

Ordinance 55-21

By: Richard Sharp

An Ordinance to renew the “City of Bexley Housing Voucher Acceptance Program Grant” previously established by Third Amended Ordinance 43-20, for the purpose of encouraging Bexley rental property owners to accept and participate in various state/local government and “not for profit organization” housing voucher programs

WHEREAS, The Council of the City of Bexley Ohio, desired with the enactment of Ordinance 28-20 (Non-discrimination in housing due to source of income) and Third Amended Ordinance 43-20 (the Housing Voucher Acceptance Program), to assist current and future residents in securing equal and/or affordable housing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Bexley reaffirms its commitment to being a welcoming community for all, and to continuing to explore and enact policy reforms and programs in order to expand the quality and availability of affordable housing to families in Bexley; and

WHEREAS, A barrier to some current and future Bexley residents in securing equal and/or affordable housing opportunities is a lack of rental property owners who are approved Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) vendors and accept US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 housing vouchers, and/or other state/local governmental and “not for profit organization” housing vouchers;

WHEREAS, “Source of income housing discrimination protection ordinances” in of themselves do not provide real time evaluation of effectiveness and community embrace of the spirit of the ordinance, since rental property owners do not have to apply to participate in a housing voucher program, meaning that the City has no way of determining if the “Source of Income” Ordinance is having any positive affect for potential residents of the City.

WHEREAS, Due to the unforeseen continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and its effect on the Administration’s efforts to publicize the Housing Voucher Acceptance Program, and on CMHA’s ability to actively train prospective rental property owners on CMHA’s registration, inspection and approval processes.

THEREFORE: BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEXLEY, OHIO:

Section 1: That the City of Bexley extends the short-term “Housing Voucher Acceptance Program Grant” that was authorized by Third Amended Ordinance 43-20, thru December 31st, 2022; with the continued purpose of encouraging rental property owners to accept HUD Section 8 housing vouchers issued through CMHA, or other similar Federal/State/Local government and/or private voucher programs, and to help such owners defray some of the initial administrative, training & inspection costs required to accept such vouchers from tenants who are eligible for said vouchers.

Section 2: That any dates including in the “program guidelines” in Section 1 of Ordinance 43-20, be advanced by one (1) year.

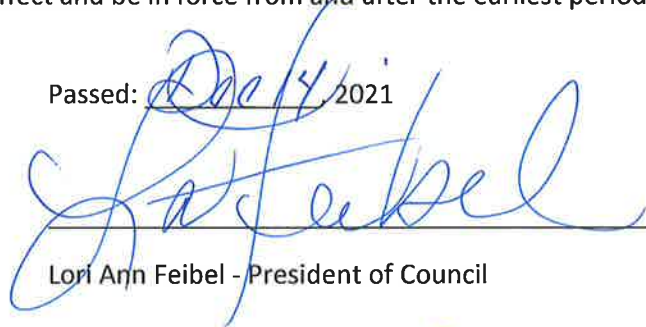
Section 3: That Section 4 of Ordinance 43-20, is excluded from this extension ordinance, and is not subject to the one (1) advancing described in Section 2 of this ordinance.

Section 3: That Section 5 of Ordinance 43-20, is modified as follows for 2022:

The City's web site should be updated by April 30th, July 31st, October 31st of 2022 and January 31st 2023, to include a report/listing of property owners names and rental unit addresses and grant payment amounts issued by the City in each quarter ending March 31st, June 30th, September 30th and December 31st of 2022.

Section 4: That this ordinance shall go into effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: Dec 14, 2021

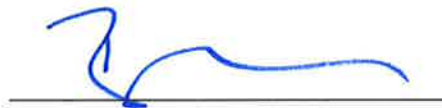


Lori Ann Feibel - President of Council

Attest: William Harvey

William Harvey - Clerk of Council

Approved: Dec. 14, 2021



Benjamin J Kessler, Mayor

First Reading 11-16-2021

Second Reading 12-07-2021

Third Reading 12-14-2021