

ORDINANCE NO. 39-19AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE FORT SMITH MUNICIPAL CODE WITH REFERENCE TO PROJECT CONCERN WHICH PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO IDENTIFIED UTILITY CUSTOMERS

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS, that:

SECTION 1: Section 25-95 of the Municipal Code is hereby amended to state as follows:

Customers wishing to apply for assistance from the program must complete a program application and provide required documentation. The City of Fort Smith will process the application within thirty (30) days of receipt. Utility assistance discounts will be applied to the first billing cycle following approval for participation in the program. Customers approved to participate in the program must requalify for assistance annually by the anniversary date of their last approval and when moving to a new address. Any application for continued participation shall meet all requirements established in Code Sections 25-92, 25-93 and 25-94.

SECTION 2: Section 25-96 of the Municipal Code is hereby amended to state as follows:

Application for participation in the program shall be made to the City of Fort Smith as indicated on the application form. Income verification shall be based on the applicant's most recent IRS income tax return, Social Security Benefits Statement, or three (3) most recent consecutive months of income source documentation. The City Administrator's designated agent is authorized to make the determination of eligibility of applicants and may use available sources such as government agencies to verify the information contained in the application form.

SECTION 3: Section 25-97 of the Municipal Code is hereby amended to state as follows:

Any person whose eligibility for the program is denied shall be notified in writing. Such customer shall have a period of ten (10) days from the date of the denial letter to request in writing a hearing before the City Administrator or the Administrators designated agent. At such hearing, the customer shall be entitled to present any desired information regarding the eligibility in question.

SECTION 4: The provisions of Section 25-98 of the Municipal Code are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5: The codifier of the Municipal Code shall codify the amended language for Sections 25-95, 25-96 and 25-97 in those code sections. Code Section 25-98 shall be reserved for future use.

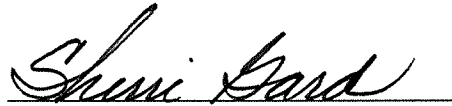
PASSED AND APPROVED this 4th day of June 2019.

APPROVED:



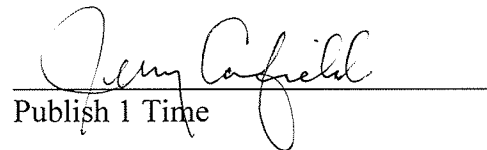
Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Publish 1 Time