

BCC Mtg. Date: July 7, 2020

RESOLUTION

of the
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
regarding
**THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ORANGE COUNTY
UTILITIES DISCONNECTIONS AND LATE FEES**

Resolution No. 2020-~~SW~~-M 25

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida (the "State") as a result of the COVID-19 virus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Mayor of Orange County, Florida (the "Mayor") issued Emergency Executive Order 2020-01 declaring a state of local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020 the Mayor issued Emergency Executive Orders 2020-04 and 2020-05 closing nonessential businesses in Orange County in response to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order 20-91 directing all persons in Florida to limit their movements and personal interactions outside of home to only those necessary to obtain or provide essential services or conduct essential activities; and

WHEREAS, many businesses have been negatively impacted by the spread of COVID-19, and the necessary public health measures taken in response, resulting in business shutdowns, business closures, and job loss; and

WHEREAS, various government entities have taken measures to respond to COVID-19's economic impact including the Federal and State governments; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020 the Federal Housing Finance Agency ("FHFA") directed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to temporarily suspend foreclosures and evictions for Enterprise-backed single-family mortgages due to the COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-94 providing for targeted, temporary relief to Floridians with single-family mortgages and residential tenancies by suspending and tolling certain statutes providing for mortgage foreclosure and eviction causes of action due to the COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 10.03 of County Administrative Regulations and various County resolutions provide for the Orange County Utilities (“OCU”) Department to assess late fees and to disconnect service on accounts with an outstanding balance due; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) finds that providing temporary relief to Orange County residents by temporarily suspending late fees and service disconnections for Orange County residential customers to be consistent with the Mayor’s emergency powers under Chapter 252, Florida Statutes and Chapter 2, Article IX, Orange County Code and in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are hereby incorporated and are to be considered binding.

Section 2. Ratification of Temporary Suspension of OCU Disconnections and Late Fees. The Board hereby ratifies, affirms and approves the temporary suspension by OCU of service disconnections and late fees for residential OCU customers commencing March 16, 2020 and March 24, 2020, respectively, and continuing through the state of local emergency, as it may be extended, or such earlier date as may be determined by the Mayor.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective upon the date of adoption by the Board.

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF JUL 07 2020, 2020.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Orange County Board of County Commissioners

By: *Jerry L. Demings*
for Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Mayor

ATTEST: Phil Diamond, CPA, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

BY: *Phil Diamond*
Deputy Clerk

