

VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OHIO

ORDINANCE No. 2023-9

AMENDING ORDINANCE 2015-10 KNOWN AS THE INCOME TAX ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE CHANGES NECESSARY TO FACILITATE JOINING THE REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY AND INCLUDE CHANGES TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 718.

WHEREAS, upon the Finance Committee's recommendation, Village Council authorized joining the Regional Income Tax Agency for income tax collection and administration, and

WHEREAS, the Regional Income Tax Agency will begin collecting and administering income tax for the Village on January 01, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has made changes to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 718 through House Bill 33, and

WHEREAS, the changes to ORC Section 718 require an amendment to Income Tax Ordinance 2015-10 to update definitions effective January 01, 2024, in compliance with State Law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO THAT:

Section 1: That Section 3(K)(15) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

(K) (15) **For tax years 2024 and after, the income of individuals under 18 years of age.**

Section 2: That Section 3(B) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

(B) (1) **"ASSESSMENT"** means any of the following:

- (a) A written finding by the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** that a person has underpaid municipal income tax, or owes penalty and interest, or any combination of tax, penalty, or interest, to the municipal corporation;
- (b) A full or partial denial of a refund request issued under Section 9.096 (B)(2) of this Ordinance;
- (c) ~~The Village Tax Commissioner's~~ **A Tax Administrator's** denial of a taxpayer's request for use of an alternative apportionment method, issued according to ORC 718.02; or
- (d) ~~The Village Tax Commissioner's~~ **A Tax Administrator's** requirement for a taxpayer to use an alternative apportionment method, issued according to ORC 718.02.
- (e) For purposes of division (B)(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d) of this section, an assessment shall commence the person's time limitation for making an appeal to the Local Board of Tax Review pursuant to Section 18 of this Ordinance, and shall have "ASSESSMENT" written in all capital letters at the top of such finding.

Section 3: That Section 3(RR) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

(RR) ~~"TAX OFFICE STRUCTURE" comprises a two-tiered authority structure charged with direct responsibility for administration of an income tax levied by the Village of Ottawa Hills in accordance with this ordinance;~~

~~“VILLAGE TAX COMMISSIONER” is appointed by the Mayor for the purpose of providing oversight, decision making for taxable matters involving assessments, and representations of the Village Tax Office in appealable manners (before the Local Board of Tax Appeals);~~

“TAX ADMINISTRATOR” means the individual charged with direct responsibility for administration of an income tax levied by the Village of Ottawa Hills in accordance with this Ordinance, ~~is the hired position in charge of the day to day administration of the Village income tax,~~ and also includes the following:

- (1) A municipal corporation acting as the agent of another municipal corporation;
- (2) A person retained by a municipal corporation to administer a tax levied by the municipal corporation, but only if the municipal corporation does not compensate the person in whole or in part on a contingency basis;
- (3) The Central Collection Agency (CCA) or the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) or their successors in interest, or another entity organized to perform functions similar to those performed by the Central Collection Agency and the Regional Income Tax Agency.

Section 4: That Section 6.062 of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

Section 6.062 NET PROFIT; INCOME SUBJECT TO NET PROFIT TAX;
ALTERNATIVE APPORTIONMENT; **ALTERNATIVE NET PROFITS
APPORTIONMENT FOR REMOTE EMPLOYEES**

Alternative apportionment filings are to follow ORC 718.02.

Alternative net profits apportionment for remote employees filings are to follow ORC 718.021.

Section 5: That Section 8.081 of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

Section 8.081 PARTIAL CREDIT FOR WORK CITY TAX PAID BY RESIDENTS

(A) Reduced tax credit to resident taxpayer.

- (1) When the taxable income of a resident of the Village of Ottawa Hills is subject to a municipal income tax in another municipality on the same income taxable under this Ordinance, such resident shall be allowed a credit of the amount of income tax paid on such taxable income to such other municipality, equal to fifty per cent (50%) of the amount obtained by multiplying the lower of the tax rate of such other municipality or of this municipality by the taxable income earned in or attributable to the municipality of employment or business activity. For the purposes of this section, taxable income shall include the distributive share of net profits of a resident partner or owner of a business entity.
- (2) Method to apply for credit:

(a) No credit will be given unless the taxpayer claims such on his final return or other form prescribed by the Tax Administrator, and presents such evidence of the payment of a similar tax to another municipality, as the Tax Administrator may require.

(b) A statement satisfactory to the Tax Administrator from the taxing authority of the municipality to which the taxes are paid that a Village of Ottawa Hills resident or his employer is paying the tax shall be considered as fulfilling the requirement of this section.

~~(B) Any claim for credit of income taxes paid another municipality on the same income taxable hereunder, and any assignment of the reciprocal credit provided for herein, must be made not later than the time within which a claim for refund may be made. Reciprocal credits duly assigned to the municipality of residence may be presented by such municipality to the Tax Administrator of the Village of Ottawa Hills at any time within three (3) years after receipt thereof. Failure to make such claim for credit, or to assign the reciprocal credit provided for herein within the time prescribed herein shall render such claim or assignment null and void.~~

~~(C)~~ No credit shall be given for any state or school district income tax.

~~(D)~~ Claims for refund of municipal income taxes must be brought within three years after the tax was due or the return was filed, whichever is later, as set forth in Section 9.096 of this Ordinance.

Section 6: That Section 8.084(D) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

~~(D) Nothing in this section requires a municipality to allow for credit for tax paid to another municipal corporation if the municipality has reduced credit for tax paid to another municipal corporation. Section 8.081 of this Ordinance regarding any limitation on credit shall prevail.~~

Section 7: That Section 9.091(A)(1) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

~~(A)(1) An annual return with respect to the income tax levied on Municipal Taxable Income by the Village of Ottawa Hills shall be completed and filed by every taxpayer for any taxable year for which the taxpayer is subject to the tax, regardless of whether or not income tax is due.~~ **An annual Village of Ottawa Hills income tax return shall be completed and filed by every taxpayer for each taxable year for which the taxpayer is subject to the tax, whether or not a tax is due thereon.**

Section 8: That Section 9.094 of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

(A) Any taxpayer that has duly requested an automatic six-month extension for filing the taxpayer's federal income tax return shall automatically receive an extension for the filing of a municipal income tax return. The extended due date of the municipal income tax return shall be the fifteenth day of the tenth month after the last day of the taxable year to which the return relates. For tax years ending on or after January 1, 2023, the extended due date of the Village of Ottawa Hills's income tax return for a taxpayer that is not an individual shall be the 15th day of the eleventh month after the last day of the taxable year to which the return relates.

(F) If a taxpayer receives an extension for the filing of a municipal income tax return under division (A), or (E) of this section, the Tax Administrator shall not make any inquiry or send any notice to the taxpayer with regard to the return on or before the date the taxpayer files the return or on or before the extended due date to file the return, whichever occurs first.

If a Tax Administrator violates division (F) of this section, the municipal corporation shall reimburse the taxpayer for any reasonable costs incurred to respond to such inquiry or notice, up to \$150.

Division (F) of this section does not apply to an extension received under division (A) of this section if the Tax Administrator has actual knowledge that the taxpayer failed to file for a federal extension as required to receive the extension under division (A) of this section or failed to file for an extension under division (C) of this section.

Section 9: That Section 9.096(B)(2) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

~~(B)(2) On filing of the refund request, the Tax Administrator shall determine the amount of refund due and certify such amount to the appropriate municipal corporation official for payment. Except as provided in division (B)(3) of this section, the Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** shall issue an assessment to any taxpayer whose request for refund is fully or partially denied. The assessment shall state the amount of the refund that was denied, the reasons for the denial, and instructions for appealing the assessment.

Section 11: That Section 10(C) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as show as below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

10(C)(4) For tax years ending on or before December 31, 2022 with respect to returns other than estimated income tax returns, the Village shall impose a monthly penalty of twenty-five dollars for each failure to timely file each return, regardless of the liability shown thereon for each month, or any fraction thereof, during which the return remains

unfiled regardless of the liability shown thereon. The penalty shall not exceed a total of one hundred fifty dollars in assessed penalty for each failure to timely file a return.

10(C)(5) For tax years ending on or after January 1, 2023, with respect to returns other than estimated income tax returns, Village of Ottawa Hills may impose a penalty not exceeding \$25 for each failure to timely file each return, regardless of the liability shown thereon, except that Village of Ottawa Hills shall abate or refund the penalty assessed on a taxpayer's first failure to timely file a return after the taxpayer files that return.

Section 12: That Section 17 of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

Section 17 ASSESSMENT; APPEAL BASED ON PRESUMPTION OF DELIVERY

- (A) (1) The ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** shall serve an assessment either by personal service, by certified mail, or by a delivery service authorized under Section 5703.056 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (2) The ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** may deliver the assessment through alternative means as provided in this section, including, but not limited to, delivery by secure electronic mail. Such alternative delivery method must be authorized by the person subject to the assessment.
- (3) Once service of the assessment has been made by the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** or other municipal official, or the designee of either, the person to whom the assessment is directed may protest the ruling of that assessment by filing an appeal with the Local Board of Tax Review within sixty days after the receipt of service. The delivery of an assessment of the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** as prescribed in Section 718.18 of the Revised Code is prima facie evidence that delivery is complete and that the assessment is served.
- (B) (1) A person may challenge the presumption of delivery and service as set forth in this division. A person disputing the presumption of delivery and service under this section bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the address to which the assessment was sent was not an address with which the person was associated at the time the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** originally mailed the assessment by certified mail. For the purposes of this section, a person is associated with an address at the time the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** originally mailed the assessment if, at that time, the person was residing, receiving legal documents, or conducting business at the address; or if, before that time, the person had conducted business at the address and, when the assessment was mailed, the person's agent or the person's affiliate was conducting business at the address. For the purposes of this section, a person's affiliate is any other person that, at the time the assessment was mailed, owned or controlled at least twenty per cent, as determined by voting rights, of the addressee's business.
- (2) If a person elects to appeal an assessment on the basis described in division (B)(1) of this section, and if that assessment is subject to collection and is not otherwise appealable, the person must do so within sixty days after the initial contact by the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** or other municipal official, or the designee of either, with the person. Nothing in this division prevents the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** or other official from entering into a compromise with the person if the person does not actually file such an appeal with the Local Board of Tax Review.

Section 13: That Section 18(B) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

- (B) Whenever the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** issues an assessment, the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ **Tax Administrator** shall notify the taxpayer in writing at the same time of the taxpayer's right to appeal the assessment, the manner in which the taxpayer may appeal the assessment, and the address to which the appeal should be directed, and to whom the appeal should be directed.

Section 14: That Section 18(E) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

(E) The board may affirm, reverse, or modify the ~~Village Tax Commissioner's~~ Tax Administrator's assessment or any part of that assessment. The board shall issue a final determination on the appeal within ninety days after the board's final hearing on the appeal, and send a copy of its final determination by ordinary mail to all of the parties to the appeal within fifteen days after issuing the final determination. The taxpayer or the ~~Village Tax Commissioner~~ Tax Administrator may appeal the board's final determination as provided in Section 5717.011 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 15: That Section 21 of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strikethrough, effective January 01, 2024:

Section 21 ELECTION TO BE SUBJECT TO R.C. 718.80 TO 718.95

(A) Village of Ottawa Hills hereby adopts and incorporates herein by reference Sections 718.80 to 718.95 of the ORC for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

(B) A taxpayer, as defined in division (C) of this section, may elect to be subject to Sections 718.80 to 718.95 of the ORC in lieu of the provisions of this Ordinance.

(C) "Taxpayer" has the same meaning as in section 718.01 of the ORC, except that "taxpayer" does not include natural persons or entities subject to the tax imposed under Chapter 5745 of the ORC. "Taxpayer" may include receivers, assignees, or trustees in bankruptcy when such persons are required to assume the role of a taxpayer.

Sections 2422-96 RESERVED

Section 16: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this ordinance were adopted in open meetings in, compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 17: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Vote on passage

11/13/2023

Yeas 5 Nays 0

Date of passage



President of Council

Attest:



Acting Clerk of Council

VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OHIO

ORDINANCE No. 2015-10

LEVYING A TAX TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND GENERAL VILLAGE OPERATIONS, ON ALL QUALIFYING WAGES, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER COMPENSATIONS EARNED BY THE RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS; ON ALL QUALIFYING WAGES, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER COMPENSATIONS EARNED BY NONRESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS FOR WORK DONE OR SERVICES PERFORMED OR RENDERED IN THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS; ON THE NET PROFITS EARNED ON ALL BUSINESSES, PROFESSIONS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS; ON THE NET PROFITS EARNED ON ALL BUSINESSES, PROFESSIONS, OR OTHER ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS BY NONRESIDENTS, AND ON THE NET PROFITS EARNED BY ALL CORPORATIONS DOING BUSINESS IN THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS AS THE RESULT OF WORK DONE OR SERVICES PERFORMED OR RENDERED IN THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS; PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, COLLECTION, AND ENFORCEMENT OF SAID TAX; DECLARING THE VIOLATION THEREOF TO BE A MISDEMEANOR AND IMPOSING PENALTIES.

WHEREAS, significant and wide-ranging amendments to ORC 718 were signed into law by Governor Kasich on December 19, 2014, and H.B. 5 required municipal corporations to adopt new income tax legislation to conform to and adopt the provisions of ORC 718 in order to have the authority to impose, enforce, administer and collect a municipal income tax; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Ottawa Hills Council passed the original Income Tax Ordinance 66-32 in 1966 authorizing a 1% income tax as provided for under the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 718, and the electorate of the Village of Ottawa Hills approved an increase from 1% to 1½% on November 2, 1971; and,

WHEREAS, income tax is the primary source of revenue to fund Village services and therefore this legislation is necessary to sustain community services; and,

WHEREAS, extensive effort has been invested to modify the model income tax ordinance developed by the Ohio Municipal League to fit the Village of Ottawa Hills, comply with ORC 718, and continue our authority to impose the income tax; and,

WHEREAS, the Income Tax Ordinance has been reviewed and is recommended by the Income Tax Commissioner, the Income Tax Administrator and the Finance Committee of the Village Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF

OTTAWA HILLS THAT:

Section 1 AUTHORITY TO LEVY TAX; PURPOSES OF TAX; RATE

Section 1.011 AUTHORITY TO LEVY TAX

(A) The tax on income and the withholding tax established by this Ordinance 2015-10 are authorized by Article XVIII, Section 3 of the Ohio Constitution. The tax on income and the withholding tax established by this Ordinance 2015-10 are deemed to be levied in accordance with, and to be consistent with, the provisions and limitations of Ohio Revised Code 718 (ORC 718). This Ordinance is deemed to incorporate the provisions of ORC 718.

(B) The tax is an annual tax levied on the income of every person residing in or earning or receiving income in the municipal corporation, and shall be measured by municipal taxable income. The Village of Ottawa Hills shall tax income at a uniform rate. The tax is levied on Municipal Taxable Income, as defined herein.

Section 1.012 PURPOSES OF TAX; RATE

(A) To provide funds for the purposes of capital improvements, maintenance, and general operations of the Village of Ottawa Hills as hereinafter provided.

(B) The Village of Ottawa Hills income tax rate is one and one half per cent (1.5%) as passed by Ordinance 71-20.

Section 1.013 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

The funds collected under the provisions of this Ordinance shall be applied for the following purposes and in the following order:

(A) Administration. Such part thereof as shall be necessary to defray all costs of collecting the taxes levied by this Ordinance and the cost of administering and enforcing the provisions hereof shall be allocated to the Income Tax Fund.

(B) Capital Improvements, Equipment and General Operating Expenses. Such funds remaining after payment of costs set forth in (A) of this section shall be used for capital improvements, equipment and general operating expenses in such proportions as Council shall determine.

For the purpose of this Ordinance "Capital Improvements" shall be defined as the original construction and/or purchase of real or personal property, including the alteration or improvement of existing structures at the time of purchase or any substantial improvement or addition to real property with an estimated useful life of five (5) years or more.

Section 1.014 STATEMENT OF PROCEDURAL HISTORY; STATE MANDATED CHANGES TO MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX

(A) Significant and wide-ranging amendments to ORC 718 were enacted by Am Sub HB 5, passed by the 130th General Assembly, and signed by Governor Kasich on December 19, 2014, and H.B. 5 required municipal corporations to conform to and adopt the provisions of ORC 718 in order to have the authority to impose, enforce, administer and collect a municipal income tax.

(B) As mandated by H.B. 5, Village of Ottawa Hills Income Tax Ordinance 2015-10, effective January 1, 2016, comprehensively amends Ordinance 2007-16 in accordance with the provisions

of ORC 718 to allow the Village of Ottawa Hills to continue the income tax and withholding tax administration and collection efforts on behalf of the Village.

Section 2 EFFECTIVE DATE

(A) Ordinance 2015-10, effective January 1, 2016, and corresponding changes to ORC 718, apply to municipal taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2016. All provisions of this Ordinance 2015-10 apply to taxable years beginning 2016 and succeeding taxable years.

(B) Ordinance 2015-10 does not repeal the existing sections of Ordinance 2007-16 for any taxable year prior to 2016, but rather amends Ordinance 2007-16 effective January 1, 2016. For municipal taxable years beginning before January 1, 2016, the Village of Ottawa Hills shall continue to administer, audit, and enforce the income tax of the Village under ORC 718 and ordinances and resolutions of the Village of Ottawa Hills as that section and those ordinances and resolutions existed before January 1, 2016.

Section 3 DEFINITIONS

Any term used in this Ordinance that is not otherwise defined in this Ordinance has the same meaning as when used in a comparable context in laws of the United States relating to federal income taxation or in Title LVII of the Ohio Revised Code, unless a different meaning is clearly required. Except as provided in section 718.81 of the Ohio Revised Code, if a term used in this Ordinance that is not otherwise defined in this Ordinance is used in a comparable context in both the laws of the United States relating to federal income tax and in Title LVII of the Ohio Revised Code and the use is not consistent, then the use of the term in the laws of the United States relating to federal income tax shall control over the use of the term in Title LVII of the Ohio Revised Code. For purposes of this section, the singular shall include the plural, and the masculine shall include the feminine and the gender-neutral.

Except as otherwise provided in section 718.81 of the Ohio Revised Code, as used in this chapter:

(A) "**ADJUSTED FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME**," for a person required to file as a C corporation, or for a person that has elected to be taxed as a C corporation under division (W)(4) of this section, means a C corporation's federal taxable income before net operating losses and special deductions as determined under the Internal Revenue Code, adjusted as follows:

- (1) Deduct intangible income to the extent included in federal taxable income. The deduction shall be allowed regardless of whether the intangible income relates to assets used in a trade or business or assets held for the production of income.
- (2) Add an amount equal to five per cent of intangible income deducted under division (A)(1) of this section, but excluding that portion of intangible income directly related to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of property described in Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (3) Add any losses allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income if the losses directly relate to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of an asset described in Section 1221 or 1231 of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (4) (a) Except as provided in division (A)(4)(b) of this section, deduct income and gain included in federal taxable income to the extent the income and gain directly relate to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of an asset described in Section 1221 or 1231 of the Internal Revenue Code;
(b) Division (A)(4)(a) of this section does not apply to the extent the income or gain is income or gain described in Section 1245 or 1250 of the Internal Revenue Code.

- (5) Add taxes on or measured by net income allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income;
- (6) In the case of a real estate investment trust or regulated investment company, add all amounts with respect to dividends to, distributions to, or amounts set aside for or credited to the benefit of investors and allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income;
- (7) Deduct, to the extent not otherwise deducted or excluded in computing federal taxable income, any income derived from a transfer agreement or from the enterprise transferred under that agreement under Section 4313.02 of the Ohio Revised Code;
- (8) (a) Except as limited by divisions (A)(8)(b), (c) and (d) of this section, deduct any net operating loss incurred by the person in a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2017.
The amount of such net operating loss shall be deducted from net profit that is reduced by exempt income to the extent necessary to reduce municipal taxable income to zero, with any remaining unused portion of the net operating loss carried forward to not more than five consecutive taxable years following the taxable year in which the loss was incurred, but in no case for more years than necessary for the deduction to be fully utilized.
- (b) No person shall use the deduction allowed by division (A)(8) of this section to offset qualifying wages.
- (c) (i) For taxable years beginning in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, or 2022, a person may not deduct, for purposes of an income tax levied by a municipal corporation that levies an income tax before January 1, 2016, more than fifty per cent of the amount of the deduction otherwise allowed by division (A)(8)(a) of this section.
(ii) For taxable years beginning in 2023 or thereafter, a person may deduct, for purposes of an income tax levied by a municipal corporation that levies an income tax before January 1, 2016, the full amount allowed by division (A)(8)(a) of this section.
- (d) Any pre-2017 net operating loss carryforward deduction that is available must be utilized before a taxpayer may deduct any amount pursuant to division (A)(8) of this section.
- (e) Nothing in division (A)(8)(c)(i) of this section precludes a person from carrying forward, for use with respect to any return filed for a taxable year beginning after 2018, any amount of net operating loss that was not fully utilized by operation of division (A)(8)(c)(i) of this section. To the extent that an amount of net operating loss that was not fully utilized in one or more taxable years by operation of division (A)(8)(c)(i) of this section is carried forward for use with respect to a return filed for a taxable year beginning in 2019, 2020, 2021, or 2022, the limitation described in division (A)(8)(c)(i) of this section shall apply to the amount carried forward.
- (9) Deduct any net profit of a pass-through entity owned directly or indirectly by the taxpayer and included in the taxpayer's federal taxable income unless an affiliated group of corporations includes that net profit in the group's federal taxable income in accordance with consolidated federal filing as regulated in ORC 718.06.
- (10) Add any loss incurred by a pass-through entity owned directly or indirectly by the taxpayer and included in the taxpayer's federal taxable income unless an affiliated group of corporations includes that loss in the group's federal taxable income in accordance with consolidated federal filing as regulated in ORC 718.06.

