

RESOLUTION NO. R2020-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BURNET AMENDING AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAM PROVIDING COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS PUBLIC UTILITY PAYMENT ASSISTANCE BY AUTHORIZING ASSISTANCE FOR THE JULY UTILITY BILLING CYCLE

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article III, Section 52-a of the Texas Constitution and Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code, City Council established a program to provide public utility payment assistance to commercial customers by Resolution No R2020-18 for the May billing cycle; and

WHEREAS, City Council extended the Program to provide public utility payment assistance to commercial customers by Resolution No R2020-26 to provide assistance for the June billing cycle; and

WHEREAS, certain local businesses are still experiencing significant revenue loss and/or cost increases due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the governor's shelter in place orders; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to extend the adopted Program to stimulate business and commercial activity within the city limits by providing struggling businesses with utility payment assistance.

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

Section one. Findings. The foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted by the City Council and made a part hereof for all purposes as findings of fact.

Section two. Program amended. The Commercial Customers Public Utility Payment Assistance Program is hereby amended by amending Section (4) in its entirety to read as follows:

(4) Program term. The Program shall be instituted in three phases as follows:

- (a) Phase One. Phase one shall apply to the May, 2020, billing cycles. Acceptance of applications for assistance for the Phase One was closed on June 30, 2020.**
- (b) Phase two. Phase two shall apply to the June, 2020, billing cycle. Acceptance of applications for assistance for the Phase was closed on July 31, 2020.**
- (c) Phase three. Phase three shall apply to the July, 2020, billing cycle. Applications for this phase will be accepted until August 20, 2020. Customers who timely submit an application under this phase, and who meet the Program qualification requirements, shall be eligible to receive the utility credit provided payment of the customer's 50% portion of their utility bill is**

received on or before August 31, 2020; and after such date phase three of the Program shall close.

Section three. Program amended. The Commercial Customers Public Utility Payment Assistance Program is hereby amended by amending Section (6) in its entirety to read as follows:

- (6) **Maximum Grant Amount.** Grants shall be in the form of a credit of 50% of a recipient's electricity, water, sewer, garbage and recycling services charges incurred during the three utility billing cycles occurring during the term of the Program. The maximum grant credit amount for any applicant shall not exceed \$10,000.00.

Section four. Program amended. The Commercial Customers Public Utility Payment Assistance Program is hereby amended by amending Section (8) in its entirety to read as follows:

(8) **Award process.**

- (a) **Submission.** To be eligible for a grant a completed application must be delivered to the City Manager by electronic mail, or facsimile.
- (b) **Award determination.** A committee consisting of the Administrative Services/Airport Manager, Assistant City Manager and the Director of Finance shall review the application and determine if an award amount should be credited to each applicant's utility accounts. The committee shall consider the COVID-19 pandemic's effect on each applicant's business and approve grants for those businesses significantly adversely affected by the pandemic and the resulting shelter in place precautions. The committee may request additional information or business records from an applicant, as may be reasonably necessary to make award determinations. Upon making an award determination the committee shall advise the applicant by electronic mail.
- (c) **Appeals.** Any applicant who feels aggrieved by his or her award determination may appeal to the City Manager. An appeal must be in writing and delivered by personal delivery, email, or by mail to the City Secretary within 10 business days of the date of the committee's determination. The committee's notice of any determination to deny a request shall include notice of the applicant's right to appeal under this subsection and shall provide instructions for delivery of the appeal to the City Secretary.

Section four. No other Program amendments. All other terms and conditions of the Commercial Customers Public Utility Payment Assistance Program established by Resolution No. R2020-18, as amended by Resolution No. R2020-26, shall remain in full force and effect.

Section three. Authorization. The City Manager is authorized to manage all aspects of the Program; and, is authorized and directed to take those actions that are reasonably necessary to facilitate the purpose of this Resolution.

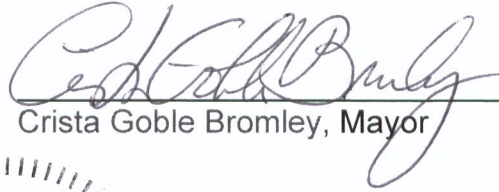
Section four. Open Meetings. It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this resolution was passed was open to the public and that public

of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, as modified by the governor's orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.


Section five. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect upon approval and adoption by City Council.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this the 11th day of August, 2020.

CITY OF BURNET


Crista Goble Bromley, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kelly Dix, City Secretary

