

RESOLUTION

1 22-276

No. _____

Approved as to Form and Legality

CITY ATTORNEY

Date of Adoption

JUL 07 2022

Factual content certified by

C ANDRE DANIELS, DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilman/woman Joseph A. Harrison presents the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A TRENTON EMERGENCY LOAN (FUNDED WITH UEZ FUNDS) IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000 TO 9th STREET AQUATIC LLC (DBA FISHBOWL ATELIER)

WHEREAS, the present state of the economy and business environment has made apparent the need for an accessible, responsive, and community-centric revolving loan program to address the current crisis and other needs that may arise in the future; and

WHEREAS, unprecedented measures have been taken by agencies at all levels of government to curb the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these measures include such tactics as mandatory business closures, limitations on the number of patrons allowed in those businesses that remain open, restrictions on in-store services, and other constraints, in addition to the continued encouragement of "social distancing" and the avoidance of public places; and

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Murphy ordered a State of Emergency for the State of New Jersey on March 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mayor W. Reed Gusciora ordered a State of Emergency for the City of Trenton (the "City") on March 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, businesses within the City are suffering substantial and unprecedented economic injuries due to these measures; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the City, business-owners, and residents of the City to retain jobs and aid business owners in remaining viable; and

WHEREAS, the present circumstances have also highlighted the exigency for an established revolving loan program that can be readily disbursed to Trenton businesses; and

WHEREAS the City Council authorized the use of \$2 million from the Urban Enterprise Zone fund currently maintained by the City to create a revolving loan program to support Trenton businesses survive the pandemic pursuant to Resolution 20-169 as amended and/or supplemented by Resolution 21-159; and

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WHEREAS, under the auspices of R20-169, the City, by and through the Department of Housing and Economic Development, Division of Economic Development, created an Emergency Loan Program to assist Trenton businesses, which were in business at the beginning of the pandemic, pay certain expenses to help them survive the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, 9th Street Aquatic LLC (dba Fishbowl Atelier) located at 222 South Broad Street submitted a complete emergency loan application for \$20,000 to cover rent, payroll and utilities; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Community Capital was authorized to handle the underwriting, the preparation and execution of loan documents and administration of the Emergency Loan Program (per R20-171); and

WHEREAS, 9th Street Aquatic has gone through underwriting with New Jersey Community Capital who has reported that the applicant has suffered from the pandemic including a challenging credit history and a low credit score, and therefore has recommended that the City of Trenton decline the loan; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Economic Development is committed to supporting Trenton businesses and this Emergency Loan Fund was created to support businesses suffering from exactly the pandemic that has hampered business at 9th Street Aquatic, the Division has offered an alternative loan of \$10,000 (limiting the fiscal liability of the City) with a requirement of the completion of a credit counseling program with the Small Business Development Center of New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Trenton, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The above recitals are incorporated by reference as if set forth at length herein.
2. The City hereby approves a Trenton Emergency Loan to 9th Street Aquatic LLC an amount not to exceed ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars to be repaid to the Revolving Loan Fund.
3. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to facilitate the loan.

	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent		Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent		Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
CALDWELL WILSON	✓				RODRIGUEZ					MCBRIDE	✓			
HARRISON	✓				VAUGHN	✓								
MUSCHAL	✓				WILKINS	✓								

This Resolution was adopted at a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Trenton on

JUL 07 2022

Kathy McBride
President of Council

City Clerk