If the taxpayer is not a C corporation, is not a disregarded entity that has made the election described in division (UU)(2) of this section, is not a publicly traded partnership that has made the election described in division (W)(4) of this section, and is not an individual, the taxpayer shall compute adjusted federal taxable income under this section as if the taxpayer were a C corporation, except guaranteed payments and other similar amounts paid or accrued to a partner, former partner, shareholder, former shareholder, member, or former member shall not be allowed as a deductible expense unless such payments are in consideration for the use of capital and treated as payment of interest under Section 469 of the Internal Revenue Code or United States treasury regulations. Amounts paid or accrued to a qualified self-employed retirement plan with respect to a partner, former partner, shareholder, former shareholder, member, or former member of the taxpayer, amounts paid or accrued to or for health insurance for a partner, former partner, shareholder, former shareholder, member, or former member, and amounts paid or accrued to or for life insurance for a partner, former partner, shareholder, former shareholder, member, or former member shall not be allowed as a deduction.

Nothing in division (A) of this section shall be construed as allowing the taxpayer to add or deduct any amount more than once or shall be construed as allowing any taxpayer to deduct any amount paid to or accrued for purposes of federal self-employment tax.

- (B) (1) **"ASSESSMENT"** means any of the following:
- (a) A written finding by the Village Tax Commissioner that a person has underpaid municipal income tax, or owes penalty and interest, or any combination of tax, penalty, or interest, to the municipal corporation;
 - (b) A full or partial denial of a refund request issued under Section 9.096 (B)(2) of this Ordinance;
 - (c) The Village Tax Commissioner's denial of a taxpayer's request for use of an alternative apportionment method, issued according to ORC 718.02; or
 - (d) The Village Tax Commissioner's requirement for a taxpayer to use an alternative apportionment method, issued according to ORC 718.02.
 - (e) For purposes of division (B)(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d) of this section, an assessment shall commence the person's time limitation for making an appeal to the Local Board of Tax Review pursuant to Section 18 of this Ordinance, and shall have **"ASSESSMENT"** written in all capital letters at the top of such finding.
- (2) **"ASSESSMENT"** does not include notice(s) denying a request for refund issued under Section 9.096 (B)(3) of this Ordinance, a billing statement notifying a taxpayer of current or past-due balances owed to the Village of Ottawa Hills, the Tax Administrator's request for additional information, a notification to the taxpayer of mathematical errors, or the Tax Administrator's other written correspondence to a person or taxpayer that does not meet the criteria prescribed by division (B)(1) of this section.
- (C) **"AUDIT"** means the examination of a person or the inspection of the books, records, memoranda, or accounts of a person, ordered to appear before the Tax Administrator, for the purpose of determining liability for a municipal income tax.
- (D) **"BOARD OF REVIEW"** has the same meaning as "Local Board of Tax Review. "
- (E) **"CALENDAR QUARTER"** means the three-month period ending on the last day of March, June, September, or December.
- (F) **"CASINO OPERATOR"** and **"CASINO FACILITY"** have the same meanings as in Section 3772.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (G) **"CERTIFIED MAIL," "EXPRESS MAIL," "UNITED STATES MAIL," "POSTAL SERVICE,"** and similar terms include any delivery service authorized pursuant to Section 5703.056 of the Ohio Revised Code.

- (H) **"COMPENSATION"** means any form of remuneration paid to an employee for personal services.
- (I) **"DISREGARDED ENTITY"** means a single member limited liability company, a qualifying subchapter S subsidiary, or another entity if the company, subsidiary, or entity is a disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes.
- (J) **"DOMICILE"** means the true, fixed and permanent home of the taxpayer to which, whenever absent, the taxpayer intends to return.
- (K) **"EXEMPT INCOME"** means all of the following:
- (1) The military pay or allowances of members of the armed forces of the United States or members of their reserve components, including the national guard of any state;
 - (2)
 - (a) Except as provided in division (K)(2)(b) of this section, intangible income;
 - (b) A municipal corporation that taxed any type of intangible income on March 29, 1988, pursuant to Section 3 of S.B. 238 of the 116th general assembly, may continue to tax that type of income if a majority of the electors of the municipal corporation voting on the question of whether to permit the taxation of that type of intangible income after 1988 voted in favor thereof at an election held on November 8, 1988.
 - (3) Social security benefits, railroad retirement benefits, unemployment compensation, pensions, retirement benefit payments, payments from annuities, and similar payments made to an employee or to the beneficiary of an employee under a retirement program or plan, disability payments received from private industry or local, state, or federal governments or from charitable, religious or educational organizations, and the proceeds of sickness, accident, or liability insurance policies. As used in division (K)(3) of this section, "unemployment compensation" does not include supplemental unemployment compensation described in Section 3402(o)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - (4) The income of religious, fraternal, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational institutions to the extent such income is derived from tax-exempt real estate, tax-exempt tangible or intangible property, or tax-exempt activities.
 - (5) Compensation paid under Section 3501.28 or 3501.36 of the Ohio Revised Code to a person serving as a precinct election official to the extent that such compensation does not exceed one thousand dollars for the taxable year. Such compensation in excess of one thousand dollars for the taxable year may be subject to taxation by a municipal corporation. A municipal corporation shall not require the payer of such compensation to withhold any tax from that compensation.
 - (6) Dues, contributions, and similar payments received by charitable, religious, educational, or literary organizations or labor unions, lodges, and similar organizations;
 - (7) Alimony and child support received;
 - (8) Awards for personal injuries or for damages to property from insurance proceeds or otherwise, excluding compensation paid for lost salaries or wages or awards for punitive damages;
 - (9) Income of a public utility when that public utility is subject to the tax levied under Section 5727.24 or 5727.30 of the Ohio Revised Code. Division (K)(9) of this section does not apply for purposes of Chapter 5745 of the Ohio Revised Code.
 - (10) Gains from involuntary conversions, interest on federal obligations, items of income subject to a tax levied by the state and that a municipal corporation is specifically prohibited by law from taxing, and income of a decedent's estate during the period of administration except such income from the operation of a trade or business;
 - (11) Compensation or allowances excluded from federal gross income under Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code;

- (12) Employee compensation that is not qualifying wages as defined in division (HH) of this section;
- (13) Compensation paid to a person employed within the boundaries of a United States air force base under the jurisdiction of the United States air force that is used for the housing of members of the United States air force and is a center for air force operations, unless the person is subject to taxation because of residence or domicile. If the compensation is subject to taxation because of residence or domicile, tax on such income shall be payable only to the municipal corporation of residence or domicile.
- (14) An S corporation shareholder's distributive share of net profits of the S corporation, other than any part of the distributive share of net profits that represents wages as defined in Section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or net earnings from self-employment as defined in Section 1402(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (15) INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK
- (16) (a) Except as provided in divisions (K)(16)(b), (c), and (d) of this section, qualifying wages described in division (B)(1) or (E) of Section 5.052 of this Ordinance to the extent the qualifying wages are not subject to withholding for the Village of Ottawa Hills under either of those divisions.
- (b) The exemption provided in division (K)(16)(a) of this section does not apply with respect to the municipal corporation in which the employee resided at the time the employee earned the qualifying wages.
- (c) The exemption provided in division (K)(16)(a) of this section does not apply to qualifying wages that an employer elects to withhold under division (D)(2) of Section 5.052 of this Ordinance
- (d) The exemption provided in division (K)(16)(a) of this section does not apply to qualifying wages if both of the following conditions apply:
- (i) For qualifying wages described in division (B)(1) of Section 5.052 of this Ordinance, the employee's employer withholds and remits tax on the qualifying wages to the municipal corporation in which the employee's principal place of work is situated, or, for qualifying wages described in division (E) of Section 5.052 of this Ordinance, the employee's employer withholds and remits tax on the qualifying wages to the municipal corporation in which the employer's fixed location is located;
 - (ii) The employee receives a refund of the tax described in division (K)(16)(d)(i) of this section on the basis of the employee not performing services in that municipal corporation.
- (17) (a) Except as provided in division (K)(17)(b) or (c) of this section, compensation that is not qualifying wages paid to a nonresident individual for personal services performed in the Village of Ottawa Hills on not more than twenty days in a taxable year.
- (b) The exemption provided in division (K)(17)(a) of this section does not apply under either of the following circumstances:
- (i) The individual's base of operation is located in the Village.
 - (ii) The individual is a professional athlete, professional entertainer, or public figure, and the compensation is paid for the performance of services in the individual's capacity as a professional athlete, professional entertainer, or public figure. For purposes of division (K)(17)(b)(ii) of this section, "professional athlete," "professional entertainer," and "public figure" have the same meanings as in Section 5.052 of this Ordinance.

(c) Compensation to which division (K)(17) of this section applies shall be treated as earned or received at the individual's base of operation. If the individual does not have a base of operation, the compensation shall be treated as earned or received where the individual is domiciled.

(d) For purposes of division (K)(17) of this section, "base of operation" means the location where an individual owns or rents an office, storefront, or similar facility to which the individual regularly reports and at which the individual regularly performs personal services for compensation.

(18) Compensation paid to a person for personal services performed for a political subdivision on property owned by the political subdivision, regardless of whether the compensation is received by an employee of the subdivision or another person performing services for the subdivision under a contract with the subdivision, if the property on which services are performed is annexed to a municipal corporation pursuant to section 709.023 of the Ohio Revised Code on or after March 27, 2013, unless the person is subject to such taxation because of residence. If the compensation is subject to taxation because of residence, municipal income tax shall be payable only to the municipal corporation of residence.

(19) Income the taxation of which is prohibited by the constitution or laws of the United States.

Any item of income that is exempt income of a pass-through entity under division (K) of this section is exempt income of each owner of the pass-through entity to the extent of that owner's distributive or proportionate share of that item of the entity's income.

(L) **"FORM 2106"** means Internal Revenue Service form 2106 filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(M) **"GENERIC FORM"** means an electronic or paper form that is not prescribed by a particular municipal corporation and that is designed for reporting taxes withheld by an employer, agent of an employer, or other payer, estimated municipal income taxes, or annual municipal income tax liability, including a request for refund.

(N) **"INCOME"** means the following:

(1) (a) For residents, all income, salaries, qualifying wages, commissions, and other compensation from whatever source earned or received by the resident, including the resident's distributive share of the net profit of pass-through entities owned directly or indirectly by the resident and any net profit of the resident, except as provided in division (W)(4) of this section.

(b) For the purposes of division (N)(1)(a) of this section:

(i) Any net operating loss of the resident incurred in the taxable year and the resident's distributive share of any net operating loss generated in the same taxable year and attributable to the resident's ownership interest in a pass-through entity shall be allowed as a deduction, for that taxable year and the following five taxable years, against any other net profit of the resident or the resident's distributive share of any net profit attributable to the resident's ownership interest in a pass-through entity until fully utilized, subject to division (N)(1)(d) of this section;

(ii) The resident's distributive share of the net profit of each pass-through entity owned directly or indirectly by the resident shall be calculated without regard to any net operating loss that is carried forward by that entity from a prior taxable year and applied to reduce the entity's net profit for the current taxable year.

(c) Division (N)(1)(b) of this section does not apply with respect to any net profit or net operating loss attributable to an ownership interest in an S corporation unless shareholders' distributive shares of net profits from S corporations are subject to tax in the municipal corporation as provided in division (K)(14) of this section.

(d) Any amount of a net operating loss used to reduce a taxpayer's net profit for a taxable year shall reduce the amount of net operating loss that may be carried forward to any subsequent year for use by that taxpayer. In no event shall the cumulative deductions for all taxable years with respect to a taxpayer's net operating loss exceed the original amount of that net operating loss available to that taxpayer.

(2) In the case of nonresidents, all income, salaries, qualifying wages, commissions, and other compensation from whatever source earned or received by the nonresident for work done, services performed or rendered, or activities conducted in the Village of Ottawa Hills, including any net profit of the nonresident, but excluding the nonresident's distributive share of the net profit or loss of only pass-through entities owned directly or indirectly by the nonresident.

(3) For taxpayers that are not individuals, net profit of the taxpayer;

(4) Lottery, sweepstakes, gambling and sports winnings, winnings from games of chance, and prizes and awards. If the taxpayer is a professional gambler for federal income tax purposes, the taxpayer may deduct related wagering losses and expenses to the extent authorized under the Internal Revenue Code and claimed against such winnings. Credit for tax withheld or paid to another municipal corporation on such winnings paid to the municipal corporation where winnings occur is limited to the credit as specified in Section 8.081 of this Ordinance.

(O) **"INTANGIBLE INCOME"** means income of any of the following types: income yield, interest, capital gains, dividends, or other income arising from the ownership, sale, exchange, or other disposition of intangible property including, but not limited to, investments, deposits, money, or credits as those terms are defined in Chapter 5701 of the Ohio Revised Code, and patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade names, investments in real estate investment trusts, investments in regulated investment companies, and appreciation on deferred compensation. "Intangible income" does not include prizes, awards, or other income associated with any lottery winnings, gambling winnings, or other similar games of chance.

(P) **"INTERNAL REVENUE CODE"** means the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986, " 100 Sta. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 1, as amended.

(Q) **"LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY"** means a limited liability company formed under Chapter 1705 of the Ohio Revised Code or under the laws of another state.

(R) **"LOCAL BOARD OF TAX REVIEW"** and **"BOARD OF TAX REVIEW"** means the entity created under Section 18 of this Ordinance.

(S) **"MUNICIPAL CORPORATION"** means, in general terms, a status conferred upon a local government unit, by state law giving the unit certain autonomous operating authority such as the power of taxation, power of eminent domain, police power and regulatory power, and includes a joint economic development district or joint economic development zone that levies an income tax under Section 715.691, 715.70, 715.71, or 715.74 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(T) (1) **"MUNICIPAL TAXABLE INCOME"** means the following:

(a) For a person other than an individual, income apportioned or situated to the Village of Ottawa Hills under alternative apportionment rules in ORC 718.02, as applicable, reduced by any pre-2017 net operating loss carryforward available to the person for the Village.

(b) (i) For an individual who is a resident of a municipality other than a qualified municipal corporation, income reduced by exempt income to the extent

otherwise included in income, then reduced as provided in division (T)(2) of this section, and further reduced by any pre-2017 net operating loss carryforward available to the individual for the Village.

(ii) For an individual who is a resident of a qualified municipal corporation, Ohio adjusted gross income reduced by income exempted, and increased by deductions excluded, by the qualified municipal corporation from the qualified municipal corporation's tax on or before December 31, 2013. If a qualified municipal corporation, on or before December 31, 2013, exempts income earned by individuals who are not residents of the qualified municipal corporation and net profit of persons that are not wholly located within the qualified municipal corporation, such individual or person shall have no municipal taxable income for the purposes of the tax levied by the qualified municipal corporation and may be exempted by the qualified municipal corporation from the requirements of Section 718.03 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(c) For an individual who is a nonresident of the Village, income reduced by exempt income to the extent otherwise included in income and then, as applicable, apportioned or situated to the Village under alternative apportionment rules contained in ORC 718.02, then reduced as provided in division (T)(2) of this section, and further reduced by any pre-2017 net operating loss carryforward available to the individual for the Village.

(2) In computing the municipal taxable income of a taxpayer who is an individual, the taxpayer may subtract, as provided in division (T)(1)(b)(i) or (c) of this section, the amount of the individual's employee business expenses reported on the individual's form 2106 that the individual deducted for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, subject to the limitation imposed by Section 67 of the Internal Revenue Code. For the municipal corporation in which the taxpayer is a resident, the taxpayer may deduct all such expenses allowed for federal income tax purposes. For a municipal corporation in which the taxpayer is not a resident, the taxpayer may deduct such expenses only to the extent the expenses are related to the taxpayer's performance of personal services in that nonresident municipal corporation.

(U) "**MUNICIPALITY**" means the Village of Ottawa Hills or the Village.

(V) "**NET OPERATING LOSS**" means a loss incurred by a person in the operation of a trade or business. "Net operating loss" does not include unutilized losses resulting from basis limitations, at-risk limitations, or passive activity loss limitations.

(W) (1) "**NET PROFIT**" for a person who is an individual means the individual's net profit required to be reported on Schedule C, Schedule E, or Schedule F reduced by any net operating loss carried forward. For the purposes of this division, the net operating loss carried forward shall be calculated and deducted in the same manner as provided in division (A)(8) of this section.

(2) "**NET PROFIT**" For a person other than an individual means adjusted federal taxable income reduced by any net operating loss incurred by the person in a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2017, subject to the limitations of division (W)(3) of this section.

(3) (a) The amount of such net operating loss shall be deducted from net profit to the extent necessary to reduce municipal taxable income to zero, with any remaining unused portion of the net operating loss carried forward to not more than five consecutive taxable years following the taxable year in which the loss was incurred, but in no case for more years than necessary for the deduction to be fully utilized.

(b) No person shall use the deduction allowed by division (W2) of this section to offset qualifying wages.

(c)(i) For taxable years beginning in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, or 2022, a person may not deduct, for purposes of an income tax levied by a municipal corporation that levies an income tax before January 1, 2016, more than fifty per cent of the amount of the deduction otherwise allowed by division (W)(2) of this section.

(ii) For taxable years beginning in 2023 or thereafter, a person may deduct, for purposes of an income tax levied by a municipal corporation that levies an income tax before January 1, 2016, the full amount allowed by division (W)(2)

For the purposes of this Ordinance, and notwithstanding division (W)(1) of this section, net profit of a disregarded entity shall not be taxable as against that disregarded entity, but shall instead be included in the net profit of the owner of the disregarded entity.

(4) (a) For purposes of this Ordinance, "publicly traded partnership" means any partnership, an interest in which is regularly traded on an established securities market. A "publicly traded partnership" may have any number of partners.

(b) For the purposes of this Ordinance, and notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, the net profit of a publicly traded partnership that makes the election described in division (W)(4) of this section shall be taxed as if the partnership were a C corporation, and shall not be treated as the net profit or income of any owner of the partnership.

(c) A publicly traded partnership that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and that is subject to tax on its net profits in one or more municipal corporations in this state may elect to be treated as a C corporation for municipal income tax purposes. The publicly traded partnership shall make the election in every municipal corporation in which the partnership is subject to taxation on its net profits. The election shall be made on the annual tax return filed in each such municipal corporation. Once the election is made, the election is binding for a five-year period beginning with the first taxable year of the initial election. The election continues to be binding for each subsequent five-year period unless the taxpayer elects to discontinue filing municipal income tax returns as a C corporation for municipal purposes under division (4)(d) of this section.

(d) An election to discontinue filing as a C corporation must be made in the first year following the last year of a five-year election period in effect under division (4)(c) of this section. The election to discontinue filing as a C corporation is binding for a five-year period beginning with the first taxable year of the election and continues to be binding for each subsequent five-year period unless the taxpayer elects to discontinue filing municipal income tax returns as a partnership for municipal purposes. An election to discontinue filing as a partnership must be made in the first year following the last year of a five-year election period.

(e) The publicly traded partnership shall not be required to file the election with any municipal corporation in which the partnership is not subject to taxation on its net profits, but division (4) of this section applies to all municipal corporations in which an individual owner of the partnership resides.

(f) The individual owners of the partnership not filing as a C Corporation shall be required to file with their municipal corporation of residence, and report partnership distribution of net profit.

(X) "NONRESIDENT" means an individual that is not a resident of the Village of Ottawa Hills.

(Y) **"OHIO BUSINESS GATEWAY"** means the online computer network system, created under Section 125.30 of the Ohio Revised Code, that allows persons to electronically file business reply forms with state agencies and includes any successor electronic filing and payment system.

(Z) **"OTHER PAYER"** means any person, other than an individual's employer or the employer's agent that pays an individual any amount included in the federal gross income of the individual. "Other payer" includes casino operators and video lottery terminal sales agents.

