

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-10

A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY CONCERNING THE PANDEMIC OUTBREAK OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND PROVIDING FOR RESPONSIVE MEASURES RELATED TO THE OPERATIONS OF THE CITY AND THE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

WHEREAS, the pandemic outbreak of COVID-19, a respiratory illness caused by the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), has been declared a public health emergency by the World Health Organization, the President of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Governor of South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends certain actions for the prevention and mitigation of community transmission of COVID-19, including social distancing and limitations related to group gatherings; and

WHEREAS, SDCL 9-32-1 provides that municipalities “shall have power to do what may be necessary or expedient for the promotion of health or the suppression of disease;” and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Pierre finds that there exists a threat to the public’s health, safety, and welfare necessitating immediate measures to prevent the spread and potential effects of COVID-19; NOW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council hereby declare a public health emergency in the City of Fort Pierre; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor shall have the power to temporarily suspend applicable clauses of the City’s personnel policy or enact other measures as necessary related to City employees in order to allow for alternative work arrangements or schedules to protect the health and wellbeing of city employees and the general public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all City buildings shall be closed to the public, but alternative arrangements shall be made where possible allowing the public to continue the transaction of City business; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that arrangements shall be made for board members, City staff, members of the media, and the general public to participate electronically or telephonically in all meetings of the City’s public bodies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the citizens of Fort Pierre, as well as private and non-profit organizations operating in the City, are strongly encouraged to follow CDC recommendations and guidelines related to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor shall have the authority to immediately implement additional emergency measures by written declaration if new information, guidelines, or directives are received by federal or state health authorities necessitating prompt action to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to SDCL 9-19-13, this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage as it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and it shall continue in effect until further action by the City Council specifically referencing this Resolution.

Dated this 6th day of April, 2020.

Ayes: Bernhard, Cronin, Kenzy, LaRoche, Ricketts, and Weisgram
Nays:

Gloria Hanson, Mayor

ATTEST:
(seal)

Roxanne Heezen, Finance Officer