April 23, 2018

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Jeff Biegler, Parks and Recreation Director

Subject: Black Hills Farmers Market

Attached is a request from the Black Hills Farmers Market to be allowed to use the city-owned site at 145 Omaha Street for their seasonal open-air market for the 2018, 2019, and 2020 seasons.

The Black Hills Farmers Market (BHFM) has a long-standing history in Rapid City, having been located at this site from 2003 – 2005 and then at Founders Park from 2006 – 2016.

Recognizing they had outgrown the Founders Park site, BHFM requested a return to the Omaha Street location last year and Council agreed to the move on a one-year trial basis in order to monitor the use and attendance of the site. BHFM successfully operated at the location for the 2017 season and believe this is the best site for their operation.

The City Council is given the ability to approve the location of a Farmers Market through two Rapid City Municipal Codes as follows:

1. 17.04.263 – Farmer’s Market. The offering for sale of fresh agricultural products directly to the consumer at an open air market designated by the Council as a community activity.
2. 17.50.230 – Farmer’s Market. A farmer’s market, as defined in 17.04.263, may be conducted in any nonresidential zoning district subject to such conditions and limitations as the Council may direct in designating such farmers market as a community activity.

Rapid City Parks and Recreation fully supports the efforts of the BHFM recommends approval of a three-year agreement to allow the Black Hills Farmers Market to operate at the 145 Omaha Street location for the 2018, 2019, and 2020 seasons.

Please contact me if you have any questions, or concerns.