(AA) **"PASS-THROUGH ENTITY"** means a partnership not treated as an association taxable as a C corporation for federal income tax purposes, a limited liability company not treated as an association taxable as a C corporation for federal income tax purposes, an S corporation, or any other class of entity from which the income or profits of the entity are given pass-through treatment for federal income tax purposes. "Pass-through entity" does not include a trust, estate, grantor of a grantor trust, or disregarded entity.

(BB) **"PENSION" (Effective for tax years prior to January 1, 2020)** means any amount paid to an employee or former employee that is reported to the recipient on an IRS form 1099-R, or successor form. Pension does not include deferred compensation, or amounts attributable to nonqualified deferred compensation plans, reported as FICA/Medicare wages on an IRS form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, or successor form.

(BB) **"PENSION" (Effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020)** means a retirement benefit plan, regardless of whether the plan satisfies the qualifications described under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, including amounts that are taxable under the "Federal Insurance Contributions Act," Chapter 21 of the Internal Revenue Code, excluding employee contributions and elective deferrals, and regardless of whether such amounts are paid in the same taxable year in which the amounts are included in the employee's wages, as defined by section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

"RETIREMENT BENEFIT PLAN" (Effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020) means an arrangement whereby an entity provides benefits to individuals either on or after their termination of service because of retirement or disability. "Retirement benefit plan" does not include wage continuation payments, severance payments, or payments made for accrued personal or vacation time.

(CC) **"PERSON"** includes individuals, firms, companies, joint stock companies, business trusts, estates, trusts, partnerships, limited liability partnerships, limited liability companies, associations, C corporations, S corporations, governmental entities, and any other entity.

(DD) **"POSTAL SERVICE"** means the United States postal service, or private delivery service delivering documents and packages within an agreed upon delivery schedule, or any other carrier service delivering the item.

(EE) **"POSTMARK DATE," "DATE OF POSTMARK,"** and similar terms include the date recorded and marked by a delivery service and recorded electronically to a database kept in the regular course of its business and marked on the cover in which the payment or document is enclosed, the date on which the payment or document was given to the delivery service for delivery.

(FF) (1) **"PRE-2017 NET OPERATING LOSS CARRYFORWARD"** means any net operating loss incurred in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 2017, to the extent such loss was permitted, by a resolution or ordinance of the Village of Ottawa Hills that was adopted by the Village before January 1, 2016, to be carried forward and utilized to offset income or net profit generated in such Village in future taxable years.

(2) For the purpose of calculating municipal taxable income, any pre-2017 net operating loss carryforward may be carried forward to any taxable year, including taxable years beginning in 2017 or thereafter, for the number of taxable years provided in the resolution or ordinance or until fully utilized, whichever is earlier.

(GG) "**QUALIFIED MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**" means a municipal corporation that, by resolution or ordinance adopted on or before December 31, 2011, adopted Ohio adjusted gross income, as defined by Section 5747.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, as the income subject to tax for the purposes of imposing a municipal income tax.

(HH) "**QUALIFYING WAGES**" means wages, as defined in Section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, without regard to any wage limitations, adjusted as follows:

- (1) Deduct the following amounts:
 - (a) Any amount included in wages if the amount constitutes compensation attributable to a plan or program described in Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - (b) Any amount included in wages if the amount constitutes payment on account of a disability related to sickness or an accident paid by a party unrelated to the employer, agent of an employer, or other payer.
 - (c) INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.
 - (d) INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.
 - (e) Any amount included in wages that is exempt income.
 - (2) Add the following amounts:
 - (a) Any amount not included in wages solely because the employee was employed by the employer before April 1, 1986.
 - (b) Any amount not included in wages because the amount arises from the sale, exchange, or other disposition of a stock option, the exercise of a stock option, or the sale, exchange, or other disposition of stock purchased under a stock option. Division (HH)(2)(b) of this section applies only to those amounts constituting ordinary income.
 - (c) Any amount not included in wages if the amount is an amount described in Section 401(k), 403(b), or 457 of the Internal Revenue Code. Division (HH)(2)(c) of this section applies only to employee contributions and employee deferrals.
 - (d) Any amount that is supplemental unemployment compensation benefits described in Section 3402(o)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code and not included in wages.
 - (e) Any amount received that is treated as self-employment income for federal tax purposes in accordance with Section 1402(a)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - (f) Any amount not included in wages if all of the following apply:
 - (i) For the taxable year the amount is employee compensation that is earned outside of the United States and that either is included in the taxpayer's gross income for federal income tax purposes or would have been included in the taxpayer's gross income for such purposes if the taxpayer did not elect to exclude the income under Section 911 of the Internal Revenue Code;
 - (ii) For no preceding taxable year did the amount constitute wages as defined in Section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;
 - (iii) For no succeeding taxable year will the amount constitute wages; and
 - (iv) For any taxable year the amount has not otherwise been added to wages pursuant to either division (HH)(2) of this section or Section 718.03 of the Ohio Revised Code, as that section existed before the effective date of H.B. 5 of the 130th general assembly, March 23, 2015.
- (II) "**RELATED ENTITY**" means any of the following:
- (1) An individual stockholder, or a member of the stockholder's family enumerated in Section 318 of the Internal Revenue Code, if the stockholder and the members of the stockholder's family own directly, indirectly, beneficially, or constructively, in the aggregate, at least fifty per cent of the value of the taxpayer's outstanding stock;
 - (2) A stockholder, or a stockholder's partnership, estate, trust, or corporation, if the stockholder and the stockholder's partnerships, estates, trusts, or corporations own directly,

indirectly, beneficially, or constructively, in the aggregate, at least fifty per cent of the value of the taxpayer's outstanding stock;

(3) A corporation, or a party related to the corporation in a manner that would require an attribution of stock from the corporation to the party or from the party to the corporation under division (II)(4) of this section, provided the taxpayer owns directly, indirectly, beneficially, or constructively, at least fifty per cent of the value of the corporation's outstanding stock;

(4) The attribution rules described in Section 318 of the Internal Revenue Code apply for the purpose of determining whether the ownership requirements in divisions (II)(1) to (3) of this section have been met.

(JJ) **"RELATED MEMBER"** means a person that, with respect to the taxpayer during all or any portion of the taxable year, is either a related entity, a component member as defined in Section 1563(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a person to or from whom there is attribution of stock ownership in accordance with Section 1563(e) of the Internal Revenue Code except, for purposes of determining whether a person is a related member under this division, "twenty per cent" shall be substituted for "5 percent" wherever "5 percent" appears in Section 1563(e) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(KK) **"RESIDENT"** means an individual who is domiciled in the Village of Ottawa Hills as determined under Section 4.042 of this Ordinance.

(LL) **"S CORPORATION"** means a person that has made an election under subchapter S of Chapter 1 of Subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code for its taxable year.

(MM) **"SCHEDULE C"** means Internal Revenue Service Schedule C (form 1040) filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(NN) **"SCHEDULE E"** means Internal Revenue Service Schedule E (form 1040) filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(OO) **"SCHEDULE F"** means Internal Revenue Service Schedule F (form 1040) filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(PP) **"SINGLE MEMBER LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY"** means a limited liability company that has one direct member.

(QQ) **"SMALL EMPLOYER"** means any employer that had total revenue of less than five hundred thousand dollars during the preceding taxable year. For purposes of this division, "total revenue" means receipts of any type or kind, including, but not limited to, sales receipts; payments; rents; profits; gains, dividends, and other investment income; commissions; premiums; money; property; grants; contributions; donations; gifts; program service revenue; patient service revenue; premiums; fees, including premium fees and service fees; tuition payments; unrelated business revenue; reimbursements; any type of payment from a governmental unit, including grants and other allocations; and any other similar receipts reported for federal income tax purposes or under generally accepted accounting principles. "Small employer" does not include the federal government; any state government, including any state agency or instrumentality; any political subdivision; or any entity treated as a government for financial accounting and reporting purposes.

(RR) **"TAX OFFICE STRUCTURE"** comprises a two-tiered authority structure charged with direct responsibility for administration of an income tax levied by the Village of Ottawa Hills in accordance with this Ordinance;

"VILLAGE TAX COMMISSIONER" is appointed by the Mayor for the purpose of providing oversight, decision making for taxable matters involving assessments, and representation of the Village Tax Office in appealable matters (before the Local Board of Tax Appeals),

"TAX ADMINISTRATOR" is the hired position in charge of the day-to-day administration of the Village income tax, and also includes the following:

- (1) A municipal corporation acting as the agent of another municipal corporation;

- (2) A person retained by a municipal corporation to administer a tax levied by the municipal corporation, but only if the municipal corporation does not compensate the person in whole or in part on a contingency basis;
- (3) The Central Collection Agency (CCA) or the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) or their successors in interest, or another entity organized to perform functions similar to those performed by the Central Collection Agency and the Regional Income Tax Agency.
- (SS) **"TAX RETURN PREPARER"** means any individual described in Section 7701(a)(36) of the Internal Revenue Code and 26 C.F.R. 301.7701-15.
- (TT) **"TAXABLE YEAR"** means the corresponding tax reporting period as prescribed for the taxpayer under the Internal Revenue Code.
- (UU) (1) **"TAXPAYER"** means a person subject to a tax levied on income by a municipal corporation in accordance with this Ordinance. "Taxpayer" does not include a grantor trust or, except as provided in division (UU)(2)(a) of this section, a disregarded entity.
- (2) (a) A single member limited liability company that is a disregarded entity for federal tax purposes may be a separate taxpayer from its single member in all Ohio municipal corporations in which it either filed as a separate taxpayer or did not file for its taxable year ending in 2003, if all of the following conditions are met:
- (i) The limited liability company's single member is also a limited liability company.
 - (ii) The limited liability company and its single member were formed and doing business in one or more Ohio municipal corporations for at least five years before January 1, 2004.
 - (iii) Not later than December 31, 2004, the limited liability company and its single member each made an election to be treated as a separate taxpayer under division (L) of Section 718.01 of the Ohio Revised Code as this section existed on December 31, 2004.
 - (iv) The limited liability company was not formed for the purpose of evading or reducing Ohio municipal corporation income tax liability of the limited liability company or its single member.
 - (v) The Ohio municipal corporation that was the primary place of business of the sole member of the limited liability company consented to the election.
- (b) For purposes of division (UU)(2)(a)(v) of this section, a municipal corporation was the primary place of business of a limited liability company if, for the limited liability company's taxable year ending in 2003, its income tax liability was greater in that municipal corporation than in any other municipal corporation in Ohio, and that tax liability to that municipal corporation for its taxable year ending in 2003 was at least four hundred thousand dollars.
- (VV) **"TAXPAYERS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES"** means the rights provided to taxpayers in Sections 718.11 , 718.12 , 718.19, 718.23, 718.36, 718.37, 718.38, 5717.011 , and 5717.03 of the Ohio Revised Code and any corresponding ordinances of the Village of Ottawa Hills, and the responsibilities of taxpayers to file, report, withhold, remit, and pay municipal income tax and otherwise comply with Chapter 718 of the Ohio Revised Code and resolutions, ordinances, and rules adopted by a municipal corporation for the imposition and administration of a municipal income tax.
- (WW) **"VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINAL"** has the same meaning as in Section 3770.21 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (XX) **"VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINAL SALES AGENT"** means a lottery sales agent licensed under Chapter 3770. of the Ohio Revised Code to conduct video lottery terminals on behalf of the state pursuant to Section 3770.21 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4 INCOME SUBJECT TO TAX FOR INDIVIDUALS

Section 4.041 DETERMINING MUNICIPAL TAXABLE INCOME FOR INDIVIDUALS

(A) "Municipal Taxable Income" for a resident of the Village of Ottawa Hills is calculated as follows:

(1) "Income" reduced by "Exempt Income" to the extent such exempt income is otherwise included in income, reduced by allowable employee business expense deduction as found in division (T)(2) of Section 3 of this Ordinance, further reduced by any "Pre-2017 Net Operating Loss Carryforward" equals "Municipal Taxable Income."

(a) "Income" is defined in Section 3(N) of this Ordinance.

(i) "Qualifying Wages" is defined in Section 3(HH).

(ii) "Net profit" is included in "income", and is defined in Section 3(W) of this Ordinance. This section also provides that the net operating loss carryforward shall be calculated and deducted in the same manner as provided in division (A)(8) of Section 3. Treatment of net profits received by an individual taxpayer from rental real estate is provided in ORC 718.02(E).

(iii) Section 3(N) provides the following: offsetting and net operating loss carryforward treatment in (N)(1)(b)(i); resident's distributive share of net profit from pass through entity treatment in (N)(1)(b)(ii); treatment of S Corporation distributive share of net profit in the hands of the shareholder in (N)(1)(c); restriction of amount of loss permitted to be carried forward for use by taxpayer in a subsequent taxable year in (N)(1)(d).

(iv) "Pass Through Entity" is defined in Section 3(AA).

(b) "Exempt Income" is defined in Section 3 (K) of this Ordinance.

(c) Allowable employee business expense deduction is described in (T)(2) of Section 3 of this Ordinance, and is subject to the limitations provided in that section.

(d) "Pre-2017 Net Operating Loss Carryforward" is defined in Section 3(FF) of this Ordinance.

(B) "Municipal Taxable Income" for a nonresident of the Village of Ottawa Hills is calculated as follows:

(1) "Income" reduced by "Exempt Income" to the extent such exempt income is otherwise included in income, as applicable, apportioned or situated to the Village as provided in ORC 718.02, reduced by allowable employee business expense deduction as found in (T)(2) of Section 3 of this Ordinance, further reduced by any "Pre-2017 Net Operating Loss Carryforward" equals "Municipal Taxable Income."

(a) "Income" is defined in Section 3(N) of this Ordinance.

(i) "Qualifying Wages" is defined in Section 3(HH).

(ii) "Net profit" is included in "income", and is defined in Section 3(W) of this Ordinance. This section also provides that the net operating loss carryforward shall be calculated and deducted in the same manner as provided in division (A)(8) of Section 3. "Net profit" for a nonresident individual includes any net profit of the nonresident, but excludes the distributive share of net profit or loss of only pass through entity owned directly or indirectly by the nonresident.

(iii) "Pass Through Entity" is defined in Section 3(AA).

(b) "Exempt Income" is defined in Section 3(K) of this Ordinance.

(c) "Apportioned or situated to the Village of Ottawa Hills as provided in ORC 718.02" includes the apportionment of net profit income attributable to work done or services

performed in the Village. Treatment of net profits received by an individual taxpayer from rental real estate is provided in ORC 718.02(E).

(d) "Allowable employee business expense deduction" as described in (T)(2) of Section 3 of this Ordinance, is subject to the limitations provided in that section. For a nonresident of the Village, the deduction is limited to the extent the expenses are related to the performance of personal services by the nonresident in the Village.

(e) "Pre-2017 Net Operating Loss Carryforward" is defined in Section 3(FF) of this Ordinance.

Section 4.042 DOMICILE

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Domicile" means the true, fixed and permanent home of the taxpayer to which whenever absent, the taxpayer intends to return.

(2) An individual is presumed to be domiciled in the Village of Ottawa Hills for all or part of a taxable year if the individual was domiciled in the Village on the last day of the immediately preceding taxable year or if the Tax Administrator reasonably concludes that the individual is domiciled in the Village for all or part of the taxable year.

(3) An individual may rebut the presumption of domicile described in division (A)(1) of this section if the individual establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that the individual was not domiciled in the Village for all or part of the taxable year.

(B) For the purpose of determining whether an individual is domiciled in the Village of Ottawa Hills for all or part of a taxable year, factors that may be considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) The individual's domicile in other taxable years;

(2) The location at which the individual is registered to vote;

(3) The address on the individual's driver's license;

(4) The location of real estate for which the individual claimed a property tax exemption or reduction allowed on the basis of the individual's residence or domicile;

(5) The location and value of abodes owned or leased by the individual;

(6) Declarations, written or oral, made by the individual regarding the individual's residency;

(7) The primary location at which the individual is employed.

(8) The location of educational institutions attended by the individual's dependents as defined in Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that tuition paid to such educational institution is based on the residency of the individual or the individual's spouse in the municipal corporation or state where the educational institution is located;

(9) The number of contact periods the individual has with the Village. For the purposes of this division, an individual has one "contact period" with the Village if the individual is away overnight from the individual's abode located outside of the Village and while away overnight from that abode spends at least some portion, however minimal, of each of two consecutive days in the Village. For purposes of this section, the State's contact period test or bright-line test and resulting determination have no bearing on municipal residency or domicile.

(C) All applicable factors are provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 718.012.

Section 4.043 EXEMPTION FOR MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CERTAIN JUDGES

(A) Only the municipal corporation of residence shall be permitted to levy a tax on the income of any member or employee of the Ohio General Assembly, including the Lieutenant Governor, whose income is received as a result of services rendered as such member or employee and is paid from appropriated funds of this state.

(B) Only the municipal corporation of residence and the city of Columbus shall levy a tax on the income of the Chief Justice or a Justice of the Supreme Court received as a result of services rendered as the Chief Justice or Justice. Only the municipal corporation of residence shall levy a tax on the income of a judge sitting by assignment of the Chief Justice or on the income of a district court of appeals judge sitting in multiple locations within the district, received as a result of services rendered as a judge.

Section 5 COLLECTION AT SOURCE

Section 5.051 COLLECTION AT SOURCE; WITHHOLDING FROM QUALIFYING WAGES

- (A) (1) Each employer, agent of an employer, or other payer located or doing business in the Village of Ottawa Hills shall withhold from each employee an amount equal to the qualifying wages of the employee earned by the employee in the Village multiplied by the applicable rate of the Village's income tax, except for qualifying wages for which withholding is not required under Section 5.052 of this Ordinance or division (D) or (F) of this section. An employer, agent of an employer, or other payer shall deduct and withhold the tax from qualifying wages on the date that the employer, agent, or other payer directly, indirectly, or constructively pays the qualifying wages to, or credits the qualifying wages to the benefit of, the employee.
- (2) In addition to withholding the amounts required under division (A)(1) of this section, an employer, agent of an employer, or other payer may also deduct and withhold, on the request of an employee, taxes for the municipal corporation in which the employee is a resident.
- (B) (1) An employer, agent of an employer, or other payer shall remit to the Tax Administrator of the Village of Ottawa Hills the greater of the income taxes deducted and withheld or the income taxes required to be deducted and withheld by the employer, agent, or other payer, along with any report required by the Tax Administrator to accompany such payment, according to the following schedule:
- (a) Any employer, agent of an employer, or other payer not required to make payments under division (B)(1)(b) of this section of taxes required to be deducted and withheld shall make quarterly payments to the Tax Administrator not later than the fifteenth day of the month following the end of each calendar quarter.
- (b) Taxes required to be deducted and withheld shall be remitted monthly to the Tax Administrator if the total taxes deducted and withheld or required to be deducted and withheld by the employer, agent, or other payer on behalf of the municipal corporation in the preceding calendar year exceeded two thousand three hundred ninety-nine dollars, or if the total amount of taxes deducted and withheld or required to be deducted and withheld on behalf of the Village in any month of the preceding calendar quarter exceeded two hundred dollars. Payment under division (B)(1)(b) of this section shall be made so that the payment is received by the Tax Administrator not later than fifteen days after the last day of each month.
- (C) An employer, agent of an employer, or other payer shall make and file a return showing the amount of tax withheld by the employer, agent, or other payer from the qualifying wages of each

employee and remitted to the Tax Administrator. A return filed by an employer, agent, or other payer under this division shall be accepted by the Village as the return required of an employee whose sole income subject to the tax under this Ordinance is the qualifying wages reported by the employee's employer, agent of an employer, or other payer, unless the Village requires all resident individual taxpayers to file a tax return under Section 9.091 of this Ordinance,

(D) An employer, agent of an employer, or other payer is not required to withhold municipal income tax with respect to an individual's disqualifying disposition of an incentive stock option if, at the time of the disqualifying disposition, the individual is not an employee of either the corporation with respect to whose stock the option has been issued or of such corporation's successor entity.

(E) (1) An employee is not relieved from liability for a tax by the failure of the employer, agent of an employer, or other payer to withhold the tax as required under this Ordinance or by the employer's, agent's, or other payer's exemption from the requirement to withhold the tax.

(2) The failure of an employer, agent of an employer, or other payer to remit to the Village the tax withheld relieves the employee from liability for that tax unless the employee colluded with the employer, agent, or other payer in connection with the failure to remit the tax withheld.

(F) Compensation deferred before June 26, 2003, is not subject to any municipal corporation income tax or municipal income tax withholding requirement to the extent the deferred compensation does not constitute qualifying wages at the time the deferred compensation is paid or distributed.

(G) Each employer, agent of an employer, or other payer required to withhold taxes is liable for the payment of that amount required to be withheld, whether or not such taxes have been withheld, and such amount shall be deemed to be held in trust for the Village until such time as the withheld amount is remitted to the Tax Administrator.

