

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-022

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION REPEALING THE MORATORIUM ON TELEPHONIC OR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS AND ANY OTHER PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS ON THE SUBJECT ALLOWING THE CITY TO RELY FULLY ON THE PROVISIONS FOR MEETINGS UNDER STATE LAW.

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2004, the City Council passed a resolution which placed a moratorium on holding City Council meetings by teleconference; and

WHEREAS, the Council subsequently passed Resolution 2013-045 which allowed the City Council to hold telephonic meetings only in the case of emergencies; and

WHEREAS, SDCL Chapter 1-25 already provides rules for public bodies such as the Rapid City Common Council to hold meetings via teleconference and electronic means; and

WHEREAS, the ability to conduct meetings via teleconference or other electronic means has improved greatly since 2004; and

WHEREAS, the frequency and general acceptance of remote meetings has greatly increased since 2004; and

WHEREAS, with the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the recommendation that all people engage in the practice called social distancing, the City Council has reconsidered the wisdom of its previous restrictions on the use of teleconference or electronic meetings.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Rapid City, that any and all previous resolutions regarding the conduct of public meetings by the City Council, or any other City bodies, via teleconference or other electronic means are hereby repealed. It is the intent of the City Council that any public meetings where a member, or members, of the body participate remotely be governed solely by any applicable state laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City of Rapid City, that due to the fact that a national and statewide emergency has been declared and one of the primary recommendations to combat this emergency is to practice social distancing and limit person to person contact, this resolution is considered necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety of the City of Rapid City and shall be effective immediately upon publication thereof.

Dated this ____ day of March, 2020.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

Steve Allender, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pauline Sumption, Finance Officer

(SEAL)