Bill No. 2021-53 Ordinance No. 2493

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE UTILITY BILL RELIEF PROGRAM; FIXING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Waynesville has been selected to receive funding from the federal government through the American Rescue Plan Act; and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved the formation of a Board to analyze the regulations of the Act and formulate a plan on how these funds would best serve the community; and

WHEREAS, the ARPA Grant Funding Board has discussed four eligible uses for the ARPA funding and have presented programs to City Council for approval; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to approve these programs in an effort to disperse the funds in a timely and efficient manner.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF WAYNESVILLE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> The Utility Bill Relief Program, designed to aid utility customers during the Coronavirus outbreak of 2020, shall be amended to include aid provided for by the American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Section 2. The amount of funds allocated to the grant program shall not exceed \$100,000 in a five-year period.

<u>Section 2.</u> This funding will be allocated to low-income or disproportionate households only, on a first-come first-serve basis, as determined by Utility Department staff.

<u>Section 2.</u> The City Administrator, along with the members of the ARPA Funding Board, are authorized to implement this ordinance and develop any supplemental policy or procedure needed to govern such ordinance.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on November 1st, 2021.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ON THIS 21st DAY OF OCTOBER, 2021.

Jerry Brown, Mayo

Michele Brown City Clerk

Bill No. 2021-53



The City of Waynesville

Utility Billing Relief Program

We're Here to Help

City staff understands that many of you may be experiencing difficulties during the current COVID-19 outbreak. Because of this, the City of Waynesville's Utility Billing Department has implemented the following policies and procedures in order to make life a little easier during this stressful time.

Pay Agreements

The Utility Billing Department has modified its Pay Agreement policy to better fit the individual customer and their needs. Please contact the Utility Billing Department by phone or email to explore different options that may help your situation.

Payment Assistance

If you are unable to pay your bill the Missouri Ozarks Community Action, Inc. (MOCA) may be able to assist you through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Emergency Crisis Intervention Program ECIP. You can contact MOCA at (573) 765-3263 for more information.

Also, you may qualify for the City's Utility Bill Relief Program. This program is being funded by the American Rescue Relief Plan Act. To see if you qualify for help through this program, contact the Utility Department at (573) 774-6171. Grant funding is for low-income or disproportionate families only.