(H) On or before the last day of February of each year, an employer shall file a Withholding Reconciliation Return with the Tax Administrator listing the names, addresses, and social security numbers of all employees from whose qualifying wages tax was withheld or should have been withheld for the Village during the preceding calendar year, the amount of tax withheld, if any, from each such employee's qualifying wage, the total amount of qualifying wages paid to such employee during the preceding calendar year, the name of every other municipal corporation for which tax was withheld or should have been withheld from such employee during the preceding calendar year, any other information required for federal income tax reporting purposes on Internal Revenue Service form W-2 or its equivalent form with respect to such employee, and other information as may be required by the Tax Administrator.

(I) The officer or the employee of the employer, agent of an employer, or other payer with control or direct supervision of or charged with the responsibility for withholding the tax or filing the reports and making payments as required by this section, shall be personally liable for a failure to file a report or pay the tax due as required by this section. The dissolution of an employer, agent of an employer, or other payer does not discharge the officer's or employee's liability for a failure of the employer, agent of an employer, or other payer to file returns or pay any tax due.

(J) An employer is required to deduct and withhold municipal income tax on tips and gratuities received by the employer's employees and constituting qualifying wages only to the extent that the tips and gratuities are under the employer's control. For the purposes of this division, a tip or gratuity is under the employer's control if the tip or gratuity is paid by the customer to the employer for subsequent remittance to the employee, or if the customer pays the tip or gratuity by credit card, debit card, or other electronic means.

(K) A Tax Administrator shall consider any tax withheld by an employer at the request of an employee when such tax is not otherwise required to be withheld by this Ordinance to be tax required to be withheld and remitted for the purposes of this section.

Section 5.052 COLLECTION AT SOURCE; OCCASIONAL ENTRANT

(A) The following terms as used in this section:

- (1) "Employer" includes a person that is a related member to or of an employer.
- (2) "Professional athlete" means an athlete who performs services in a professional athletic event for wages or other remuneration.
- (3) "Professional entertainer" means a person who performs services in the professional performing arts for wages or other remuneration on a per-event basis.
- (4) "Public figure" means a person of prominence who performs services at discrete events, such as speeches, public appearances, or similar events, for wages or other remuneration on a per-event basis.
- (5) "Fixed location" means a permanent place of doing business in this state, such as an office, warehouse, storefront, or similar location owned or controlled by an employer.
- (6) "Worksite location" means a construction site or other temporary worksite in this state at which the employer provides services for more than twenty days during the calendar year. "Worksite location" does not include the home of an employee.
- (7) "Principal place of work" means the fixed location to which an employee is required to report for employment duties on a regular and ordinary basis. If the employee is not required to report for employment duties on a regular and ordinary basis to a fixed location, "principal place of work" means the worksite location in this state to which the employee is required to report for employment duties on a regular and ordinary basis. If the employee is not required to report for employment duties on a regular and ordinary basis to a fixed location or worksite location, "principal place of work" means the location in this state at which the employee spends the greatest number of days in a calendar year performing services for or on behalf of the employee's employer.

If there is not a single municipal corporation in which the employee spent the "greatest number of days in a calendar year" performing services for or on behalf of the employer, but instead there are two or more municipal corporations in which the employee spent an identical number of days that is greater than the number of days the employee spent in any other municipal corporation, the employer shall allocate any of the employee's qualifying wages subject to division (B)(1)(a) of this section among those two or more municipal corporations. The allocation shall be made using any fair and reasonable method, including, but not limited to, an equal allocation among such municipal corporations or an allocation based upon the time spent or sales made by the employee in each such municipal corporation. A municipal corporation to which qualifying wages are allocated under this division shall be the employee's "principal place of work" with respect to those qualifying wages for the purposes of this section.

For the purposes of this division, the location at which an employee spends a particular day shall be deemed in accordance with division (B)(2) of this section, except that "location" shall be substituted for "municipal corporation" wherever "municipal corporation" appears in that division.

- (B) (1) Subject to divisions (C), (E), (F), and (G) of this section, an employer is not required to withhold municipal income tax on qualifying wages paid to an employee for the performance of personal services in a municipal corporation that imposes such a tax if the

employee performed such services in the municipal corporation on twenty or fewer days in a calendar year, unless one of the following conditions applies:

- (a) The employee's principal place of work is located in the Village of Ottawa Hills.
- (b) The employee performed services at one or more presumed worksite locations in the Village. For the purposes of this division, "presumed worksite location" means a construction site or other temporary worksite in this state at which the employer provides services that can reasonably be expected by the employer to last more than twenty days in a calendar year. Services can "reasonably be expected by the employer to last more than twenty days" if either of the following applies at the time the services commence:

- (i) The nature of the services is such that it will require more than twenty days of actual services to complete the services;

- (ii) The agreement between the employer and its customer to perform services at a location requires the employer to perform actual services at the location for more than twenty days.

- (c) The employee is a resident of the Village and has requested that the employer withhold tax from the employee's qualifying wages as provided in Section 5.051 of this Ordinance.

- (d) The employee is a professional athlete, professional entertainer, or public figure, and the qualifying wages are paid for the performance of services in the employee's capacity as a professional athlete, professional entertainer, or public figure within the Village.

(2) For the purposes of division (B)(1) of this section, an employee shall be considered to have spent a day performing services in a municipal corporation only if the employee spent more time performing services for or on behalf of the employer in that municipal corporation than in any other municipal corporation on that day. For the purposes of determining the amount of time an employee spent in a particular location, the time spent performing one or more of the following activities shall be considered to have been spent at the employee's principal place of work:

- (a) Traveling to the location at which the employee will first perform services for the employer for the day;

- (b) Traveling from a location at which the employee was performing services for the employer to any other location;

- (c) Traveling from any location to another location in order to pick up or load, for the purpose of transportation or delivery, property that has been purchased, sold, assembled, fabricated, repaired, refurbished, processed, remanufactured, or improved by the employee's employer;

- (d) Transporting or delivering property described in division (B)(2)(c) of this section, provided that, upon delivery of the property, the employee does not temporarily or permanently affix the property to real estate owned, used, or controlled by a person other than the employee's employer;

- (e) Traveling from the location at which the employee makes the employee's final delivery or pick-up for the day to either the employee's principal place of work or a location at which the employee will not perform services for the employer.

(C) If the principal place of work of an employee is located in a municipal corporation that imposes an income tax in accordance with this Ordinance, the exception from withholding requirements described in division (B)(1) of this section shall apply only if, with respect to the employee's qualifying wages described in that division, the employer withholds and remits tax on

such qualifying wages to the municipal corporation in which the employee's principal place of work is located.

- (D) (1) Except as provided in division (D)(2) of this section, if, during a calendar year, the number of days an employee spends performing personal services in a municipal corporation exceeds the twenty-day threshold described in division (B)(1) of this section, the employer shall withhold and remit tax to that municipal corporation for any subsequent days in that calendar year on which the employer pays qualifying wages to the employee for personal services performed in that municipal corporation.
- (2) An employer required to begin withholding tax for a municipal corporation under division (D)(1) of this section may elect to withhold tax for that municipal corporation for the first twenty days on which the employer paid qualifying wages to the employee for personal services performed in that municipal corporation.
- (3) If an employer makes the election described in division (D)(2) of this section, the taxes withheld and paid by such an employer during those first twenty days to the municipal corporation in which the employee's principal place of work is located are refundable to the employee.
- (E) Without regard to the number of days in a calendar year on which an employee performs personal services in any municipal corporation, an employer shall withhold municipal income tax on all of the employee's qualifying wages for a taxable year and remit that tax only to the municipal corporation in which the employer's fixed location is located if the employer qualifies as a small employer as defined in Section 3 of this Ordinance. To determine whether an employer qualifies as a small employer for a taxable year, a Tax Administrator may require the employer to provide the Tax Administrator with the employer's federal income tax return for the preceding taxable year.
- (F) Divisions (B)(1) and (D) of this section shall not apply to the extent that a Tax Administrator and an employer enter into an agreement regarding the manner in which the employer shall comply with the requirements of Section 5.051 of this Ordinance.

Section 5.053 COLLECTION AT SOURCE; CASINO AND VLT

See ORC 718.031 for withholding regulations.

Section 6 INCOME SUBJECT TO NET PROFIT TAX

Section 6.061 DETERMINING MUNICIPAL TAXABLE INCOME FOR TAXPAYERS WHO ARE NOT INDIVIDUALS

"Municipal Taxable Income" for a taxpayer who is not an individual for the Village of Ottawa Hills is calculated as follows:

- (A) "Income" reduced by "Exempt Income" to the extent otherwise included in income, multiplied by apportionment, further reduced by any "Pre-2017 Net Operating Loss Carryforward" equals "Municipal Taxable Income."
- (1) "Income" for a taxpayer that is not an individual means the "Net Profit" of the taxpayer.
 - (a) "Net Profit" for a person other than an individual is defined in Section 3(W).
 - (b) "Adjusted Federal Taxable Income" is defined in Section 3(A) of this Ordinance.
 - (2) "Exempt Income" is defined in Section 3(K) of this Ordinance.
 - (3) "Apportionment" means the apportionment as determined by ORC 718.02.
 - (4) "Pre-2017 Net Operating Loss Carryforward" is defined in Section 3(FF) of this Ordinance.

Section 6.062 NET PROFIT; INCOME SUBJECT TO NET PROFIT TAX; ALTERNATIVE APPORTIONMENT

Alternative apportionment filings are to follow ORC 718.02.

Section 6.063 CONSOLIDATED FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN

Consolidated business filings are to follow ORC 718.06.

Section 6.064 TAX CREDIT FOR BUSINESSES THAT FOSTER NEW JOBS IN OHIO

The Village of Ottawa Hills, by ordinance, may grant a refundable or nonrefundable credit against its tax on income to a taxpayer to foster job creation in the Village. If a credit is granted under this section, it shall be measured as a percentage of the new income tax revenue the Village derives from new employees of the taxpayer and shall be for a term not exceeding fifteen years. Before the Village passes an ordinance granting a credit, the Village and the taxpayer shall enter into an agreement specifying all the conditions of the credit.

Section 6.065 TAX CREDITS TO FOSTER JOB RETENTION

The Village of Ottawa Hills, by ordinance, may grant a refundable or nonrefundable credit against its tax on income to a taxpayer for the purpose of fostering job retention in the Village. If a credit is granted under this section, it shall be measured as a percentage of the income tax revenue the Village derives from the retained employees of the taxpayer, and shall be for a term not exceeding fifteen years. Before the Village passes an ordinance allowing such a credit, the Village and the taxpayer shall enter into an agreement specifying all the conditions of the credit.

Section 7 DECLARATION OF ESTIMATED TAX

- (A) As used in this section:
- (1) "Estimated taxes" means the amount that the taxpayer reasonably estimates to be the taxpayer's tax liability for a municipal corporation's income tax for the current taxable year.
 - (2) "Tax liability" means the total taxes due to a municipal corporation for the taxable year, after allowing any credit to which the taxpayer is entitled, and after applying any estimated tax payment, withholding payment, or credit from another taxable year.
- (B) (1) Every taxpayer shall make a declaration of estimated taxes for the current taxable year, on the form prescribed by the Tax Administrator, if the amount payable as estimated taxes is at least two hundred dollars. For the purposes of this section:
- (a) Taxes withheld from qualifying wages shall be considered as paid to the municipal corporation for which the taxes were withheld in equal amounts on each payment date. If the taxpayer establishes the dates on which all amounts were actually withheld, the amounts withheld shall be considered as paid on the dates on which the amounts were actually withheld.
 - (b) An overpayment of tax applied as a credit to a subsequent taxable year is deemed to be paid on the date of the postmark stamped on the cover in which the payment is mailed or, if the payment is made by electronic funds transfer, the date the payment is submitted. As used in this division, "date of the postmark" means, in the event there

is more than one date on the cover, the earliest date imprinted on the cover by the postal service.

(c) A taxpayer having a taxable year of less than twelve months shall make a declaration under rules prescribed by the Tax Administrator.

(d) Taxes withheld by a casino operator or by a lottery sales agent under Section 718.031 of the Ohio Revised Code are deemed to be paid to the municipal corporation for which the taxes were withheld on the date the taxes are withheld from the taxpayer's winnings.

(2) Taxpayers filing joint returns shall file joint declarations of estimated taxes.

(3) The declaration of estimated taxes shall be filed on or before the date prescribed for the filing of municipal income tax returns under division (G) of Section 9.091 of this Ordinance or on or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month of the first taxable year after the taxpayer becomes subject to tax for the first time.

(4) Taxpayers reporting on a fiscal year basis shall file a declaration on or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month after the beginning of each fiscal year or period.

(5) The original declaration or any subsequent amendment may be increased or decreased on or before any subsequent quarterly payment day as provided in this section.

(C) (1) The required portion of the tax liability for the taxable year that shall be paid through estimated taxes made payable to the Village of Ottawa Hills or Tax Administrator, including the application of tax refunds to estimated taxes and withholding on or before the applicable payment date, shall be as follows:

(a) On or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month after the beginning of the taxable year, twenty-two and one-half per cent of the tax liability for the taxable year;

(b) On or before the fifteenth day of the sixth month after the beginning of the taxable year, forty-five per cent of the tax liability for the taxable year;

(c) On or before the fifteenth day of the ninth month after the beginning of the taxable year, sixty-seven and one-half per cent of the tax liability for the taxable year;

(d) On or before the fifteenth day of the first month following the end of the taxable year, ninety per cent of the tax liability for the taxable year.

(2) A taxpayer may amend a declaration under rules prescribed by the Tax Administrator. When an amended declaration has been filed, the unpaid balance shown due on the amended declaration shall be paid in equal installments on or before the remaining payment dates. The amended declaration must be filed on the next applicable due date as outlined in (C)(1)(a) through (d) of this section.

(3) On or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month of the year following that for which the declaration or amended declaration was filed, an annual return shall be filed and any balance which may be due shall be paid with the return in accordance with Section 9.091 of this Ordinance.

(a) For taxpayers who are individuals, or who are not individuals and are reporting and filing on a calendar year basis, the annual tax return is due on the same date as the filing of the federal tax return, unless extended pursuant to division (G) of Section 5747.08 of the Revised Code.

(b) For taxpayers who are not individuals, and are reporting and filing on a fiscal year basis or any period other than a calendar year, the annual return is due on the fifteenth day of the fourth month following the end of the taxable year or period.

(4) An amended declaration is required whenever the taxpayer's estimated tax liability changes during the taxable year. A change in estimated tax liability may either increase or decrease the estimated tax liability for the taxable year.

- (D) (1) In the case of any underpayment of any portion of a tax liability, penalty and interest may be imposed pursuant to Section 10 of this Ordinance upon the amount of underpayment for the period of underpayment, unless the underpayment is due to reasonable cause as described in division (E) of this section. The amount of the underpayment shall be determined as follows:
- (a) For the first payment of estimated taxes each year, twenty-two and one-half per cent of the tax liability, less the amount of taxes paid by the date prescribed for that payment;
 - (b) For the second payment of estimated taxes each year, forty-five per cent of the tax liability, less the amount of taxes paid by the date prescribed for that payment;
 - (c) For the third payment of estimated taxes each year, sixty-seven and one-half per cent of the tax liability, less the amount of taxes paid by the date prescribed for that payment;
 - (d) For the fourth payment of estimated taxes each year, ninety per cent of the tax liability, less the amount of taxes paid by the date prescribed for that payment.
- (2) The period of the underpayment shall run from the day the estimated payment was required to be made to the date on which the payment is made. For purposes of this section, a payment of estimated taxes on or before any payment date shall be considered a payment of any previous underpayment only to the extent the payment of estimated taxes exceeds the amount of the payment presently required to be paid to avoid any penalty.
- (E) An underpayment of any portion of tax liability determined under division (D) of this section shall be due to reasonable cause and the penalty imposed by this section shall not be added to the taxes for the taxable year if any of the following apply:
- (1) The amount of estimated taxes that were paid equals at least ninety per cent of the tax liability for the current taxable year, determined by annualizing the income received during the year up to the end of the month immediately preceding the month in which the payment is due.
 - (2) The amount of estimated taxes that were paid equals at least one hundred per cent of the tax liability shown on the return of the taxpayer for the preceding taxable year, provided that the immediately preceding taxable year reflected a period of twelve months and the taxpayer filed a return with the municipal corporation under Section 9.091 of this Ordinance for that year.
 - (3) The taxpayer is an individual who resides in the Village but was not domiciled there on the first day of January of the calendar year that includes the first day of the taxable year.
- (F) A Tax Administrator may waive the requirement for filing a declaration of estimated taxes for any class of taxpayers after finding that the waiver is reasonable and proper in view of administrative costs and other factors.

Section 8 CREDIT FOR TAX PAID

Section 8.081 PARTIAL CREDIT FOR WORK CITY TAX PAID BY RESIDENTS

- (A) Reduced tax credit to resident taxpayer.
- (1) When the taxable income of a resident of the Village of Ottawa Hills is subject to a municipal income tax in another municipality on the same income taxable under this Ordinance, such resident shall be allowed a credit of the amount of income tax paid on such taxable income to such other municipality, equal to fifty per cent (50%) of the amount obtained by multiplying the lower of the tax rate of such other municipality or of this municipality by the taxable income earned in or attributable to the municipality of

employment or business activity. For the purposes of this section, taxable income shall include the distributive share of net profits of a resident partner or owner of a business entity.

(2) Method to apply for credit:

(a) No credit will be given unless the taxpayer claims such on his final return or other form prescribed by the Tax Administrator, and presents such evidence of the payment of a similar tax to another municipality, as the Tax Administrator may require.

(b) A statement satisfactory to the Tax Administrator from the taxing authority of the municipality to which the taxes are paid that a Village of Ottawa Hills resident or his employer is paying the tax shall be considered as fulfilling the requirement of this section.

(B) Any claim for credit of income taxes paid another municipality on the same income taxable hereunder, and any assignment of the reciprocal credit provided for herein, must be made not later than the time within which a claim for refund may be made. Reciprocal credits duly assigned to the municipality of residence may be presented by such municipality to the Tax Administrator of the Village of Ottawa Hills at any time within three (3) years after receipt thereof. Failure to make such claim for credit, or to assign the reciprocal credit provided for herein within the time prescribed herein shall render such claim or assignment null and void.

(C) No credit shall be given for any state or school district income tax.

(D) Claims for refund of municipal income taxes must be brought within three years after the tax was due or the return was filed, whichever is later, as set forth in Section 9.096 of this Ordinance.

Section 8.082 REFUNDABLE CREDIT FOR QUALIFYING LOSS

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Nonqualified deferred compensation plan" means a compensation plan described in Section 3121(v)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) (a) Except as provided in division (A)(2)(b) of this section, "qualifying loss" means the excess, if any, of the total amount of compensation the payment of which is deferred pursuant to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan over the total amount of income the taxpayer has recognized for federal income tax purposes for all taxable years on a cumulative basis as compensation with respect to the taxpayer's receipt of money and property attributable to distributions in connection with the nonqualified deferred compensation plan.

(b) If, for one or more taxable years, the taxpayer has not paid to one or more municipal corporations income tax imposed on the entire amount of compensation the payment of which is deferred pursuant to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan, then the "qualifying loss" is the product of the amount resulting from the calculation described in division (A)(2)(a) of this section computed without regard to division (A)(2)(b) of this section and a fraction the numerator of which is the portion of such compensation on which the taxpayer has paid income tax to one or more municipal corporations and the denominator of which is the total amount of compensation the payment of which is deferred pursuant to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan.

(c) With respect to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan, the taxpayer sustains a qualifying loss only in the taxable year in which the taxpayer receives the final distribution of money and property pursuant to that nonqualified deferred compensation plan.

(3) "Qualifying tax rate" means the applicable tax rate for the taxable year for the which the taxpayer paid income tax to a municipal corporation with respect to any portion of the total amount of compensation the payment of which is deferred pursuant to a nonqualified

deferred compensation plan. If different tax rates applied for different taxable years, then the "qualifying tax rate" is a weighted average of those different tax rates. The weighted average shall be based upon the tax paid to the municipal corporation each year with respect to the nonqualified deferred compensation plan.

