

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date: October 3, 2022

Action Required: Approval of resolution.

Presenter: Chris Cullinan, Director of Finance

Staff Contacts: Richard Palumbo - Utility Billing

Title: Appropriating American Rescue Plan funds from the Commonwealth for Utility Bill Assistance - \$29,524.18 (1 of 2 readings)

Background

The Commonwealth of Virginia received \$4.3 billion of American Rescue Plan Funds. Of this total, \$120 million was dedicated toward residential utility bills that are more than 60 days overdue. The City received approximately \$360,000 in December 2021, which was applied to eligible accounts. The City recently received notice of a second award of funds in the amount of \$29,524.18.

Discussion

The guidance for the second award is the same as the first award, namely the assistance is limited to residential customers with arrearages greater than 60 days for the time period between March 12, 2020 and August 31, 2021. Customers do not need to take any action or provide information to receive these relief funds. The Utility Billing Office will distribute the funds on a proportionate basis as soon as possible.

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

This resolution contributes to Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan, to be an inclusive community of self-sufficient residents; Goal 2 to be a healthy and safe City; and Goal 5 to be a well-managed and responsive organization.

Community Engagement

None.

Budgetary Impact

This has no impact on the General Fund or Utility Enterprise Funds. These funds will be appropriated to and expended from a designated fund. The funds will be distributed as credits towards a customer's bill.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval and appropriation of funds.

Suggested Motion: "I move the RESOLUTION appropriating the amount of \$29,524.18 of American Rescue Plan funds received from the Commonwealth of Virginia for residential utility bill assistance."

Alternatives

There are no alternatives. Funds must be used for utility bill arrearage assistance or be returned to the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Accounts.

Attachments

1. 10.3.22 Resolution ARP Utility Bill Assistance