

CITY OF NEWPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 3847

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT
ADOPTING THE LOW-INCOME UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
AND DESIGNATING FUNDING TO MAINTAIN THE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Newport City Council implemented a low-income utility payment assistance program; and

WHEREAS, the low-income utility payment assistance program is funded through the restoration of a portion of the water and sewer in lieu of revenues above the currently appropriated amounts; and

WHEREAS, the Newport City Council previously adopted a phase-out of this payment between the Water and Sewer Funds and the General Fund, beginning with reducing the historic five percent payment one percent per year; and

WHEREAS, in the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year, the city has reached the one percent payment from the Water and Sewer Funds to the General Fund for this program; and

WHEREAS, as part of the low-income utility assistance program, the City Council opted to increase this payment from the Water and Sewer Funds with the funds being used in the General Fund to pay for adjustments to utility bills for residents who qualify for the low-income utility assistance program; and

WHEREAS, for the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year, the added one percent payment from the Water and Sewer Funds will be initiated in February through June of 2019, with the proposed 2019/2020 Fiscal Year Budget including a one percent in lieu of payment from the Water and Sewer Funds to support and maintain this program during the next fiscal year and beyond.

THE CITY OF NEWPORT RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Beginning February 4, 2019, the City of Newport has instituted a Low-Income Assistance Program, as follows:

A. Applications for participation in the Low-Income Assistance Program will be made through the Community Services Consortium (CSC).

B. Eligibility requirements for the program are as follows:

1. The applicant is low income; with an annual income at or below 60% of the 2018 Lincoln County median income based on family size.

2. The applicant is a current residential utility customer of the City of Newport; the utility bill is in the applicant's name; and the service address is the applicant's primary residence.
 3. The applicant lives in the city limits of Newport.
 4. The applicant has made a good faith effort to pay the utility bill on a regular basis.
- C. If an applicant meets all four of the criteria above and wish to apply for assistance, please contact the Community Service Consortium (CSC) for further details.
- D. This program is scheduled to operate from January 1 through December 31 of each year, and in order to participate, applications must be completed annually.


Section 2. Funding for the Low-Income Utility Assistance Program will be funded from a one percent payment from the Water and Sewer Funds to the General Fund, beginning February 4, 2019 through June 30, 2019. Beginning July 1, 2019, payments in lieu of taxes will be maintained at one percent to pay for the General Fund obligations for this program.

Section 3. The resolution is effective retroactively to February 1, 2019.



Dean H. Sawyer, Mayor

ATTEST:



Margaret M. Hawker, City Recorder