- (B) (1) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, a refundable credit shall be allowed against the income tax imposed by a municipal corporation for each qualifying loss sustained by a taxpayer during the taxable year. The amount of the credit shall be equal to the product of the qualifying loss and the qualifying tax rate.
- (2) A taxpayer shall claim the credit allowed under this section from each municipal corporation to which the taxpayer paid municipal income tax with respect to the nonqualified deferred compensation plan in one or more taxable years.
- (3) If a taxpayer has paid tax to more than one municipal corporation with respect to the nonqualified deferred compensation plan, the amount of the credit that a taxpayer may claim from each municipal corporation shall be calculated on the basis of each municipal corporation's proportionate share of the total municipal corporation income tax paid by the taxpayer to all municipal corporations with respect to the nonqualified deferred compensation plan.
- (4) In no case shall the amount of the credit allowed under this section exceed the cumulative income tax that a taxpayer has paid to a municipal corporation for all taxable years with respect to the nonqualified deferred compensation plan.
- (C) (1) For purposes of this section, municipal corporation income tax that has been withheld with respect to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan shall be considered to have been paid by the taxpayer with respect to the nonqualified deferred compensation plan.
- (2) Any municipal income tax that has been refunded or otherwise credited for the benefit of the taxpayer with respect to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan shall not be considered to have been paid to the municipal corporation by the taxpayer.
- (D) The credit allowed under this section is allowed only to the extent the taxpayer's qualifying loss is attributable to:
- (1) The insolvency or bankruptcy of the employer who had established the nonqualified deferred compensation plan; or
- (2) The employee's failure or inability to satisfy all of the employer's terms and conditions necessary to receive the nonqualified deferred compensation.

Section 8.083 CREDIT FOR PERSON WORKING IN JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OR ZONE

The Village of Ottawa Hills shall grant a credit against its tax on income to a resident of the Village who works in a joint economic development zone created under Section 715.691 or a joint economic development district created under Section 715.70, 715.71, or 715.72 of the Ohio Revised Code to the same extent that it grants a credit against its tax on income to its residents who are employed in another municipal corporation, pursuant to Section 8.081 of this Ordinance.

Section 8.084 CREDIT FOR TAX BEYOND STATUTE FOR OBTAINING REFUND

- (A) Income tax that has been deposited or paid to the Village of Ottawa Hills, but should have been deposited or paid to another municipal corporation, is allowable by the Village as a refund, but is subject to the three-year limitation on refunds as provided in Section 9.096 of this Ordinance.
- (B) Income tax that should have been deposited or paid to the Village of Ottawa Hills, but was deposited or paid to another municipal corporation, shall be subject to collection and recovery by

the Village. To the extent a refund of such tax or withholding is barred by the limitation on refunds as provided in Section 9.096, the Village will allow a non-refundable credit equal to the tax or withholding paid to the other municipality against the income tax the Village claims is due. If the Village's tax rate is higher, the tax representing the net difference of the tax rates is also subject to collection by the Village, along with any penalty and interest accruing during the period of nonpayment.

(C) No carryforward of credit will be permitted when the overpayment is beyond the three-year limitation for refunding of same as provided in Section 9.096 of this Ordinance.

(D) Nothing in this section requires a municipality to allow credit for tax paid to another municipal corporation if the municipality has reduced credit for tax paid to another municipal corporation. Section 8.081 of this Ordinance regarding any limitation on credit shall prevail.

Section 9 ANNUAL RETURN

Section 9.091 RETURN AND PAYMENT OF TAX

(A) (1) An annual return with respect to the income tax levied on Municipal Taxable Income by the Village of Ottawa Hills shall be completed and filed by every taxpayer for any taxable year for which the taxpayer is subject to the tax, regardless of whether or not income tax is due.

(2) The Tax Administrator shall accept on behalf of all nonresident individual taxpayers a return filed by an employer, agent of an employer, or other payer located in the Village under Section 5.051(C) of this Ordinance when the nonresident individual taxpayer's sole income subject to the tax is the qualifying wages reported by the employer, agent of an employer, or other payer, and no additional tax is due to the Village.

(3) An exemption is provided for resident taxpayers with no income subject to the tax.

(B) If an individual is deceased, any return or notice required of that individual shall be completed and filed by that decedent's executor, administrator, or other person charged with the property of that decedent.

(C) If an individual is unable to complete and file a return or notice required by the Village of Ottawa Hills in accordance with this Ordinance, the return or notice required of that individual shall be completed and filed by the individual's duly authorized agent, guardian, conservator, fiduciary, or other person charged with the care of the person or property of that individual. Such duly authorized agent, guardian, conservator, fiduciary, or other person charged with the care of the person or property of that individual shall provide, with the filing of the return, appropriate documentation to support that they are authorized to file a return or notice on behalf of the taxpayer. This notice shall include any legally binding authorizations, and contact information including name, address, and phone number of the duly authorized agent, guardian, conservator, fiduciary, or other person.

(D) Returns or notices required of an estate or a trust shall be completed and filed by the fiduciary of the estate or trust. Such fiduciary shall provide, with the filing of the return, appropriate documentation to support that they are authorized to file a return or notice on behalf of the taxpayer. This notice shall include any legally binding authorizations, and contact information including name, address, and phone number of the fiduciary.

(E) No municipal corporation shall deny spouses the ability to file a joint return.

(F) (1) Each return required to be filed under this section shall contain the signature of the taxpayer or the taxpayer's duly authorized agent and of the person who prepared the return for the taxpayer, and shall include the taxpayer's social security number or taxpayer identification number. Each return shall be verified by a declaration under penalty of perjury.

- (2) A taxpayer who is an individual is required to include, with each annual return, amended return, or request for refund required under this section, copies of only the following documents: all of the taxpayer's Internal Revenue Service form W-2, "Wage and Tax Statements," including all information reported on the taxpayer's federal W-2, as well as taxable wages reported or withheld for any municipal corporation; the taxpayer's Internal Revenue Service form 1040; and, with respect to an amended tax return or refund request, any other documentation necessary to support the refund request or the adjustments made in the amended return. An individual taxpayer who files the annual return required by this section electronically is not required to provide paper copies of any of the foregoing to the Tax Administrator unless the Tax Administrator requests such copies after the return has been filed.
- (3) A taxpayer that is not an individual is required to include, with each annual net profit return, amended net profit return, or request for refund required under this section, copies of only the following documents: the taxpayer's Internal Revenue Service form 1041, form 1065, form 1120, form 1120-REIT, form 1120F, or form 1120S, and, with respect to an amended tax return or refund request, any other documentation necessary to support the refund request or the adjustments made in the amended return.
- (4) A taxpayer that is not an individual and that files an annual net profit return electronically through the Ohio Business Gateway or in some other manner shall either mail the documents required under this division to the Tax Administrator at the time of filing or, if electronic submission is available, submit the documents electronically through the Ohio Business Gateway or a portal provided by Village. The department of taxation shall publish a method of electronically submitting the documents required under this division through the Ohio Business Gateway on or before January 1, 2016. The department shall transmit all documents submitted electronically under this division to the appropriate Tax Administrator.
- (5) After a taxpayer files a tax return, the Tax Administrator shall request, and the taxpayer shall provide, any information, statements, or documents required by the Village to determine and verify the taxpayer's municipal income tax liability. The requirements imposed under division (F) of this section apply regardless of whether the taxpayer files on a generic form or on a form prescribed by the Tax Administrator.
- (6) Any other documentation, including schedules, other municipal income tax returns, or other supporting documentation necessary to verify credits, income, losses, or other pertinent factors on the return shall also be included to avoid delay in processing, or disallowance by the Tax Administrator of undocumented credits or losses.
- (G) (1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, each individual income tax return required to be filed under this section shall be completed and filed as required by the Tax Administrator on or before the date prescribed for the filing of state individual income tax returns under division (G) of Section 5747.08 of the Ohio Revised Code. The taxpayer shall complete and file the return or notice on forms prescribed by the Tax Administrator or on generic forms, together with remittance made payable to the Village of Ottawa Hills or Tax Administrator.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, each annual net profit income tax return required to be filed under this section by a taxpayer that is not an individual shall be completed and filed as required by the Tax Administrator on or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month following the end of the taxpayer's taxable year or period. The taxpayer shall complete and file the return or notice on forms prescribed by the Tax Administrator or on generic forms, together with remittance made payable to the Village of Ottawa Hills or Tax Administrator.

- (c) In the case of individual income tax return required to be filed by an individual, and net profit income tax return required to be filed by a taxpayer who is not an individual, no remittance is required if the amount shown to be due is ten dollars or less.
- (2) If the Tax Administrator considers it necessary in order to ensure the payment of the tax imposed by the Village in accordance with this Ordinance, the Tax Administrator may require taxpayers to file returns and make payments otherwise than as provided in this section, including taxpayers not otherwise required to file annual returns.
- (3) With respect to taxpayers to whom Section 9.092 of this Ordinance applies, to the extent that any provision in this division conflicts with any provision in Section 9.092 of this Ordinance, the provision in Section 9.092 of this Ordinance prevails.
- (H) (1) For taxable years beginning after 2015, the Village shall not require a taxpayer to remit tax with respect to net profits if the amount due is ten dollars or less.
- (2) Any taxpayer not required to remit tax to the Village for a taxable year pursuant to division (H)(1) of this section shall file with the Village an annual net profit return under division (F)(3) and (4) of this section.
- (I) This division shall not apply to payments required to be made under division (B)(1)(b) of Section 5.051 of this Ordinance.
- (1) If any report, claim, statement, or other document required to be filed, or any payment required to be made, within a prescribed period or on or before a prescribed date under this Ordinance is delivered after that period or that to the Tax Administrator or other municipal official with which the report, claim, statement, or other document is required to be filed, or to which the payment is required to be made, the date of the postmark stamped on the cover in which the report, claim, statement, or other document, or payment is mailed shall be deemed to be the date of delivery or the date of payment. "The date of postmark" means, in the event there is more than one date on the cover, the earliest date imprinted on the cover by the postal service.
- (2) If a payment is required to be made by electronic funds transfer, the payment is considered to be made when the payment is credited to an account designated by the Tax Administrator for the receipt of tax payments, except that, when a payment made by electronic funds transfer is delayed due to circumstances not under the control of the taxpayer, the payment is considered to be made when the taxpayer submitted the payment. For purposes of this section, "submitted the payment" means the date which the taxpayer has designated for the delivery of payment, which may or may not be the same date as the date the payment was initiated by the taxpayer.
- (J) The amounts withheld for the Village of Ottawa Hills by an employer, the agent of an employer, or other payer as described in Section 5.051 of this Ordinance shall be allowed to the recipient of the compensation as credits against payment of the tax imposed on the recipient unless the amounts withheld were not remitted to the Village and the recipient colluded with the employer, agent, or other payer in connection with the failure to remit the amounts withheld.
- (K) Each return required by the Village to be filed in accordance with this section shall include a box that the taxpayer may check to authorize another person, including a tax return preparer who prepared the return, to communicate with the Tax Administrator about matters pertaining to the return. The return or instructions accompanying the return shall indicate that by checking the box the taxpayer authorizes the Tax Administrator to contact the preparer or other person concerning questions that arise during the examination or other review of the return and authorizes the preparer or other person only to provide the Tax Administrator with information that is missing from the return, to contact the Tax Administrator for information about the examination or other review of the return or the status of the taxpayer's refund or payments, and to respond to notices about

mathematical errors, offsets, or return preparation that the taxpayer has received from the Tax Administrator and has shown to the preparer or other person. Authorization by the taxpayer of another person to communicate with the Tax Administrator about matters pertaining to the return does not preclude the Tax Administrator from contacting the taxpayer regarding such matters.

(L) The Tax Administrator of the Village of Ottawa Hills shall accept for filing a generic form of any income tax return, report, or document required by the Village in accordance with this Ordinance, provided that the generic form, once completed and filed, contains all of the information required by ordinances, resolutions, or rules adopted by the Village or Tax Administrator, and provided that the taxpayer or tax return preparer filing the generic form otherwise complies with the provisions of this Ordinance and of the Village's ordinance or resolution governing the filing of returns, reports, or documents.

(M) When income tax returns, reports, or other documents require the signature of a tax return preparer, the Tax Administrator shall accept a facsimile of such a signature in lieu of a manual signature.

(N) (1) As used in this division, "worksite location" has the same meaning as in Section 5.052 of this Ordinance.

(2) A person may notify the Tax Administrator that the person does not expect to be a taxpayer with respect to the municipal corporation for a taxable year if both of the following conditions apply:

(a) The person was required to file a tax return with the municipal corporation for the immediately preceding taxable year because the person performed services at a worksite location within the municipal corporation, and the person has filed all appropriate and required returns and remitted all applicable income tax and withholding payments as provided by this Ordinance. The Tax Administrator is not required to accept an affidavit from a taxpayer who has not complied with the provisions of this Ordinance.

(b) The person no longer provides services in the municipal corporation, and does not expect to be subject to the municipal corporation's income tax for the taxable year. The person shall provide the notice in a signed affidavit that briefly explains the person's circumstances, including the location of the previous worksite location and the last date on which the person performed services or made any sales within the municipal corporation. The affidavit also shall include the following statement: "The affiant has no plans to perform any services within the municipal corporation, make any sales in the municipal corporation, or otherwise become subject to the tax levied by the municipal corporation during the taxable year. If the affiant does become subject to the tax levied by the municipal corporation for the taxable year, the affiant agrees to be considered a taxpayer and to properly register as a taxpayer with the municipal corporation, if such a registration is required by the municipal corporation's resolutions, ordinances, or rules." The person shall sign the affidavit under penalty of perjury.

(c) If a person submits an affidavit described in division (N)(2) of this section, the Tax Administrator shall not require the person to file any tax return for the taxable year unless the Tax Administrator possesses information that conflicts with the affidavit or if the circumstances described in the affidavit change, or the taxpayer has engaged in activity which results in work being performed, services provided, sales made, or other activity that results in municipal taxable income reportable to the Village in the taxable year. It shall be the responsibility of the taxpayer to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance relating to the reporting and filing of municipal taxable income on an annual municipal income tax return, even if an affidavit has been filed with the Tax

Administrator for the taxable year. Nothing in division (N) of this section prohibits the Tax Administrator from performing an audit of the person.

Section 9.092 RETURN AND PAYMENT OF TAX; INDIVIDUALS SERVING IN COMBAT ZONE

- (A) Each member of the national guard of any state and each member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States called to active duty pursuant to an executive order issued by the President of the United States or an act of the Congress of the United States, and each civilian serving as support personnel in a combat zone or contingency operation in support of the armed forces, may apply to the Tax Administrator of the Village for both an extension of time for filing of the return and an extension of time for payment of taxes required by the Village in accordance with this Ordinance during the period of the member's or civilian's duty service and for one hundred eighty days thereafter. The application shall be filed on or before the one hundred eightieth day after the member's or civilian's duty terminates. An applicant shall provide such evidence as the Tax Administrator considers necessary to demonstrate eligibility for the extension.
- (B) (1) If the Tax Administrator ascertains that an applicant is qualified for an extension under this section, the Tax Administrator shall enter into a contract with the applicant for the payment of the tax in installments that begin on the one hundred eighty-first day after the applicant's active duty or service terminates. Except as provided in division (B)(3) of this section, the Tax Administrator may prescribe such contract terms as the Tax Administrator considers appropriate.
- (2) If the Tax Administrator ascertains that an applicant is qualified for an extension under this section, the applicant shall neither be required to file any return, report, or other tax document nor be required to pay any tax otherwise due to the Village before the one hundred eighty-first day after the applicant's active duty or service terminates.
- (3) Taxes paid pursuant to a contract entered into under division (B)(1) of this section are not delinquent. The Tax Administrator shall not require any payments of penalties or interest in connection with those taxes for the extension period.
- (C) (1) Nothing in this division denies to any person described in this division the application of divisions (A) and (B) of this section.
- (2) (a) A qualifying taxpayer who is eligible for an extension under the Internal Revenue Code shall receive both an extension of time in which to file any return, report, or other tax document and an extension of time in which to make any payment of taxes required by the Village in accordance with this Ordinance. The length of any extension granted under division (C)(2)(a) of this section shall be equal to the length of the corresponding extension that the taxpayer receives under the Internal Revenue Code. As used in this section, "qualifying taxpayer" means a member of the national guard or a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States called to active duty pursuant to either an executive order issued by the President of the United States or an act of the Congress of the United States, or a civilian serving as support personnel in a combat zone or contingency operation in support of the armed forces.
- (b) Taxes the payment of which is extended in accordance with division (C)(2)(a) of this section are not delinquent during the extension period. Such taxes become delinquent on the first day after the expiration of the extension period if the taxes are not paid prior to that date. The Tax Administrator shall not require any payment of penalties or interest in connection with those taxes for the extension period. The Tax Administrator shall not include any period of extension granted under division (C)(2)(a) of this section in calculating the penalty or interest due on any unpaid tax.

(D) For each taxable year to which division (A), (B), or (C) of this section applies to a taxpayer, the provisions of divisions (B)(2) and (3) or (C) of this section, as applicable, apply to the spouse of that taxpayer if the filing status of the spouse and the taxpayer is married filing jointly for that year.

Section 9.093 USE OF OHIO BUSINESS GATEWAY; TYPES OF FILINGS AUTHORIZED

(A) Any taxpayer subject to municipal income taxation with respect to the taxpayer's net profit from a business or profession may file any municipal income tax return or, estimated municipal income tax return, or extension for filing a municipal income tax return, and may make payment of amounts shown to be due on such returns, by using the Ohio Business Gateway.

(B) Any employer, agent of an employer, or other payer may report the amount of municipal income tax withheld from qualifying wages, and may make remittance of such amounts, by using the Ohio Business Gateway.

(C) Nothing in this section affects the due dates for filing employer withholding tax returns or deposit of any required tax.

(D) The use of the Ohio Business Gateway by municipal corporations, taxpayers, or other persons does not affect the legal rights of municipalities or taxpayers as otherwise permitted by law. The State of Ohio shall not be a party to the administration of municipal income taxes or to an appeal of a municipal income tax matter, except as otherwise specifically provided by law.

(E) Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting or removing the authority of any municipal corporation to administer, audit, and enforce the provisions of its municipal income tax.

Section 9.094 EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE

(A) Any taxpayer that has duly requested an automatic six-month extension for filing the taxpayer's federal income tax return shall automatically receive an extension for the filing of a municipal income tax return. The extended due date of the municipal income tax return shall be the fifteenth day of the tenth month after the last day of the taxable year to which the return relates.

(B) Any taxpayer that qualifies for an automatic federal extension for a period other than six-months for filing the taxpayer's federal income tax return shall automatically receive an extension for the filing of a municipal income tax return. The extended due date of the municipal income tax return shall be the same as that of the extended federal income tax return.

(C) A taxpayer that has not requested or received a six-month extension for filing the taxpayer's federal income tax return may request that the tax administrator grant the taxpayer a six-month extension of the date for filing the taxpayer's municipal income tax return. If the request is received by the Tax Administrator on or before the date the municipal income tax return is due, the Tax Administrator shall grant the taxpayer's requested extension.

(D) An extension of time to file under this Ordinance is not an extension of the time to pay any tax due unless the Tax Administrator grants an extension of that date.

(E) If the State Tax Commissioner extends for all taxpayers the date for filing state income tax returns under division (G) of Section 5747.08 of the Ohio Revised Code, a taxpayer shall automatically receive an extension for the filing of a municipal income tax return. The extended due date of the municipal income tax return shall be the same as the extended due date of the state income tax return.

Section 9.095 AMENDED RETURNS

- (A) (1) A taxpayer shall file an amended return with the Tax Administrator in such form as the Tax Administrator requires if any of the facts, figures, computations, or attachments required in the taxpayer's annual return to determine the tax due levied by the Village in accordance with this Ordinance must be altered.
- (2) Within sixty days after the final determination of any federal or state tax liability affecting the taxpayer's municipal tax liability, that taxpayer shall make and file an amended municipal return showing income subject to the municipal income tax based upon such final determination of federal or state tax liability, and pay any additional municipal income tax shown due thereon or make a claim for refund of any overpayment, unless the tax or overpayment is ten dollars or less.
- (3) If a taxpayer intends to file an amended consolidated municipal income tax return, or to amend its type of return from a separate return to a consolidated return, based on the taxpayer's consolidated federal income tax return, the taxpayer shall notify the Tax Administrator before filing the amended return.
- (B) (1) In the case of an underpayment, the amended return shall be accompanied by payment of any combined additional tax due together with any penalty and interest thereon. If the combined tax shown to be due is ten dollars or less, such amount need not accompany the amended return. Except as provided under division (B)(2) of this section, the amended return shall not reopen those facts, figures, computations, or attachments from a previously filed return that are not affected, either directly or indirectly, by the adjustment to the taxpayer's federal or state income tax return unless the applicable statute of limitations for civil actions or prosecutions under Section 19 of this Ordinance has not expired for a previously filed return.
- (2) The additional tax to be paid shall not exceed the amount of tax that would be due if all facts, figures, computations, and attachments were reopened.
- (C) (1) In the case of an overpayment, a request for refund may be filed under this division within the period prescribed by division (A)(2) of this Section for filing the amended return even if it is filed beyond the period prescribed in that division if it otherwise conforms to the requirements of that division. If the amount of the refund is ten dollars or less, no refund need be paid by the Village to the taxpayer. Except as set forth in division (C)(2) of this section, a request filed under this division shall claim refund of overpayments resulting from alterations to only those facts, figures, computations, or attachments required in the taxpayer's annual return that are affected, either directly or indirectly, by the adjustment to the taxpayer's federal or state income tax return unless it is also filed within the time prescribed in Section 9.096 of this Ordinance. Except as set forth in division (C)(2) of this section, the request shall not reopen those facts, figures, computations, or attachments that are not affected, either directly or indirectly, by the adjustment to the taxpayer's federal or state income tax return.
- (2) The amount to be refunded shall not exceed the amount of refund that would be due if all facts, figures, computations, and attachments were reopened.

