

Unapproved Minutes Published and Subject to the Governing Body’s Review and Revision

The City of Park River held a special meeting of the Park River City Council on Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 1:00 PM.

Mayor Dan Stenvold called the meeting to order; upon roll call the following were present by conference call: Council members Mike Lorton, Kyle Halvorson, Joe Miller, Robert Lundquist III, Dennis Kubat, Keith Anderson, City Attorney Tracy Laaveg and City Coordinator/Auditor Nancy Thompson; In person Public Works Director (PWD) Dennis Larson and Assessor/Deputy Auditor Ann Berg. Absent: None. Others: Patty Hensel in person and Allison Olib of the WC Press by conference call.

Business:

Lundquist moved and Kubat seconded to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2020-1 COVID-19 – UTILITY SERVICES

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump issued a declaration of a national emergency due to the growing COVID-19 crisis in the United States;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Burgum issued a declaration of a state emergency in response to the public health crises resulting from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Park River city Council recognizes the potential financial impact the COVID-19 may have on our residents during the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the Park River city Council recognizes the importance that utilities play in keeping our residents healthy during this COVID-19 pandemic

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Park River adopts the following resolution regarding city owned utility services; Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Park River city Council will refrain from shutting off city owned utilities services to residents whose utility accounts become past due beginning with the March billing going forward. However, if an account becomes three (3) months past due (beginning with the March billing) with no attempt to set up a payment plan, City Employees have the right to shut off services.

Residents whose bills were overdue prior to the March 13, 2020 date when the ND Governor declared a State of Emergency, are **excluded** from this resolution. These residents need to contact the City office immediately and set up a payment plan.

Residents must understand, the utility services provided will continue to be billed at the regular rate on a monthly basis, which means the account balance will continue to increase. Residents are encouraged to contact the City office and set up payment plans to keep your bill within reason.

This emergency resolution will expire when the ND Governor/ City Commission feels the COVID-19 pandemic is under control.
Dated this 26th day of March, 2020.

ATTEST

Nancy Thompson, Auditor/Coordinator

Dan Stenvold, Mayor

Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

Anderson moved and Lorton seconded to approve the following Health Declaration of Emergency:

**CITY OF PARK RIVER, ND
CITY COUNCIL
HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION,**

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory illness, caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, a new strain of coronavirus that is spread from person to person, posing a threat to the health and safety of the residents of the city of Park River; and

WHEREAS, no drug or vaccine is currently available to treat or prevent COVID-19 and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a national public health emergency for COVID-19 on January 27, 2020 and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump issued a declaration of a national emergency due to the growing COVID-19 crisis in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Doug Burgum issued a declaration of a state emergency in response to the public health crisis resulting from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, preparedness, response and recovery from the COVID-19 virus requires a whole-of government and whole of community approach across all governments as well as private and nonprofit sectors, and the virus has the risk of substantially endangering the health, safety and property of the citizens of the city of Park River; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Park River City Council declares a State of Health Emergency exists in Park River, ND.

DATED at Park River, North Dakota, this 26th day of March, 2020.

**PARK RIVER CITY COUNCIL
ATTEST:**

Nancy Thompson, City Auditor

Dan Stenvold, Mayor

Lundquist moved to adjourned at 1:13 PM.

ATTEST:

Ann Berg, Assessor/Deputy Auditor

Dan Stenvold, Mayor