TOWN OF GREENWOOD ORDINANCE NO. 2007-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF GREENWOOD, FLORIDA; INCREASING THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the State legislature of the State of Florida has passed Chapter 2007-4, Laws of Florida, effective April 9, 2007, and retroactive to January 1, 2007, implimenting s. 6(f), Art. VII of the State Constitution, increasing the additional exemption for low income seniors that cities or counties may grant from a maximum of \$25,000.00 to a maximum of \$50,000.00; and

WHEREAS; the Town of Greenwood desires to provide the maximum property tax exemption to low income seniors at the earliest possible date,

WHEREAS, the exemption may be made effective retroactive to January 1, 2007, provided a copy of the ordinance granting the exemption is delivered to the Property Appraiser by June 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, by a two-thirds vote the Town Council declares this need be an emergency and adopts this Ordinance pursuant to Section 166.041(b), Florida Statutes, without prior publication.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Greenwood Town Council that:

- 1. The Town Council hereby adopts, grants and allows an additional homestead exemption on property taxes levied by or on behalf of the municipality in the amount of \$50,000.00 for any person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, who has attained age 65, and whose household income does not exceed \$20,000.
- 2. The Town Council hereby adopts, grants and allows said additional homestead exemption retroactive to January 1, 2007.
- 3. <u>SEVERABILITY</u>: If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held, for any reason, to be unconstitutional, void, or invalid, the validity of the remaining portion of the ordinance shall not be affected thereby.
- 4. <u>REPEALER</u>: All other ordinances or portions of ordinances in force at the time this ordinance becomes effective which are in conflict with any provisions hereof shall be deemed to have been repealed and are repealed to the extent of any such conflict, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.
- 5. <u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>: This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDAINED this 17th day of May, 2007, by a unanimous vote of the Town Council.

CHARLES SANDERS, Mayor

Attest:

SUZANNE M. NESMITH

Town Clerk