Section 9.096 REFUNDS

- (A) Upon receipt of a request for a refund, the Tax Administrator of the Village of Ottawa Hills, in accordance with this section, shall refund to employers, agents of employers, other payers, or taxpayers, with respect to any income or withholding tax levied by the Village:
- (1) Overpayments of more than ten dollars;
 - (2) Amounts paid erroneously if the refund requested exceeds ten dollars.

- (B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, returns setting forth a request for refund shall be filed with the Tax Administrator, within three years after the tax was due or paid, whichever is later. Any documentation that substantiates the taxpayer's claim for a refund must be included with the return filing. Failure to remit all documentation, including schedules, other municipal income tax returns, or other supporting documentation necessary to verify credits, income, losses or other pertinent factors on the return will cause delay in processing, and / or disallowance of undocumented credits or losses.
- (2) On filing of the refund request, the Tax Administrator shall determine the amount of refund due and certify such amount to the appropriate municipal corporation official for payment. Except as provided in division (B)(3) of this section, the Village Tax Commissioner shall issue an assessment to any taxpayer whose request for refund is fully or partially denied. The assessment shall state the amount of the refund that was denied, the reasons for the denial, and instructions for appealing the assessment.
- (3) If a Tax Administrator denies in whole or in part a refund request included within the taxpayer's originally filed annual income tax return, the Tax Administrator shall notify the taxpayer, in writing, of the amount of the refund that was denied, the reasons for the denial, and instructions for requesting an assessment that may be appealed under Section 18 of this Ordinance.
- (C) A request for a refund that is received after the last day for filing specified in division (B) of this section shall be considered to have been filed in a timely manner if any of the following situations exist:
- (1) The request is delivered by the postal service, and the earliest postal service postmark on the cover in which the request is enclosed is not later than the last day for filing the request.
- (2) The request is delivered by the postal service, the only postmark on the cover in which the request is enclosed was affixed by a private postal meter, the date of that postmark is not later than the last day for filing the request, and the request is received within seven days of such last day.
- (3) The request is delivered by the postal service, no postmark date was affixed to the cover in which the request is enclosed or the date of the postmark so affixed is not legible, and the request is received within seven days of the last day for making the request.
- (D) Interest shall be allowed and paid on any overpayment by a taxpayer of any municipal income tax obligation from the date of the overpayment until the date of the refund of the overpayment, except that if any overpayment is refunded within ninety days after the final filing date of the annual return or ninety days after the completed return is filed, whichever is later, no interest shall be allowed on the refund. For the purpose of computing the payment of interest on amounts overpaid, no amount of tax for any taxable year shall be considered to have been paid before the date on which the return on which the tax is reported is due, without regard to any extension of time for filing that return. Interest shall be paid at the interest rate described in division (A)(4) of Section 10 of this Ordinance.
- (E) As used in this section, "withholding tax" has the same meaning as in Section 10 of this Ordinance.

Section 10 PENALTY, INTEREST, FEES, AND CHARGES

- (A) As used in this section:
- (1) "Applicable law" means this Ordinance, the resolutions, ordinances, codes, directives, instructions, and rules adopted by the Village of Ottawa Hills provided such resolutions, ordinances, codes, directives, instructions, and rules impose or directly or indirectly address the levy, payment, remittance, or filing requirements of a municipal income tax.

- (2) "Federal short-term rate" means the rate of the average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity of three years or less, as determined under Section 1274 of the Internal Revenue Code, for July of the current year.
- (3) "Income tax," "estimated income tax," and "withholding tax" mean any income tax, estimated income tax, and withholding tax imposed by a municipal corporation pursuant to applicable law, including at any time before January 1, 2016.
- (4) "Interest rate as described in division (A) of this section" means the federal short-term rate, rounded to the nearest whole number per cent, plus five per cent. The rate shall apply for the calendar year next following the July of the year in which the federal short-term rate is determined in accordance with division (A)(2) of this section.
- (5) "Return" includes any tax return, report, reconciliation, schedule, and other document required to be filed with a Tax Administrator or municipal corporation by a taxpayer, employer, any agent of the employer, or any other payer pursuant to applicable law, including at any time before January 1, 2016.
- (6) "Unpaid estimated income tax" means estimated income tax due but not paid by the date the tax is required to be paid under applicable law.
- (7) "Unpaid income tax" means income tax due but not paid by the date the income tax is required to be paid under applicable law.
- (8) "Unpaid withholding tax" means withholding tax due but not paid by the date the withholding tax is required to be paid under applicable law.
- (9) "Withholding tax" includes amounts an employer, any agent of an employer, or any other payer did not withhold in whole or in part from an employee's qualifying wages, but that, under applicable law, the employer, agent, or other payer is required to withhold from an employee's qualifying wages.
- (B) (1) This section shall apply to the following:
- (a) Any return required to be filed under applicable law for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2016;
 - (b) Income tax, estimated income tax, and withholding tax required to be paid or remitted to the Village on or after January 1, 2016 for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2016.
- (2) This section does not apply to returns required to be filed or payments required to be made before January 1, 2016, regardless of the filing or payment date. Returns required to be filed or payments required to be made before January 1, 2016, but filed or paid after that date shall be subject to the ordinances or rules as adopted from time to time before January 1, 2016 of this Village.
- (C) The Village shall impose on a taxpayer, employer, any agent of the employer, and any other payer, and will attempt to collect, the interest amounts and penalties prescribed in this section when the taxpayer, employer, any agent of the employer, or any other payer for any reason fails, in whole or in part, to make to the Village timely and full payment or remittance of income tax, estimated income tax, or withholding tax or to file timely with the Village any return required to be filed.
- (1) Interest shall be imposed at the rate defined as "interest rate as described in division (A) of this section," per annum, on all unpaid income tax, unpaid estimated income tax, and unpaid withholding tax. This imposition of interest shall be assessed per month, or fraction of a month.
 - (2) With respect to unpaid income tax and unpaid estimated income tax, a penalty equal to fifteen percent of the amount not timely paid shall be imposed.
 - (3) With respect to any unpaid withholding tax, a penalty of not more than fifty percent of the amount not timely paid shall be imposed.

- (4) With respect to returns other than estimated income tax returns, the Village shall impose a monthly penalty of twenty-five dollars for each failure to timely file each return, regardless of the liability shown thereon for each month, or any fraction thereof, during which the return remains unfiled regardless of the liability shown thereon. The penalty shall not exceed a total of one hundred fifty dollars in assessed penalty for each failure to timely file a return.
- (D) With respect to income taxes, estimated income taxes, withholding taxes, and returns, the Village shall not impose, seek to collect, or collect any penalty, amount of interest, charges or additional fees not described in this section.
- (E) With respect to income taxes, estimated income taxes, withholding taxes, and returns, the Village shall not refund or credit any penalty, amount of interest, charges, or additional fees that were properly imposed or collected before January 1, 2016.
- (F) The Tax Administrator may, in the Tax Administrator's sole discretion, abate or partially abate penalties or interest imposed under this section when the Tax Administrator deems such abatement or partial abatement to be appropriate. Such abatement or partial abatement shall be properly documented and maintained on the record of the taxpayer who received benefit of such abatement or partial abatement.
- (G) The Village may impose on the taxpayer, employer, any agent of the employer, or any other payer the Village's post-judgment collection costs and fees, including attorney's fees.

Section 11 AUDIT

- (A) At or before the commencement of an audit, as defined in Section 3(C) of this Ordinance, the Tax Administrator shall provide to the taxpayer a written description of the roles of the Tax Administrator and of the taxpayer during an audit and a statement of the taxpayer's rights, including any right to obtain a refund of an overpayment of tax. At or before the commencement of an audit, the Tax Administrator shall inform the taxpayer when the audit is considered to have commenced.
- (B) Except in cases involving suspected criminal activity, the Tax Administrator shall conduct an audit of a taxpayer during regular business hours and after providing reasonable notice to the taxpayer. A taxpayer who is unable to comply with a proposed time for an audit on the grounds that the proposed time would cause inconvenience or hardship must offer reasonable alternative dates for the audit.
- (C) At all stages of an audit by the Tax Administrator, a taxpayer is entitled to be assisted or represented by an attorney, accountant, bookkeeper, or other tax practitioner. The Tax Administrator shall prescribe a form by which a taxpayer may designate such a person to assist or represent the taxpayer in the conduct of any proceedings resulting from actions by the Tax Administrator. If a taxpayer has not submitted such a form, the Tax Administrator may accept other evidence, as the Tax Administrator considers appropriate, that a person is the authorized representative of a taxpayer.
- A taxpayer may refuse to answer any questions asked by the person conducting an audit until the taxpayer has an opportunity to consult with the taxpayer's attorney, accountant, bookkeeper, or other tax practitioner. This division does not authorize the practice of law by a person who is not an attorney.
- (D) A taxpayer may record, electronically or otherwise, the audit examination.
- (E) The failure of the Tax Administrator to comply with a provision of this section shall neither excuse a taxpayer from payment of any taxes owed by the taxpayer nor cure any procedural defect in a taxpayer's case.

(F) If the Tax Administrator fails to substantially comply with the provisions of this section, the Tax Administrator, upon application by the taxpayer, shall excuse the taxpayer from penalties and interest arising from the audit.

Section 12 ROUNDING

A person may round to the nearest whole dollar all amounts the person is required to enter on any return, report, voucher, or other document required under this Ordinance. Any fractional part of a dollar that equals or exceeds fifty cents shall be rounded to the next whole dollar, and any fractional part of a dollar that is less than fifty cents shall be dropped, rounding down to the nearest whole dollar. If a person chooses to round amounts entered on a document, the person shall round all amounts entered on the document.

Section 13 AUTHORITY AND POWERS OF THE TAX ADMINISTRATOR

Section 13.131 AUTHORITY OF TAX ADMINISTRATOR; ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS OF THE TAX ADMINISTRATOR

The Tax Administrator has the authority to perform all duties and functions necessary and appropriate to implement the provisions of this Ordinance, including without limitation:

- (A) Exercise all powers whatsoever of an inquisitorial nature as provided by law, including, the right to inspect books, accounts, records, memorandums, and federal and state income tax returns, to examine persons under oath, to issue orders or subpoenas for the production of books, accounts, papers, records, documents, and testimony, to take depositions, to apply to a court for attachment proceedings as for contempt, to approve vouchers for the fees of officers and witnesses, and to administer oaths; provided that the powers referred to in this division of this section shall be exercised by the Tax Administrator only in connection with the performance of the duties respectively assigned to the Tax Administrator under a municipal corporation income tax ordinance or resolution adopted in accordance with this Ordinance;
- (B) Appoint agents and prescribe their powers and duties;
- (C) Confer and meet with officers of other municipal corporations and states and officers of the United States on any matters pertaining to their respective official duties as provided by law;
- (D) Exercise the authority provided by law, including orders from bankruptcy courts, relative to remitting or refunding taxes, including penalties and interest thereon, illegally or erroneously imposed or collected, or for any other reason overpaid, and, in addition, the Tax Administrator may investigate any claim of overpayment and make a written statement of the Tax Administrator's findings, and, if the Tax Administrator finds that there has been an overpayment, approve and issue a refund payable to the taxpayer, the taxpayer's assigns, or legal representative as provided in this Ordinance;
- (E) Exercise the authority provided by law relative to consenting to the compromise and settlement of tax claims;
- (F) Exercise the authority provided by law relative to the use of alternative apportionment methods by taxpayers in accordance with ORC 718.02;
- (G) Make all tax findings, determinations, computations, assessments and orders the Tax Administrator is by law authorized and required to make and, pursuant to time limitations provided by law, on the Tax Administrator's own motion, review, redetermine, or correct any tax findings, determinations, computations, assessments or orders the Tax Administrator has made, but the Tax Administrator shall not review, redetermine, or correct any tax finding, determination, computation, assessment or order which the Tax Administrator has made for which an appeal has

- been filed with the Local Board of Tax Review or other appropriate tribunal, unless such appeal or application is withdrawn by the appellant or applicant, is dismissed, or is otherwise final;
- (H) Destroy any or all returns or other tax documents in the manner authorized by law;
 - (I) Enter into an agreement with a taxpayer to simplify the withholding obligations described in Section 5.051 of this Ordinance.

Section 13.132 AUTHORITY OF TAX ADMINISTRATOR; COMPROMISE OF CLAIM AND PAYMENT OVER TIME

- (A) As used in this section, "claim" means a claim for an amount payable to the Village of Ottawa Hills that arises pursuant to the municipal income tax imposed in accordance with this Ordinance.
- (B) The Tax Administrator may do either of the following if such action is in the best interests of the Village:
 - (1) Compromise a claim;
 - (2) Extend for a reasonable period the time for payment of a claim by agreeing to accept monthly or other periodic payments, upon such terms and conditions as the Tax Administrator may require.
- (C) The Tax Administrator's rejection of a compromise or payment-over-time agreement proposed by a person with respect to a claim shall not be appealable.
- (D) A compromise or payment-over-time agreement with respect to a claim shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of only the parties to the compromise or agreement, and shall not extinguish or otherwise affect the liability of any other person.
- (E)
 - (1) A compromise or payment-over-time agreement with respect to a claim shall be void if the taxpayer defaults under the compromise or agreement or if the compromise or agreement was obtained by fraud or by misrepresentation of a material fact. Any amount that was due before the compromise or agreement and that is unpaid shall remain due, and any penalties or interest that would have accrued in the absence of the compromise or agreement shall continue to accrue and be due.
 - (2) The Tax Administrator shall have sole discretion to determine whether or not penalty, interest, charges or applicable fees will be assessed through the duration of any compromise or payment-over-time agreement.
- (F) The Tax Administrator may require that the taxpayer provide detailed financial documentation and information, in order to determine whether or not a payment-over-time agreement will be authorized. The taxpayer's failure to provide the necessary and required information by the Tax Administrator shall preclude consideration of a payment-over-time agreement.

Section 13.133 AUTHORITY OF TAX ADMINISTRATOR; RIGHT TO EXAMINE

- (A) The Tax Administrator, or any authorized agent or employee thereof may examine the books, papers, records, and federal and state income tax returns of any employer, taxpayer, or other person that is subject to, or that the Tax Administrator believes is subject to, the provisions of this Ordinance for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of any return made or, if no return was filed, to ascertain the tax due under this Ordinance. Upon written request by the Tax Administrator or a duly authorized agent or employee thereof, every employer, taxpayer, or other person subject to this section is required to furnish the opportunity for the Tax Administrator, authorized agent, or employee to investigate and examine such books, papers, records, and federal and state income tax returns at a reasonable time and place designated in the request.

(B) The records and other documents of any taxpayer, employer, or other person that is subject to, or that a Tax Administrator believes is subject to, the provisions of this Ordinance shall be open to the Tax Administrator's inspection during business hours and shall be preserved for a period of six years following the end of the taxable year to which the records or documents relate, unless the Tax Administrator, in writing, consents to their destruction within that period, or by order requires that they be kept longer. The Tax Administrator of a municipal corporation may require any person, by notice served on that person, to keep such records as the Tax Administrator determines necessary to show whether or not that person is liable, and the extent of such liability, for the income tax levied by the Village or for the withholding of such tax.

(C) The Tax Administrator may examine under oath any person that the Tax Administrator reasonably believes has knowledge concerning any income that was or would have been returned for taxation or any transaction tending to affect such income. The Tax Administrator may, for this purpose, compel any such person to attend a hearing or examination and to produce any books, papers, records, and federal and state income tax returns in such person's possession or control. The person may be assisted or represented by an attorney, accountant, bookkeeper, or other tax practitioner at any such hearing or examination. This division does not authorize the practice of law by a person who is not an attorney.

(D) No person issued written notice by the Tax Administrator compelling attendance at a hearing or examination or the production of books, papers, records, or federal and state income tax returns under this section shall fail to comply.

Section 13.134 AUTHORITY OF TAX ADMINISTRATOR; REQUIRING IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

(A) The Tax Administrator may require any person filing a tax document with the Tax Administrator to provide identifying information, which may include the person's social security number, federal employer identification number, or other identification number requested by the Tax Administrator. A person required by the Tax Administrator to provide identifying information that has experienced any change with respect to that information shall notify the Tax Administrator of the change before, or upon, filing the next tax document requiring the identifying information.

(B) (1) If the Tax Administrator makes a request for identifying information and the Tax Administrator does not receive valid identifying information within thirty days of making the request, nothing in this Ordinance prohibits the Tax Administrator from imposing a penalty upon the person to whom the request was directed pursuant to Section 10 of this Ordinance, in addition to any applicable penalty described in Section 99 of this Ordinance.

(2) If a person required by the Tax Administrator to provide identifying information does not notify the Tax Administrator of a change with respect to that information as required under division (A) of this section within thirty days after filing the next tax document requiring such identifying information, nothing in this Ordinance prohibits the Tax Administrator from imposing a penalty pursuant to Section 10 of this Ordinance.

(3) The penalties provided for under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section may be billed and imposed in the same manner as the tax or fee with respect to which the identifying information is sought and are in addition to any applicable criminal penalties described in Section 99 of this Ordinance for a violation of Section 15 of this Ordinance, and any other penalties that may be imposed by the Tax Administrator by law.

Section 14 CONFIDENTIALITY

(A) Any information gained as a result of returns, investigations, hearings, or verifications required or authorized by ORC 718 or by the charter or ordinance of the Village of Ottawa Hills is confidential, and no person shall access or disclose such information except in accordance with a proper judicial order or in connection with the performance of that person's official duties or the official business of the Village as authorized by ORC 718 or the charter or ordinance authorizing the levy. The Tax Administrator of the Village or a designee thereof may furnish copies of returns filed or otherwise received under this Ordinance and other related tax information to the Internal Revenue Service, the State Tax Commissioner, and Tax Administrators of other municipal corporations.

(B) This section does not prohibit the Village from publishing or disclosing statistics in a form that does not disclose information with respect to particular taxpayers.

Section 15 FRAUD

No person shall knowingly make, present, aid, or assist in the preparation or presentation of a false or fraudulent report, return, schedule, statement, claim, or document authorized or required by municipal corporation ordinance or state law to be filed with the Tax Administrator, or knowingly procure, counsel, or advise the preparation or presentation of such report, return, schedule, statement, claim, or document, or knowingly change, alter, or amend, or knowingly procure, counsel or advise such change, alteration, or amendment of the records upon which such report, return, schedule, statement, claim, or document is based with intent to defraud the Village of Ottawa Hills or the Tax Administrator.

Section 16 OPINION OF THE TAX ADMINISTRATOR

(A) An "opinion of the Tax Administrator" means an opinion issued under this section with respect to prospective municipal income tax liability. It does not include ordinary correspondence of the Tax Administrator.

(B) A taxpayer may submit a written request for an opinion of the Tax Administrator as to whether or how certain income, source of income, or a certain activity or transaction will be taxed. The written response of the Tax Administrator shall be an "opinion of the Tax Administrator" and shall bind the Tax Administrator, in accordance with divisions (C), (G), and (H) of this section, provided all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The taxpayer's request fully and accurately describes the specific facts or circumstances relevant to a determination of the taxability of the income, source of income, activity, or transaction, and, if an activity or transaction, all parties involved in the activity or transaction are clearly identified by name, location, or other pertinent facts.

(2) The request relates to a tax imposed by the Village of Ottawa Hills in accordance with this Ordinance.

(3) The Tax Administrator's response is signed by the Tax Administrator and designated as an "opinion of the Tax Administrator."

