## **RESOLUTION NO. 2326**

A RESOLUTION MODIFYING THE RENTERS UTILITY RELIEF PROGRAM FOR THE BENEFIT OF LOCAL RESIDENTIAL TENANTS AND TO BE ADMINISTERED BY WILSONVILLE COMMUNITY SHARING.

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2237 was adopted by City Council on May 17, 2010 in response to then Council Goal #3: Provide support to individuals and families in need due to the current challenging economic times; and

WHEREAS, the renter utility relief program has provided valuable assistance to a number of residents of the City during difficult economic times; and

WHEREAS, certain constraints within the existing program guidelines have limited the number of families that can be assisted; and

WHEREAS, adjustments in the program guidelines could increase the number of families assisted and the dollar value of assistance provided,

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Renters Utility Relief Program is hereby modified as reflected in Exhibit A-1. Modifications include:
  - a. Increase in the maximum assistance per renter from \$200 to \$300 per year
  - b. Inclusion of electric and natural gas utility bills
  - c. Reduction in the renter co-pay from 10% to 5%
- 2. Exhibit A-1 supersedes Exhibit A on the date of adoption. Program terms are retroactive to July 1, 2011.
- 3. Except as modified herein, the Renter Utility Relief Program Resolution remains in effect.

4. The Resolution No. 2305 suspending payments from the City to Wilsonville Community Sharing is hereby rescinded to allow payments to resume under the new guidelines.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Wilsonville at a regular meeting thereof this 3rd day of October, 2011, and filed with the Wilsonville City Recorder this same date.

Tim Knapp, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sandra C. King, MMC, City Recorder

**SUMMARY OF VOTES:** 

Mayor Knapp -- Yes

Council President Núñez -- Excused

Councilor Hurst -- Yes

Councilor Starr -- Yes

Councilor Goddard -- Yes

## CITY OF WILSONVILLE RENTERS UTILITY RELIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Use Wilsonville Community Sharing (WCS) as administrator and provide up to \$12,000 per year for assistance to individuals in need and to provide up to \$4,000 per year for administrative costs. Rely upon WCS's screening and administrative procedures. City contribution is to be restricted as follows:

- 1. Direct beneficiary must be a resident of Wilsonville.
- 2. Assistance to be limited to renters for utility costs incurred by eligible renters. "Utility Costs" shall include electric, natural gas, and City of Wilsonville billed utilities such as water, sewer, etc. WCS shall follow their established requirements to qualify households for financial assistance from city resources. WCS shall be allowed to change such requirements from time to time without seeking approval from the city.
- 3. The amount of assistance from city resources shall be up to \$300 per household per year and at WCS's discretion may be less.
- 4. The beneficiary shall provide a co-pay of at least 5% of the past due amount from their personal funds.

In recognition of the additional intake, screening, record keeping, and administration the City will provide \$4,000 annually towards WCS general assistance program. Such amount to be paid in quarterly installments.

The city will disburse \$3,000 to WCS per quarter. Depending upon demand level, this can be adjusted upwards or downwards based on requests from WCS, but shall not exceed \$12,000 in one 12-month period. Future annual amounts are subject to appropriation by Budget Committee and City Council.

The Renter Utility Assistance Program will carryover \$18,393 of unspent cash as of June 30, 2011. The WCS Board proposes to supplement the \$3,000 quarterly allocation stated above by using this carryover during the next two or three years of the program. WCS and City staff can evaluate the use of the funds during the term of this agreement and propose changes as necessary. Except for halting future payments or requesting the return of the funds such changes can be agreed upon between WCS and City staff. Exceptions would be referred to City Council for action.

WCS will provide quarterly reports on the use of these program funds. A sample format is attached.

Effective date of the revised program will be retroactive to July 1, 2011.

The annual assistance would occur for three consecutive years, beginning July 2010, or until the Portland metro area unemployment rate falls below 7%, whichever happens later. Current unemployment is 11.1% (February 2010, BLS)[8.9% in May 2011]. Historic graph attached.

## Wilsonville Community Sharing Quarterly Reporting for Renters Utility Relief Program For Quarter Ending \_\_\_\_\_\_

1	City funds carried over from prior quarter (line 7, prior quarter)	\$
2	Receipt of new city allocation in current quarter	\$
3 4 5	Quarterly Assistance – Electric Bills (from table below)  Quarterly Assistance – Gas Bills (from table below)  Quarterly Assistance – City of Wilsonville Utilities (from table	\$ \$ \$
	below)	
6	Total financial assistance provided $(3 + 4 + 5)$	\$
7	Ending balance of city resources $(1+2-6)$	\$

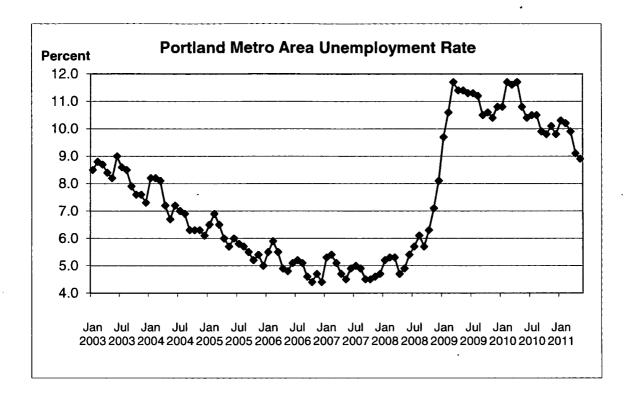
		Electric	Natural Gas	City Utility
8	Financial assistance provided (3, 4 & 5)	\$	\$	\$
9	Number of households provided assistance			
10	Financial assistance per household (8/9)	\$	\$	\$

Please return this form to:

Gary Wallis Finance Director City of Wilsonville 29799 SW Town Center Loop E Wilsonville, OR 97070

wallis@ci.wilsonville.or.us

[Program ends when Portland unemployment declines to 7%]



(BLS reports May 2011: 8.9%)