

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PHILIP, SD
SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING
March 23, 2020**

A special emergency meeting of the Philip City Council was held on Monday, March 23, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Haakon Co. Courthouse. Present were Mayor Michael Vetter, Council Members Trisha Larson, Brit Miller, Terri Pelle, Marion Matt, Marty Gartner and Scott Pinney. Also present were City Administrator Brittany Smith, Finance Officer Monna Van Lint, Public Works Director Matt Reckling, Chief of Police David Butler, Haakon Co. Sheriff Fred Koester, Attorney Stephanie Trask, Chelsea Tobin with The Pioneer Review, Cynthia Bisser, Missy Koester, Tim Quinn, Jason & Marlis Petersen, Mike Moses, Mark Buchholz, Kent Buchholz, Colt & Erin Fitzgerald, Don Carley, Kim Petersen, Vickie Petersen, Jenna Engbarth, Holly Nemec, Jeff Rieckman, Mike Noteboom, Branden West, Doug West, Mark Buchholz, Kent Buchholz, Sonya Addison, Carla Smith, Amanda Frink, Sandra Heaton and Irvin Jones.

Absent: None

Mayor Vetter called the meeting to order. He advised that the reasoning for the meeting was due to Governor Noem's press conference over the weekend that placed all responsibility on enacting and enforcing regulations to curb the spread of COVID-19 on the local governments. This afternoon, the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-08 which provides statewide guidelines for individuals and businesses.

Vetter went on to review Executive Order 2020-08. He stressed that Philip is tight knit community and at this time, everyone needs to take precautions and alter their lifestyles to prevent this from deeply impacting our community. He then questioned if the City Council should still consider placing regulations in the community with the new Order?

Vetter then opened the floor to the public for any comments.

A lengthy discussion ensued. It was noted that some businesses have already adjusted their business operations while others are willing to do whatever is necessary to protect themselves and our community. In addition, other businesses fear having to close for economic reasons, and it was suggested to allow business owners to make their own alterations. The adverse effects of COVID-19 in other areas of the US and Nation were also discussed. In turn, concerns for how it could rapidly harm our community were mentioned, i.e. availability of healthcare, economic impact, etc.

With nothing further, at 4:32 p.m., motion was made by Gartner, seconded by Larson to enter into executive session per SDCL 1-25-2(6). CA Smith, FO Van Lint, Chief Butler, Attorney Trask and Sheriff Koester were included in the session. Motion carried.

At 4:57 p.m., motion was made by Pinney, seconded by Matt to come out of executive session with the following action.

Motion was made by Pinney, seconded by Matt to follow Governor Noem's Executive Order 2020-08 effective immediately in the City of Philip. In addition, if any issues arise with businesses not following said order, the Council may consider further action in the near future. (A copy of the Order is available on-line and in the finance office.) Motion carried.

Vetter stated, "I hope everyone does everything within their power to mitigate the pandemic." He then read a portion of the Order again for those in attendance and pointed out that it is in effect until May 2, 2020 unless revoked or superseded.

Other Business:

The next regular meeting will be held on Apr. 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

With nothing further, Mayor Vetter thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Michael Vetter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brittany Smith, City Administrator
(Publish: April 2, 2020 at an approximate cost of \$_____)