(C) An opinion of the Tax Administrator shall remain in effect and shall protect the taxpayer for whom the opinion was prepared and who reasonably relies on it from liability for any taxes, penalty, or interest otherwise chargeable on the activity or transaction specifically held by the Tax Administrator's opinion to be taxable in a particular manner or not to be subject to taxation for any taxable years that may be specified in the opinion, or until the earliest of the following dates:

(1) The effective date of a written revocation by the Tax Administrator sent to the taxpayer by certified mail, return receipt requested. The effective date of the revocation shall be the taxpayer's date of receipt or one year after the issuance of the opinion, whichever is later;

- (2) The effective date of any amendment or enactment of a relevant section of the Ohio Revised Code, uncodified state law, or the Village's income tax ordinance that would substantially change the analysis and conclusion of the opinion of the Tax Administrator;
- (3) The date on which a court issues an opinion establishing or changing relevant case law with respect to the Ohio Revised Code, uncodified state law, or the Village's income tax ordinance;
- (4) If the opinion of the Tax Administrator was based on the interpretation of federal law, the effective date of any change in the relevant federal statutes or regulations, or the date on which a court issues an opinion establishing or changing relevant case law with respect to federal statutes or regulations;
- (5) The effective date of any change in the taxpayer's material facts or circumstances;
- (6) The effective date of the expiration of the opinion, if specified in the opinion.
- (D) (1) A taxpayer is not relieved of tax liability for any activity or transaction related to a request for an opinion that contained any misrepresentation or omission of one or more material facts.
- (2) If the taxpayer knowingly has misrepresented the pertinent facts or omitted material facts with intent to defraud the Village in order to obtain a more favorable opinion, the taxpayer may be in violation of Section 15 of this Ordinance.
- (E) If a Tax Administrator provides written advice under this section, the opinion shall include a statement that:
 - (1) The tax consequences stated in the opinion may be subject to change for any of the reasons stated in division (C) of this section;
 - (2) It is the duty of the taxpayer to be aware of such changes.
- (F) A Tax Administrator may refuse to offer an opinion on any request received under this section.
- (G) This section binds a Tax Administrator only with respect to opinions of the Tax Administrator issued on or after January 1, 2016.
- (H) An opinion of a Tax Administrator binds that Tax Administrator only with respect to the taxpayer for whom the opinion was prepared and does not bind the Tax Administrator of any other municipal corporation.
- (I) A Tax Administrator shall make available the text of all opinions issued under this section, except those opinions prepared for a taxpayer who has requested that the text of the opinion remain confidential. In no event shall the text of an opinion be made available until the Tax Administrator has removed all information that identifies the taxpayer and any other parties involved in the activity or transaction.
- (J) An opinion of the Tax Administrator issued under this section or a refusal to offer an opinion under subsection (F) may not be appealed.

Section 17 ASSESSMENT; APPEAL BASED ON PRESUMPTION OF DELIVERY

- (A) (1) The Village Tax Commissioner shall serve an assessment either by personal service, by certified mail, or by a delivery service authorized under Section 5703.056 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (2) The Village Tax Commissioner may deliver the assessment through alternative means as provided in this section, including, but not limited to, delivery by secure electronic mail. Such alternative delivery method must be authorized by the person subject to the assessment.
- (3) Once service of the assessment has been made by the Village Tax Commissioner or other municipal official, or the designee of either, the person to whom the assessment is directed may protest the ruling of that assessment by filing an appeal with the Local Board

of Tax Review within sixty days after the receipt of service. The delivery of an assessment of the Village Tax Commissioner as prescribed in Section 718.18 of the Revised Code is prima facie evidence that delivery is complete and that the assessment is served.

- (B) (1) A person may challenge the presumption of delivery and service as set forth in this division. A person disputing the presumption of delivery and service under this section bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the address to which the assessment was sent was not an address with which the person was associated at the time the Village Tax Commissioner originally mailed the assessment by certified mail. For the purposes of this section, a person is associated with an address at the time the Village Tax Commissioner originally mailed the assessment if, at that time, the person was residing, receiving legal documents, or conducting business at the address; or if, before that time, the person had conducted business at the address and, when the assessment was mailed, the person's agent or the person's affiliate was conducting business at the address. For the purposes of this section, a person's affiliate is any other person that, at the time the assessment was mailed, owned or controlled at least twenty per cent, as determined by voting rights, of the addressee's business.
- (2) If a person elects to appeal an assessment on the basis described in division (B)(1) of this section, and if that assessment is subject to collection and is not otherwise appealable, the person must do so within sixty days after the initial contact by the Village Tax Commissioner or other municipal official, or the designee of either, with the person. Nothing in this division prevents the Village Tax Commissioner or other official from entering into a compromise with the person if the person does not actually file such an appeal with the Local Board of Tax Review.

Section 18 LOCAL BOARD OF TAX REVIEW; APPEAL TO LOCAL BOARD OF TAX REVIEW

- (A) (1) The legislative authority of the Village of Ottawa Hills shall maintain a Local Board of Tax Review to hear appeals as provided in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 718.
- (2) The Local Board of Tax Review shall consist of three members. Two members shall be appointed by the legislative authority of the Village, and may not be employees, elected officials, or contractors with the Village at any time during their term or in the five years immediately preceding the date of appointment. One member shall be appointed by the top administrative official of the Village. This member may be an employee of the Village, but may not be the director of finance or equivalent officer, or the Tax Administrator or other similar official or an employee directly involved in municipal tax matters, or any direct subordinate thereof.
- (3) The term for members of the Local Board of Tax Review appointed by the legislative authority of the Village shall be two years. There is no limit on the number of terms that a member may serve should the member be reappointed by the legislative authority. The board member appointed by the top administrative official of the Village shall serve at the discretion of the administrative official.
- (4) Members of the board of tax review appointed by the legislative authority may be removed by the legislative authority as set forth in Section 718.11(A)(4) of the Revised Code.
- (5) A member of the board who, for any reason, ceases to meet the qualifications for the position prescribed by this section shall resign immediately by operation of law.
- (6) A vacancy in an unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment within sixty days of when the vacancy was created. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor

was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of such term. No vacancy on the board shall impair the power and authority of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the board.

(7) If a member is temporarily unable to serve on the board due to a conflict of interest, illness, absence, or similar reason, the legislative authority or top administrative official that appointed the member shall appoint another individual to temporarily serve on the board in the member's place. This appointment shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as are applicable to the appointment of the member temporarily unable to serve.

(B) Whenever the Village Tax Commissioner issues an assessment, the Village Tax Commissioner shall notify the taxpayer in writing at the same time of the taxpayer's right to appeal the assessment, the manner in which the taxpayer may appeal the assessment, and the address to which the appeal should be directed, and to whom the appeal should be directed.

(C) Any person who has been issued an assessment may appeal the assessment to the board by filing a request with the board. The request shall be in writing, shall specify the reason or reasons why the assessment should be deemed incorrect or unlawful, and shall be filed within sixty days after the taxpayer receives the assessment.

(D) The Local Board of Tax Review shall schedule a hearing to be held within sixty days after receiving an appeal of an assessment under division (C) of this section, unless the taxpayer requests additional time to prepare or waives a hearing. If the taxpayer does not waive the hearing, the taxpayer may appear before the board and/or may be represented by an attorney at law, certified public accountant, or other representative. The board may allow a hearing to be continued as jointly agreed to by the parties. In such a case, the hearing must be completed within one hundred twenty days after the first day of the hearing unless the parties agree otherwise.

(E) The board may affirm, reverse, or modify the Village Tax Commissioner's assessment or any part of that assessment. The board shall issue a final determination on the appeal within ninety days after the board's final hearing on the appeal, and send a copy of its final determination by ordinary mail to all of the parties to the appeal within fifteen days after issuing the final determination. The taxpayer or the Village Tax Commissioner may appeal the board's final determination as provided in Section 5717.011 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(F) The Local Board of Tax Review created pursuant to this section shall adopt rules governing its procedures, including a schedule of related costs, and shall keep a record of its transactions. The rules governing the Local Board of Tax Review procedures shall be in writing, and may be amended as needed by the Local Board of Tax Review. Such records are not public records available for inspection under Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. For this reason, any documentation, copies of returns or reports, final determinations, or working papers for each case must be maintained in a secure location under the control of the Tax Administrator. No member of the Local Board of Tax Review may remove such documentation, copies of returns or reports, final determinations, or working papers from the hearing. Hearings requested by a taxpayer before a Local Board of Tax Review created pursuant to this section are not meetings of a public body subject to Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code. For this reason, such hearings shall not be open to the public, and only those parties to the case may be present during the hearing.

Section 19 ACTIONS TO RECOVER; STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

- (A) (1) (a) Civil actions to recover municipal income taxes and penalties and interest on municipal income taxes shall be brought within the latter of:
- (i) Three years after the tax was due or the return was filed, whichever is later;
 - or
 - (ii) One year after the conclusion of the qualifying deferral period, if any.

- (b) The time limit described in division (A)(1)(a) of this section may be extended at any time if both the Tax Administrator and the employer, agent of the employer, other payer, or taxpayer consent in writing to the extension. Any extension shall also extend for the same period of time the time limit described in division (C) of this section.
- (2) As used in this section, "qualifying deferral period" means a period of time beginning and ending as follows:
- (a) Beginning on the date a person who is aggrieved by an assessment files with a Local Board of Tax Review the request described in Section 18 of this Ordinance. That date shall not be affected by any subsequent decision, finding, or holding by any administrative body or court that the Local Board of Tax Review with which the aggrieved person filed the request did not have jurisdiction to affirm, reverse, or modify the assessment or any part of that assessment.
- (b) Ending the later of the sixtieth day after the date on which the final determination of the Local Board of Tax Review becomes final or, if any party appeals from the determination of the Local Board of Tax Review, the sixtieth day after the date on which the final determination of the Local Board of Tax Review is either ultimately affirmed in whole or in part or ultimately reversed and no further appeal of either that affirmation, in whole or in part, or that reversal is available or taken.
- (B) Prosecutions for an offense made punishable under a resolution or ordinance imposing an income tax shall be commenced within three years after the commission of the offense, provided that in the case of fraud, failure to file a return, or the omission of twenty-five per cent or more of income required to be reported, prosecutions may be commenced within six years after the commission of the offense.
- (C) A claim for a refund of municipal income taxes shall be brought within the time limitation provided in Section 9.096 of this Ordinance.
- (D) (1) Notwithstanding the fact that an appeal is pending, the petitioner may pay all or a portion of the assessment that is the subject of the appeal. The acceptance of a payment by the Village does not prejudice any claim for refund upon final determination of the appeal.
- (2) If upon final determination of the appeal an error in the assessment is corrected by the Tax Administrator, upon an appeal so filed or pursuant to a final determination of the Local Board of Tax Review created under Section 18 of this Ordinance, of the Ohio board of tax appeals, or any court to which the decision of the Ohio board of tax appeals has been appealed, so that the amount due from the party assessed under the corrected assessment is less than the amount paid, there shall be issued to the appellant or to the appellant's assigns or legal representative a refund in the amount of the overpayment as provided by Section 9.096 of this Ordinance, with interest on that amount as provided by division (D) of this section.
- (E) No civil action to recover municipal income tax or related penalties or interest shall be brought during either of the following time periods:
- (1) The period during which a taxpayer has a right to appeal the imposition of that tax or interest or those penalties;
- (2) The period during which an appeal related to the imposition of that tax or interest or those penalties is pending.

Section 20 ADOPTION OF RULES

- (A) Pursuant to Section 718.30 of the Revised Code, the Village of Ottawa Hills, pursuant to this Ordinance, grants authority to the Tax Administrator, subject to approval of the Mayor and Council, to adopt rules to administer the income tax imposed by the Village.
- (B) All rules adopted under this section shall be published and posted on the internet.

Sections 21-96 RESERVED

Section 97 COLLECTION AFTER TERMINATION OF ORDINANCE

(A) This Ordinance shall continue in full force and effect insofar as the levy of taxes is concerned until repealed, and insofar as the collection of taxes levied hereunder and actions and proceedings for collecting any tax so levied or enforcing any provisions of this Ordinance are concerned, it shall continue in full force and effect until all of the taxes levied in the aforesaid period are fully paid and any and all suits and prosecutions for the collection of taxes or for the punishment of violations of this Ordinance have been fully terminated, subject to the limitations contained in Section 19.

(B) Annual returns due for all or any part of the last effective year of this Ordinance shall be due on the date provided in Section 9.091 as though the same were continuing.

Section 98 SAVINGS CLAUSE

If any sentence, clause, section or part of this Ordinance, or any tax imposed against, or exemption from tax granted to, any taxpayer or forms of income specified herein is found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality, or invalidity shall affect only such clause, sentence, section or part of this Ordinance so found and shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections or other parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the legislative authority of the Village of Ottawa Hills that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included in this Ordinance.

Section 99 VIOLATIONS; PENALTY

(A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, whoever violates Section 15 of this Ordinance, division (A) of Section 14 of this Ordinance, or Section 5.051 of this Ordinance by failing to remit municipal income taxes deducted and withheld from an employee, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree and shall be subject to a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term of up to six months, or both. In addition, the violation is punishable by dismissal from office or discharge from employment, or both.

(B) Any person who discloses information received from the Internal Revenue Service in violation of Internal Revenue Code Sec. 7213(a), 7213A, or 7431 shall be guilty of a felony of the fifth degree and shall be subject to a fine of not more than five thousand dollars plus the costs of prosecution, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, or both. In addition, the violation is punishable by dismissal from office or discharge from employment, or both.

(C) Each instance of access or disclosure in violation of division (A) of Section 14 of this Ordinance constitutes a separate offense.

(D) Whoever violates any provision of this Ordinance for which violation no penalty is otherwise provided, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree. By way of an illustrative enumeration, violations of this Ordinance shall include but not be limited to the following acts, conduct, and/or omissions:

- (1) Fail, neglect or refuse to make any return or declaration required by this Ordinance; or
- (2) Knowingly make any incomplete return; or
- (3) Willfully fail, neglect, or refuse to pay the tax, penalties, and interest, or any combination thereof, imposed by this Ordinance; or

- (4) Cause to not be remitted the city income tax withheld from qualifying wages of employees to the Village as required by Section 5.051; or
- (5) Neglect or refuse to withhold or remit municipal income tax from employees; or
- (6) Refuse to permit the Tax Administrator or any duly authorized agent or employee to examine his or her books, records, papers, federal and state income tax returns, or any documentation relating to the income or net profits of a taxpayer; or
- (7) Fail to appear before the Tax Administrator and to produce his or her books, records, papers, federal and state income tax returns, or any documentation relating to the income or net profits of a taxpayer upon order or subpoena of the Tax Administrator; or
- (8) Refuse to disclose to the Tax Administrator any information with respect to such person's income or net profits, or in the case of a person responsible for maintaining information relating to his or her employers' income or net profits, such person's employer's income or net profits; or
- (9) Fail to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance or any order or subpoena of the Tax Administrator; or
- (10) To avoid imposition or collection of municipal income tax, willfully give to an employer or prospective employer false information as to his or her true name, correct social security number and residence address, or willfully fail to promptly notify an employer or a prospective employer of any change in residence address and date thereof; or
- (11) Fail, as an employer, agent of an employer, or other payer, to maintain proper records of employees' residence addresses, total qualifying wages paid and municipal tax withheld, or to knowingly give the Tax Administrator false information; or
- (12) Willfully fail, neglect, or refuse to make any payment of estimated municipal income tax for any taxable year or any part of any taxable year in accordance with this Ordinance; or
- (13) Attempt to do anything whatsoever to avoid the payment of the whole or any part of the tax, penalties or interest imposed by this Ordinance.
- (14) For purposes of this section, any violation that does not specify a culpable mental state or intent, shall be one of strict liability and no culpable mental state or intent shall be required for a person to be guilty of that violation.
- (15) For purposes of this section, the term "person" shall, in addition to the meaning prescribed in Section 3, include in the case of a corporation, association, pass-through entity or unincorporated business entity not having any resident owner or officer within the city, any employee or agent of such corporation, association, pass-through entity or unincorporated business entity who has control or supervision over or is charged with the responsibility of filing the municipal income tax returns and making the payments of the municipal income tax as required by this Ordinance.

Section 100 This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2016.

Vote on Passage:

Yeas _____ Nays _____

Date of passage

President of Council

Clerk of Council

VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OHIO

ORDINANCE No. 2018-3

AMENDING ORDINANCE 2015-10 KNOWN AS THE INCOME TAX ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE CHANGES TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 718, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has made changes to Ohio Revised Code Section 718 through House Bill 49, and

WHEREAS, despite concerns that some of these provisions violate the Home Rule Amendment, the Village is adopting the municipal income tax provisions of House Bill 49 to avoid any challenge to its ability to impose a municipal income tax, and

WHEREAS, the Village, by enacting this Ordinance, does not concede the legality of House Bill 49's municipal income tax provisions, Section 718.04(A) of the Ohio Revised Code, or any other law that is subject to the current lawsuit brought by Ohio municipalities, and

WHEREAS, if ongoing litigation seeking a declaration that the House Bill 49 municipal income tax provisions, Section 718.04(A) of the Ohio Revised Code, and other provisions of Ohio law that threaten local self-government are unconstitutional, Section 3 of this ordinance shall be considered immediately and effectively repealed and made null, void, and ineffective with no further action required by this Council.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF OTTAWA HILLS, THAT:

SECTION 1. That Section 7(C)(1)(d) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strike through:

Section 7 DECLARATION OF ESTIMATED TAX

(C)(1)(d) On or before the fifteenth day of the ~~twelfth month~~ **first month following the end** of the taxable year, ninety per cent of the tax liability for the taxable year.

SECTION 2. That Section 10(C)(3) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strike through:

Section 10 PENALTY, INTEREST, FEES, AND CHARGES

(3) With respect to any unpaid withholding tax, a penalty ~~equal to~~ **not more than** fifty percent of the amount not timely paid shall be imposed.

SECTION 3. That Section 6 of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended to include the following section:

Section 6.1 ELECTION OF ALTERNATIVE NET PROFIT FILING

Taxpayers electing alternative net profit filing with the State of Ohio are to follow ORC 718.80 to 718.95.

SECTION 4. That if any provision of the H.B. 49 municipal income tax provisions is found unconstitutional, or is stayed or enjoined as a result of the related litigation, the corresponding amendment adopted in Section 3 of this Ordinance shall be likewise stayed.

SECTION 5. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of Council, and that all deliberations of the Council and/or any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 6. That this Ordinance, being necessary for the immediate protection of the public welfare, safety, health, and property is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately from and after its passage. The emergency arises from the need to adopt municipal income tax provisions from H.B 49 and and changes to O.R.C. Section 718 to preserve the Village's taxing authority.

Vote on emergency measure

Yeas 6 Nays 0

Passed as an emergency measure

Yeas 6 Nays 0

4-16-2018
Date of passage



President of Council

Attest:



Clerk of Council

VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OHIO
ORDINANCE No. 2019-

AMENDING ORDINANCE 2015-10 KNOWN AS THE INCOME TAX ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE CHANGES TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 718, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has made changes to Ohio Revised Code Section 718 through Amended Substitute House Bill 166 signed into law by Governor Dewine on July 18, 2019, and

WHEREAS, changes in Ohio Revised Code Section 718 definitions require Ordinance 2015-10 to revise and update definitions to comply with State law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF OTTAWA HILLS, THAT:

SECTION 1. That Section 3(BB) of Ordinance 2015-10 be amended as shown below with new language shown in bold and deleted language with strike through:

Section 3 DEFINITIONS

(BB) ~~"PENSION" means any amount paid to an employee or former employee that is reported to the recipient on an IRS form 1099-R, or successor form. Pension does not include deferred compensation, or amounts attributable to nonqualified deferred compensation plans, reported as FICA/Medicare wages on an IRS form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, or successor form.~~ "PENSION" means a retirement benefit plan, regardless of whether the plan satisfies the qualifications described under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, including amounts that are taxable under the "Federal Insurance Contributions Act," Chapter 21 of the Internal Revenue Code, excluding employee contributions and elective deferrals, and regardless of whether such amounts are paid in the same taxable year in which the amounts are included in the employee's wages, as defined by section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

"RETIREMENT BENEFIT PLAN" means an arrangement whereby an entity provides benefits to individuals either on or after their termination of service because of retirement or disability. "Retirement benefit plan" does not include wage continuation payments, severance payments, or payments made for accrued personal or vacation time.

SECTION 2. That this Ordinance, being necessary for the immediate protection of the public welfare, safety, health, and property is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force for municipal taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2020

June 8, 2023

Tax office structure is codified in state and Village codes as follows.

Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Title 7 Section 718.01(U)(1) "Tax administrator" means, subject to division (U)(2) of this section, the individual charged with direct responsibility for administration of an income tax levied by a municipal corporation in accordance with this chapter, and also includes the following:

- (a) A municipal corporation acting as the agent of another municipal corporation;
- (b) A person retained by a municipal corporation to administer a tax levied by the municipal corporation, but only if the municipal corporation does not compensate the person in whole or in part on a contingency basis;
- (c) The central collection agency or the regional income tax agency or their successors in interest, or another entity organized to perform functions similar to those performed by the central collection agency and the regional income tax agency.

(2) "Tax administrator" does not include the tax commissioner.

(3) A private individual or entity serving in any position described in division (U)(1)(b) or (c) of this section shall have no access to criminal history record information.

