## **RESOLUTION NO. 3 OF 2020**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND AND COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA EXTENDING THE DISCOUNT PERIOD FOR COLLECTION OF TOWNSHIP REAL ESTATE TAXES

WHEREAS, the Township of Fairfield ("the Township") is authorized pursuant to Act 15 of 2020 (35 Pa.C.S. § 5713) to extend its discount period for the collection of real estate tax and to waive any fee or penalty for the late payment of real estate tax; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that Township property owners have suffered financial difficulties as a result of the COVID 19 virus, and consequent emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to extend some relief to those property owners during this disaster emergency;

**NOW THEREFORE,** be it resolved and it is hereby resolved that Fairfield Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania adopts this resolution as follows:

- 1. The discount period for collection of real estate tax, assessed for the tax year 2020, only, is hereby extended to August 31, 2020, and all payments received on, or before such date shall be entitled to the customary two percent (2%) discount. This discount period extension is retroactive to all tax payments received on or after May 1, 2020.
- 2. The Township hereby waives and foregoes any fees or penalties for any real estate tax assessed for the tax year 2020, provided that all tax payments are received in full, by the Township Tax Collector, on or before December 31, 2020. Penalties, interest, or other fees will apply at the customary rate and amounts commencing January 1, 2021 on all outstanding amounts.
- 3. The Township Secretary shall provide a copy of this Resolution to the Township Tax Collector immediately.
- 4. This Resolution does not repeal or replace any prior Ordinance or Resolution of the Township. The provisions herein are applicable only to real estate taxes assessed for 2020 and only for the specific periods set forth herein.

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Pennsylvania County

Office of the Westmoreland County Commissioners

2 North Main Street, Suite 101 Greensburg PA 15601-2494



Phone: 724-830-3106 800-442-6926 Fax: 724-830-3029 TDD: 724-830-3802

April 23, 2020

Fairfield Township 159 Midget Camp Road Bolivar, PA 15923

Dear Fairfield Township,

Westmoreland County has adopted a resolution for modification of the timeframe allowed for discounted payment of real estate taxes for Westmoreland County as well as the penalty that is normally imposed for late payment. Pursuant to Senate Bill 841 Westmoreland County's resolution will allow taxpayers to receive a 2 percent reduced discounted real estate tax if paid by August 31, 2020. There will be a zero penalty imposed upon anyone paying their taxes as long as the full amount of face taxes are paid after August 31 but before December 31, 2020. Again, this is pursuant to Pennsylvania Senate Bill 841 which was passed by the State Senate and State Legislature last week. Governor Wolf signed the bill into law on April 20, 2020.

The County is hopeful that each Municipality will participate and adopt a similar Resolution. The County acknowledges that it is each Municipality's determination as to whether to adopt a similar resolution.

The County believes that the nature of the current pandemic as well as the Commonwealth's adoption of Senate Bill 841 demonstrates a need to provide some relief to the County's constituents and that is the goal of the adopted resolution. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Westmoreland County Board of Commissioners

Sean Kertes, Chairman

Sean Mas

Douglas W. Chew, Vice-Chairman

Gina Cerilli, Esq., Secretary

## BE IT RESOLVED this 14th day of May, 2020.

## FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP

VAUGHN TANTLINGER, Chairman Fairfield Township Board of Supervisors

PAUL ALTIMUS, Vice-Chairman Fairfield Township Board of Supervisors

JAMES BROWN, Supervisor
Fairfield Township Board of Supervisors

Attest:

CARRIE MOORE, Secretary