estimated value of new construction to be abated.
2. Percent of value to be abated each year.

3. Commencement date and the termination date of abatement.
4. Proposed use of the facility, nature of construction, time schedule, map, property description and improvements list as provided in the application.
5. Contractual obligations in the event of default, violation of terms or conditions, delinquent taxes, recapture and administration.

SECTION 3. That it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the _____ day of _____, 2019.

CITY OF SHERMAN, TEXAS

BY: _____
DAVID PLYLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BY: _____
LINDA ASHBY, CITY CLERK

**APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND CONTENT:**

BY: _____
**BRANDON S. SHELBY,
CITY ATTORNEY**