Village of Ottawa Hills (VOH) Ordinance 2015-10 Section 3 (RR) "TAX OFFICE STRUCTURE" comprises a two-tiered authority structure charged with direct responsibility for administration of an income tax levied by the Village of Ottawa Hills in accordance with this Ordinance;

"VILLAGE TAX COMMISSIONER" is appointed by the Mayor for the purpose of providing oversight, decision making for taxable matters involving assessments, and representation of the Village Tax Office in appealable matters (before the Local Board of Tax Appeals),

"TAX ADMINISTRATOR" is the hired position in charge of the day-to-day administration of the Village income tax, and also includes the following:

- (1) A municipal corporation acting as the agent of another municipal corporation; (2) A person retained by a municipal corporation to administer a tax levied by the municipal corporation, but only if the municipal corporation does not compensate the person in whole or in part on a contingency basis;
 - (3) The Central Collection Agency (CCA) or the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) or their successors in interest, or another entity organized to perform functions similar to those performed by the Central Collection Agency and the Regional Income Tax Agency.
-

The Local Board of Tax Review is codified in state and Village codes as follows.

ORC 718.11(A)(1) The legislative authority of each municipal corporation that imposes a tax on income in accordance with this chapter shall maintain a local board of tax review to hear appeals as provided in this section. The legislative authority of any municipal corporation that does not impose a tax on income on June 26, 2003, but that imposes such a tax after that date, shall establish such a board by ordinance not later than one hundred eighty days after the tax takes effect.

(2) The local board of tax review shall consist of three members. Two members shall be appointed by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation, but such appointees may not be employees, elected officials, or contractors with the municipal corporation at any time during their term or in the five years immediately preceding the date of appointment. One member shall be appointed by the top administrative official of the municipal corporation. This member may be an employee of the municipal corporation, but may not be the director of finance or equivalent officer, or the tax administrator or other similar official or an employee directly involved in municipal tax matters, or any direct subordinate thereof.

(3) The term for members of the local board of tax review appointed by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation shall be two years. There is no limit on the number of terms that a member may serve if the member is reappointed by the legislative authority. The board member appointed by the top administrative official of the municipal corporation shall serve at the discretion of the administrative official.

(4) Members of the board of tax review appointed by the legislative authority may be removed by the legislative authority by majority vote for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office. To remove such a member, the legislative authority must give the member a copy of the charges against the member and afford the member an opportunity to be publicly heard in person or by counsel in the member's own defense upon not less than ten days' notice. The decision by the legislative authority on the charges is final and not appealable.

(5) A member of the board who, for any reason, ceases to meet the qualifications for the position prescribed by this section shall resign immediately by operation of law.

(6) A vacancy in an unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment within sixty days of when the vacancy was created. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of such term. No vacancy on the board shall impair the power and authority of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the board.

(7) If a member is temporarily unable to serve on the board due to a conflict of interest, illness, absence, or similar reason, the legislative authority or top administrative official that appointed the member shall appoint another individual to temporarily serve on the board in the member's

place. The appointment of such an individual shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as are applicable to the appointment of the member temporarily unable to serve.

(B) Whenever a tax administrator issues an assessment regarding an underpayment of municipal income tax or denies a refund claim, the tax administrator shall notify the taxpayer in writing at the same time of the taxpayer's right to appeal the assessment or denial, the manner in which the taxpayer may appeal the assessment or denial, and the address to which the appeal should be directed.

(C) Any person who has been issued an assessment may appeal the assessment to the board created pursuant to this section by filing a request with the board. The request shall be in writing, shall specify the reason or reasons why the assessment should be deemed incorrect or unlawful, and shall be filed within sixty days after the taxpayer receives the assessment.

(D) The local board of tax review shall schedule a hearing to be held within sixty days after receiving an appeal of an assessment under division (C) of this section, unless the taxpayer requests additional time to prepare or waives a hearing. If the taxpayer does not waive the hearing, the taxpayer may appear before the board and may be represented by an attorney at law, certified public accountant, or other representative. The board may allow a hearing to be continued as jointly agreed to by the parties. In such a case, the hearing must be completed within one hundred twenty days after the first day of the hearing unless the parties agree otherwise.

(E) The board may affirm, reverse, or modify the tax administrator's assessment or any part of that assessment. The board shall issue a final determination on the appeal within ninety days after the board's final hearing on the appeal, and send a copy of its final determination by ordinary mail to all of the parties to the appeal within fifteen days after issuing the final determination. The taxpayer or the tax administrator may appeal the board's final determination as provided in section [5717.011](#) of the Revised Code.

(F) The local board of tax review created pursuant to this section shall adopt rules governing its procedures and shall keep a record of its transactions. Such records are not public records available for inspection under section [149.43](#) of the Revised Code. Hearings requested by a taxpayer before a local board of tax review created pursuant to this section are not meetings of a public body subject to section [121.22](#) of the Revised Code.

VOH Section 18 (A)(1) The legislative authority of the Village of Ottawa Hills shall maintain a Local Board of Tax Review to hear appeals as provided in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 718.

(2) The Local Board of Tax Review shall consist of three members.

Two members shall be appointed by the legislative authority of the Village, and may not be employees, elected officials, or contractors with the Village at any time during their term or in the five years immediately preceding the date of appointment. One member shall be appointed by the top administrative official of the Village. This member may be an employee of the Village, but may not be the director of finance or equivalent officer, or the Tax

Administrator or other similar official or an employee directly involved in municipal tax matters, or any direct subordinate thereof.

(3) The term for members of the Local Board of Tax Review appointed by the legislative authority of the Village shall be two years. There is no limit on the number of terms that a member may serve should the member be reappointed by the legislative authority. The board member appointed by the top administrative official of the Village shall serve at the discretion of the administrative official.

(4) Members of the board of tax review appointed by the legislative authority may be removed by the legislative authority as set forth in Section 718.11(A)(4) of the Revised Code.

(5) A member of the board who, for any reason, ceases to meet the qualifications for the position prescribed by this section shall resign immediately by operation of law.

(6) A vacancy in an unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment within sixty days of when the vacancy was created. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of such term. No vacancy on the board shall impair the power and authority of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the board.

(7) If a member is temporarily unable to serve on the board due to a conflict of interest, illness, absence, or similar reason, the legislative authority or top administrative official that appointed the member shall appoint another individual to temporarily serve on the board in the member's place. This appointment shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as are applicable to the appointment of the member temporarily unable to serve.

(B) Whenever the Village Tax Commissioner issues an assessment, the Village Tax Commissioner shall notify the taxpayer in writing at the same time of the taxpayer's right to appeal the assessment, the manner in which the taxpayer may appeal the assessment, and the address to which the appeal should be directed, and to whom the appeal should be directed.

(C) Any person who has been issued an assessment may appeal the assessment to the board by filing a request with the board. The request shall be in writing, shall specify the reason or reasons why the assessment should be deemed incorrect or unlawful, and shall be filed within sixty days after the taxpayer receives the assessment.

(D) The Local Board of Tax Review shall schedule a hearing to be held within sixty days after receiving an appeal of an assessment under division (C) of this section, unless the taxpayer requests additional time to prepare or waives a hearing. If the taxpayer does not waive the hearing, the taxpayer may appear before the board and/or may be represented by an attorney at law, certified public accountant, or other representative. The board may allow a hearing to be continued as jointly agreed to by the parties. In such a case, the hearing must be completed within one hundred twenty days after the first day of the hearing unless the parties agree otherwise.

(E) The board may affirm, reverse, or modify the Village Tax Commissioner's assessment or any part of that assessment. The board shall issue a final determination on the appeal within ninety days after the board's final hearing on the appeal, and send a copy of its final determination by ordinary mail to all of the parties to the appeal within fifteen days after issuing the final determination. The taxpayer or the Village Tax Commissioner may appeal the board's final determination as provided in Section 5717.011 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(F) The Local Board of Tax Review created pursuant to this section shall adopt rules governing its procedures, including a schedule of related costs, and shall keep a record of its transactions. The rules governing the Local Board of Tax Review procedures shall be in writing, and may be amended as needed by the Local Board of Tax Review. Such records are not public records available for inspection under Section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. For this reason, any documentation, copies of returns or reports, final determinations, or working papers for each case must be maintained in a secure location under the control of the Tax Administrator. No member of the Local Board of Tax Review may remove such documentation, copies of returns or reports, final determinations, or working papers from the hearing. Hearings requested by a taxpayer before a Local Board of Tax Review created pursuant to this section are not meetings of a public body subject to Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code. For this reason, such hearings shall not be open to the public, and only those parties to the case may be present during the hearing.

Definition of Assessment for your information.

ORC 718.01(PP)(1) "Assessment" means a written finding by the tax administrator that a person has underpaid municipal income tax, or owes penalty and interest, or any combination of tax, penalty, or interest, to the municipal corporation that commences the person's time limitation for making an appeal to the local board of tax review pursuant to section [718.11](#) of the Revised Code, and has "ASSESSMENT" written in all capital letters at the top of such finding.

(2) "Assessment" does not include an informal notice denying a request for refund issued under division (B)(3) of section [718.19](#) of the Revised Code, a billing statement notifying a taxpayer of current or past-due balances owed to the municipal corporation, a tax administrator's request for additional information, a notification to the taxpayer of mathematical errors, or a tax administrator's other written correspondence to a person or taxpayer that does not meet the criteria prescribed by division (PP)(1) of this section.

VOH Section 3 (B)(1)"ASSESSMENT" means any of the following:

- (a) A written finding by the Village Tax Commissioner that a person has underpaid municipal income tax, or owes penalty and interest, or any combination of tax, penalty, or interest, to the municipal corporation;
 - (b) A full or partial denial of a refund request issued under Section 9.096 (B)(2) of this Ordinance;
-

(c) The Village Tax Commissioner's denial of a taxpayer's request for use of an alternative apportionment method, issued according to ORC 718.02; or

(d) The Village Tax Commissioner's requirement for a taxpayer to use an alternative apportionment method, issued according to ORC 718.02.

(e) For purposes of division (B)(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d) of this section, an assessment shall commence the person's time limitation for making an appeal to the Local Board of Tax Review pursuant to Section 18 of this Ordinance, and shall have "ASSESSMENT" written in all capital letters at the top of such finding.

(2) "ASSESSMENT" does not include notice(s) denying a request for refund issued under Section 9.096 (B)(3) of this Ordinance, a billing statement notifying a taxpayer of current or past-due balances owed to the Village of Ottawa Hills, the Tax Administrator's request for additional information, a notification to the taxpayer of mathematical errors, or the Tax Administrator's other written correspondence to a person or taxpayer that does not meet the criteria prescribed by division (B)(1) of this section.

Structural Leadership and Board of Review

Currently, the income tax office for the Village operates under a Commissioner/Administrator structure. Day-to-day operations are carried out by the Tax Administrator. The Tax Commissioner is an appointed position to aid in decision-making on disputed issues prior to Board of Review appeals, to represent the tax office in Board of Review appeals hearings, and to sign refunds in amounts over \$500.00. The Tax Commissioners in the past had been attorneys, but our current Commissioner is a practicing CPA. While a legal background for appeals can be an advantage, finding an attorney with a good understanding of local tax and willing to serve in this position has been challenging. Therefore it was decided that a practicing CPA could lend the independence perspective often required for disputes with taxpayers.

718.01(U) "Tax administrator" means the individual charged with direct responsibility for administration of an income tax levied by a municipal corporation in accordance with this chapter, and also includes the following:

While I cannot find a definition of "Tax Commissioner," the context throughout ORC 718 implies that the "Tax Commissioner" always refers to the state position, and the "Tax Administrator" always refers to the top local position. It is quite common for many cities to refer to their top tax position as the "Tax Commissioner" and nothing in HB5 mandates cities change the titles they are using. I find our structure valuable for maintaining independence in a small community; I do not see any prohibition for doing this. While at times the Tax Administrator may make a decision on a disputed issue, this decision will not trigger the time limits for a board of appeals hearing. These tax office decisions always include instructions that the taxpayer can appeal to the Village Tax Commissioner. When a taxpayer disagrees with the Tax Administrator's decision, the written appeal is forwarded to the Village Tax Commissioner. Once the Village Tax Commissioner makes his/her decision, the taxpayer is informed of appeal rights to board of appeals and the time period in which this appeal must be made.

Local Board of Tax Review

Our ordinance established our Board of Review as the Director of Law (Solicitor), Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer. Our board has met to hear cases infrequently. HB5 has changed the terminology from "Board of Review" to "Local Board of Tax Review" and has legislated how members are to be chosen to serve on the board. The board is to have three members, two of which are to be appointed by Council and one appointed by the top administrative official (Village Manager). There are also restrictions as to who the appointees can be.

Sec. 718.11. (A)(1) The legislative authority of each municipal corporation that imposes a tax on income in accordance with this chapter shall maintain a local board of tax review to hear appeals as provided in this section. The legislative authority of any municipal corporation that does not impose a tax on income on June 26, 2003, but that imposes such a tax after that date, shall establish such a board by ordinance not later than one hundred eighty days after the tax takes effect.

The two members to be appointed by the legislative authority (Council) cannot be employees of the Village, elected officials, or contractors with the Village either currently or in the immediately preceding 5 years before appointment. The final member is appointed by the top administrative official of the Village (likely the Village Manager). This appointee may be a Village employee but cannot be the Director of Finance, Tax Administrator, or an employee directly involved in Village tax matters, or direct subordinates.

(2) The local board of tax review shall consist of three members. Two members shall be appointed by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation, but such appointees may not be employees, elected officials, or contractors with the municipal corporation at any time during their term or in the five years immediately preceding the date of appointment. One member shall be appointed by the top administrative official of the municipal corporation. This member may be an employee of the municipal corporation, but may not be the director of finance or equivalent officer, or the tax administrator or other similar official or an employee directly involved in municipal tax matters, or any direct subordinate thereof.

Terms are for 2 years and there is no limit on the number of terms a member may serve if reappointed.

(3) The term for members of the local board of tax review appointed by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation shall be two years. There is no limit on the number of terms that a member may serve if the member is reappointed by the legislative authority. The board member appointed by the top administrative official of the municipal corporation shall serve at the discretion of the administrative official.

Misconduct by a member appointed by council must be dealt with through Council as described below. The member appointed by the Village Manager serves at the manager's discretion and so can be dismissed by the manager.

(4) Members of the board of tax review appointed by the legislative authority may be removed by the legislative authority by majority vote for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office. To remove such a member, the legislative authority must give the member a copy of the charges against the member and afford the member an opportunity to be publicly heard in person or by counsel in the member's own defense upon not less than ten days' notice. The decision by the legislative authority on the charges is final and not appealable.

(5) A member of the board who, for any reason, ceases to meet the qualifications for the position prescribed by this section shall resign immediately by operation of law.

Vacancies must be filled in the same way as the original appointment within 60 days. Power and authority remains in the remaining members when there is a vacancy.

(6) A vacancy in an unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment within sixty days of when the vacancy was created. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of such term. No vacancy on the board shall impair the power and authority of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the board.

Temporary members can be appointed to serve (in the original manner) to substitute for member's conflict of interest, illness, or other absences, as they may occur.

(7) If a member is temporarily unable to serve on the board due to a conflict of interest, illness, absence, or similar reason, the legislative authority or top administrative official that appointed the member shall appoint another individual to temporarily serve on the board in the member's place. The appointment of such an individual shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as are applicable to the appointment of the member temporarily unable to serve.

An assessment is issued by the Village Tax Commissioner and is a formal decision on an appealable issue. This decision can result in additional tax due or denial or reduction of a refund. This may involve a disagreement between the taxpayer and the tax office over the taxability of various sources of income.

(B) Whenever a tax administrator issues an assessment regarding an underpayment of municipal income tax or denies a refund claim, the tax administrator shall notify the taxpayer in writing at the same time of the taxpayer's right to appeal the assessment or denial, the manner in which the taxpayer may appeal the assessment or denial, and the address to which the appeal should be directed.

The times for a taxpayer to appeal, schedule the hearing, and release the decision have been extended a bit as highlighted below.

(C) Any person who has been issued an assessment may appeal the assessment to the board created pursuant to this section by filing a request with the board. The request shall be in writing, shall specify the reason or reasons why the assessment should be deemed incorrect or unlawful, and shall be filed within sixty days after the taxpayer receives the assessment.

(D) The local board of tax review shall schedule a hearing to be held within sixty days after receiving an appeal of an assessment under division (C) of this section, unless the taxpayer requests additional time to prepare or waives a hearing. If the taxpayer does not waive the hearing, the taxpayer may appear before the board and may be represented by an attorney at law, certified public accountant, or other representative. The board may allow a hearing to be continued as jointly agreed to by the parties. In such a case, the hearing must be completed within one hundred twenty days after the first day of the hearing unless the parties agree otherwise.

(E) The board may affirm, reverse, or modify the tax administrator's assessment or any part of that assessment. The board shall issue a final determination on the appeal within ninety days after the board's final hearing on the appeal, and send a copy of its final determination by ordinary mail to all of the parties to the appeal within fifteen days after issuing the final determination. The taxpayer or the tax administrator may appeal the board's final determination as provided in section 5717.011 of the Revised Code.

(F) The local board of tax review created pursuant to this section shall adopt rules governing its procedures and shall keep a record of its transactions. Such records are not public records available for inspection under section 149.43 of the Revised Code. Hearings requested by a taxpayer before a local board of tax review created pursuant to this section are not meetings of a public body subject to section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

Note also that we do have an Assistant Tax Commissioner as a backup appointed official to take over the duties of the Tax Commissioner in the event he is unavailable or unable to fulfill his duties.

On a related issue, HB5 now includes a provision in which the Tax Administrator, and any tax office employee, can be held "personally" responsible, an unprecedented move never before included in ORC 718. The 2015 Budget Bill reverses this provision to remove personal liability, mandating that only the Municipal Corporation is to be held liable.

Sec. 718.37. (A) A taxpayer aggrieved by an action or omission of a tax administrator, a tax administrator's employee, or an employee of the municipal corporation may bring an action against the tax administrator, against the municipal corporation, or against both, for damages in the court of common pleas of the county in which the municipal corporation is located, if all of the following apply:

(1) In the action or omission the tax administrator, the tax administrator's employee, or the employee of the municipal corporation frivolously disregards a provision of this chapter or a rule or instruction of the tax administrator;

(2) The action or omission occurred with respect to an audit or an assessment and the review and collection proceedings connected with the audit or assessment;

(3) The tax administrator, the tax administrator's employee, or the employee of the municipal corporation did not act manifestly outside the scope of employment and did not act with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner.

(B) In any action brought under division (A) of this section, upon a finding of liability on the part of the tax administrator or the municipal corporation, the tax administrator or the municipal corporation shall be liable to the taxpayer in an amount equal to the sum of the following:

(1) Compensatory damages sustained by the taxpayer as a result of the action or omission by the tax administrator, the tax administrator's employee, or the employee of the municipal corporation;

(2) Reasonable costs of litigation and attorneys' fees sustained by the taxpayer.

(C) In the awarding of damages under division (B) of this section, the court shall take into account the negligent actions or omissions, if any, on the part of the taxpayer that contributed to the damages, but shall not be bound by the provisions of sections 2315.32 to 2315.36 of the Revised Code.

(D) Whenever it appears to the court that a taxpayer's conduct in the proceedings brought under division (A) of this section is frivolous, the court may impose a penalty against the taxpayer in an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars which shall be paid to the general fund of the municipal corporation.

(E) Division (A) of this section does not apply to opinions of the tax administrator or other information functions of the tax administrator.

(F) As used in this section, "frivolous" means that the conduct of the tax administrator, an employee of the municipal corporation or the tax administrator, the taxpayer, or the taxpayer's counsel of record satisfies either of the following:

(1) It obviously serves merely to harass or maliciously injure the tax administrator, the municipal corporation, or employees thereof if referring to the conduct of a taxpayer or the taxpayer's counsel of

record, or to harass or maliciously injure the taxpayer if referring to the conduct of the tax administrator, the municipal corporation, or employees thereof;

(2) It is not warranted under existing law and cannot be supported by a good faith argument for an extension, modification, or reversal of existing law.

VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS, OHIO

RESOLUTION No. 2023-23

ADOPTING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY (RITA).

WHEREAS, the Village of Ottawa Hills has become a member of the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA), and

WHEREAS, RITA will become the administrator of income tax functions for the Village of Ottawa Hills, beginning January 01, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the Village desires to adopt the Rules and Regulations of the Regional Income Tax Agency, effective January 01, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF OTTAWA HILLS ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1.

The Village of Ottawa Hills hereby adopts the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) Rules and Regulations, including amendments that may be made from time to time, for use as the Village of Ottawa Hills's Income Tax Rules and Regulations. In the event of a conflict with any provision(s) of the the Village of Ottawa Hills's Income Tax Ordinance and the RITA Rules and Regulations, the Ordinance will supersede. Until and if the contractual relationship between the Village of Ottawa Hills and RITA ceases, this section shall supersede all other provisions within Village tax code regarding promulgation of rules and regulations by the Tax Administrator.

SECTION 2.

It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council and any of its committees concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in open meetings, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code of Ohio.


SECTION 3.

This legislation shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Vote on passage: Yeas 5 Nays 0

11/13/2023

Date of passage



President of Council

Attest:



Acting Clerk of Council