ORDINANCE NO. 6424

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE DATE BY WHICH THE CITY CAN IMPLEMENT MEASURES NECESSARY TO SLOW THE COMMUNITY SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19).

WHEREAS, the City of Rapid City has the authority pursuant to SDCL 9-29-1 to pass ordinances for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, morals, and general welfare, of the community; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to SDCL 9-32-1, the City has the power to do what is necessary or expedient for the promotion of health or the suppression of disease; and

WHEREAS, an outbreak of the disease COVID-19, which is caused by the novel coronavirus, has been confirmed in more than 100 countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory disease transmitted by person-to-person contact, or by contact with surfaces contaminated by the virus. In some cases, especially among older adults and persons with serious underlying health conditions, COVID-19 can result in serious illness requiring hospitalization, admission to an intensive care unit, and death; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on the same day, Governor Kristi Noem, issued Executive Order 2020-04 which declared a state of emergency to exist in the State of South Dakota in response to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the CDC and health experts have recommended social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, social distancing is a method of slowing down or stopping the spread of a contagious disease by reducing the probability of contact between infected persons and those not infected in order to minimize disease transmission; and

WHEREAS, the failure to successfully implement social distancing will likely result in higher numbers of infected individuals and has the potential to overwhelm the capacity of the City’s health care providers; and
WHEREAS, it is important that control measures be taken to reduce or slow down the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and safety of the City’s residents, especially for seniors and those with underlying health conditions that make them particularly vulnerable to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there is currently substantial community spread in South Dakota and current modeling suggests the peak for infections in Rapid City will occur in June 2020; and

WHEREAS, the current ordinance which allows the City to impose regulations to slow the spread of COVID-19 is currently set to expire on June 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Rapid City has determined that it is in the City’s best interests to extend the expiration date for the current ordinance until the end of July 2020 in order to ensure the City has the ability to take additional actions if necessary to slow the spread of the disease through the anticipated peak infection period.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Common Council of the City of Rapid City that:

1. The expiration date of Ordinance 6413 is extended from sixty (60) days to July 31, 2020.

2. The City Council can modify or eliminate any existing restrictions or exceptions contained in the ordinance by resolution. The City Council can also impose new restrictions or exceptions by resolution.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that, pursuant to SDCL 9-19-13, this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the City and shall become effective immediately upon passage.

Dated this ___ day of June, 2020.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

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Steve Allender, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Pauline Sumption, Finance Officer

(SEAL)