

TOWN OF NORTH BRENTWOOD

RESOLUTION NO. 2022 - 05

Introduced by: Councilmember Evan Dame
Seconded by: Councilmember Aaron Baynes
Date of Introduction: June _6_, 2022

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NORTH BRENTWOOD ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, many of our Town residents and the small business within our Town, have been financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, emergency declarations issued by the Federal, State and County level have been issued and in some cases remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to present economic challenges for the Town businesses, residents and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has enacted Ordinance 2022-01 to be codified in Article 2 (Grant Administration) of Chapter 27 (Grants-In-Aid) of the Code of the Town of North Brentwood pursuant to the Town Charter, §602(18) (Grants-in-aid) in order to properly authorize, implement and administer ARPA and other grants administrator by the Town; and

WHEREAS, members of the Town Council have recommended that the Town implement a North Brentwood Energy Assistance relief program, to assist individuals, families, and small businesses, residing or operating within the Town of North Brentwood, with their financial hardships, which has been caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of North Brentwood that as we continue to address the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery in its aftermath, Town residents and small businesses, meeting the following eligibility criteria and requirements, may apply for emergency funding through the following program:

NORTH BRENTWOOD ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Purpose

- The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance through energy (electric and heating) assistance grants to eligible Town of North Brentwood individuals, businesses and families who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligibility

- Must be a Town resident or business located within the Town and provide proof of residence or business ownership within the Town by showing three of the below:
- Unexpired driver’s license with current address listed,

- Current lease or housing letter (within last 12 months) or rent receipt from landlord with address,
 - Mortgage statement within the last 30 days,
 - Current property tax bill or receipt,
 - Copy of your tax return with Schedule C attachments (Business owners only),
 - DBA filing from your municipality or county (Business owners only).
- Must show proof of hardship
 - Most recent electric and heating (if applicable) bill and see below,
 - Denial from other agency that provide similar assistance, i.e. Prince Georges County Family Services (LIHEAP); Pepco Emergency Rental Assistance Program and Utility Service Protection Program; Maryland Homeowner Assistance (MEAP)
 - The applicant must provide bill statements that they would like to be paid.
 - Acceptable Bills: Water/Electric/Natural Gas
 - No Funds will be made payable directly to the applicant. All bills will be paid directly to the outstanding account on behalf of the applicant.
 - In order, to be eligible for electric grants, the bill must be in the applicant's name.
 - The applicant must provide documentation to verify information provided on the application.
 - Documentation to be provided includes a copy of the applicant's photo ID, proof of residence or business ownership

Requirements

- Complete application form with required documentation
- Photo ID for the Applicant
 - Driver's license or other government issued identification card.
- Proof of residency or business ownership may be established through any two of the following:
 - Sign copy of a deed, mortgage, or lease agreement
 - Utility bill with applicant's name and address, issued within the last 60 days
 - Bank statement issued within the last 60 days
 - Current, valid insurance policy
 - Recent voter registration card
 - Government benefits statement
 - Government ID Card/Driver's License with address
- Proof of hardship (include any of the following documentation):
 - Confirmation of utility delinquencies on letterhead from interested party (a copy of the bill will suffice if it shows the delinquencies)
 - Letter or documentation from former employer
 - Signed statement pertaining to COVID-19 impact or non-essential status for 1099 (contract) workers or self-employed individuals
 - 2020 and/or 2021 tax return(s) as filed with the IRS
 - Documentation of acceptance under other Government financial aid programs
 - Proof of unemployment benefits or application
 - Letter of furlough or layoff from employer

- Receipt of SNAP/TANF benefits
- Receipt of Social Security Income
- Medicaid
- Residing in subsidized housing
- Family eligible for free/reduced lunch at schools

- Applicant must swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that all the information he or she gives to in this Energy Assistance Application is true, correct, and complete to the best of his or her ability, belief, and knowledge, or that he or she is the representative and/or owner of the residence or business identified.

- The applicant must sign a statement that he or she authorizes the Town of North Brentwood (sometimes referred to herein as TNB) to investigate and confirm the accuracy and completeness of all information provided with the application.

- The applicant shall sign a statement that he or she consents to allow the relevant electric, or oil company, or any other energy provider to provide relevant account information to the TNB and for TNB to communicate with those providers regarding the application, and allow TNB to release and exchange relevant information with other agencies and the relevant electric, oil company, or other energy provider in order to make appropriate referrals to services that may assist the applicant to lower his or her energy bill or help the applicant to better afford the energy costs or help with the completion of the application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF NORTH BRENTWOOD THIS 6th DAY OF June, 2022.

Aye: 3

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

ATTEST:

Petrella Robinson, Mayor

Date: _____