

VIRGIN TOWN

RESOLUTION # 2023-D

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A REVIEW COMMITTEE AND PROCEDURES TO REVIEW AND DECIDE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO ASSIST CITIZENS OF VIRGIN NEEDING ASSISTANCE IN PAYING THEIR WATER BILLS DUE TO FINANCIAL STRUGGLES OR CIRCUMSTANCES.

WHEREAS, in April 2019 or approximately thereabouts, the Town created an account, #99992, to assist its citizens who were having trouble with paying their water bills;

WHEREAS, the Town solicited donations from citizens to fund this account and to assist citizens in need of financial assistance in paying their water bills;

WHEREAS, the last donation was made on August 31, 2021, and the account has a current balance of \$1,099.15;

WHEREAS, a citizen recently has inquired about contributing to this fund;

WHEREAS, no funds have been dispersed from this fund and no procedures have been established for disbursement of funds; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to set up procedures for disbursement of money to citizens who are delinquent in payment of their water bills due to financial struggles or other financial circumstances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Virgin Town Council establishes the following committee and enacts the following rules concerning disbursement of funds from account #99992:

1. A delinquent water finance committee is hereby established to disburse money to Virgin Citizens who are delinquent in their water bill payment to the Town of Virgin due to financial reasons or circumstances.
2. The committee shall consist of the Town Treasurer, Town Clerk, and one member of Town Council.
3. The initial town council member shall be Councilmember Paul Luwe and shall serve until replaced by a majority vote of the town council.
4. The following guidelines for disbursement of money are:
 - a. Eligible accounts for payment are accounts in arrears for 2 or more months due to financial troubles, or an account where the responsible party to the account

requests assistance due to financial circumstances. The fund will **not** be used to pay for accounts owed or in arrears due to water leaks.

- b. Each month, the Town Clerk, will provide the committee a list of accounts that are in arrears or where the responsible party requests assistance, length in arrears, the amount owed, and whether the accounts have a history of deficient payment due to financial troubles.
- c. The committee then will decide which accounts, if any, should receive payment by majority vote. In the situations where the responsible party has requested financial assistance and is denied, the responsible party can appeal this decision to the Town Council. The Town Council may only overrule the committee if it is shown that the responsible party is in need of assistance on his or her water bill due to financial circumstances.
- d. The maximum payment from this fund per account per month is \$50, unless all 3 committee members agree to pay more.
- e. The maximum payment per fiscal year from this fund is \$300.

This Resolution shall be effective upon passage.

PASSED BY THE VIRGIN TOWN COUNCIL on _____ day of _____ 2023.

Jean Krause, Mayor

Attest:

Krystal Percival, Virgin Town Clerk