

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Miguel A. Augustin, CPA, Finance Director
Date: May 12, 2020



RE: **A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) TO THE NORTH MIAMI LOW INCOME HOME UTILITY BILLS ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION, INC TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE CITY WATER UTILITY BILL CUSTOMERS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Mayor and City Council authorize the appropriation of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) to the North Miami Low Income Home Utility Bills Assistance Foundation, Inc. (the "NOMI Water Bill Assistance Program") to assist eligible City Water Utility Bill customers suffering hardship from either the medical or economic effects of the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

BACKGROUND

The assistance will be available only to residential customers who reside in the City of North Miami and will be awarded on a first-come basis for those that qualify. The residential customers will be evaluated for eligibility by the City of North Miami Housing and Social Services Department based on income and family size to determine the amount of assistance awarded. Those deemed eligible will have payment made to their utility accounts on their behalf by the NOMI Water Assistance Program and the assistance will be available only to residential account customers.

ATTACHMENT(s)

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) TO THE NORTH MIAMI LOW INCOME HOME UTILITY BILLS ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION, INC TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE CITY WATER UTILITY BILL CUSTOMERS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of North Miami (“City”) and its water utility customers have been adversely affected by the negative economic effects of the global Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic and consequently, many cannot afford to make payment on their water bills; and

WHEREAS, the City had established by Resolution No. 2017-R-145, the North Miami Low Income Home Utility Bills Assistance Foundation, Inc. (the “NOMI Water Bill Assistance Program”) to assist low-income customers unable to pay their water bill due to economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of North Miami have expressed an intent to offer assistance to low-income resident customers suffering hardship from either the medical or economic effects of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 by funneling the aid through the NOMI Water Bill Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire to accomplish this objective by providing two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) in funding to the NOMI Water Bill Assistance Program to ensure that there are adequate resources available to assist those residents hardest hit by the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the residential customers will be evaluated for eligibility by the City of North Miami Housing and Social Services Department based on income and family size to determine the amount of assistance awarded, and those deemed eligible will have payment made to their utility accounts on their behalf by the NOMI Water Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, the assistance will be available only to residential customers who reside in the City of North Miami, and will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis for those who qualify.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals in the whereas clauses are true and correct, and incorporated into this Resolution.

Section 2. Appropriation of \$250,000 to fund the NOMI Water Assistance Program. The Mayor and City Council hereby authorize the appropriation of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) to the North Miami Low Income Home Utility Bills Assistance Foundation, Inc. in order to help low-income or Coronavirus/COVID-19 affected resident customers to pay their City water bills.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a _____ vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this ____ day of _____, 2020.

PHILIPPE BIEN-AIME
MAYOR

ATTEST:

VANESSA JOSEPH, ESQ.
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

JEFF P. H. CAZEAU, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: CITY ATTORNEY

Moved by: _____
Seconded by: _____

Vote:

Mayor Philippe Bien-Aime	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Vice Mayor Alix Desulme, Ed.D.	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Councilman Scott Galvin	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Councilwoman Carol Keys, Esq.	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Councilwoman Mary Estimé-Irvin	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)