

APPROVED

The White City Council held the special meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the McKnight Community Center. Mayor Thorstenson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll Call was taken, council members present were Cutler, Wilts, Hopfinger and Kelm. Also present were Wilson, three Pioneer Day committee members and virtual attendees. All motions were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Mayor Thorstenson began meeting with review of the July 6, 2020 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve meeting minutes from July 6 by Hopfinger, second by Cutler.

Motion by Wilts, seconded by Cutler to appoint Scott Gladis as council person the vacant spot in Ward 3. Scott Gladis sworn in to office with the acceptance of the Oath of Office.

Thorstenson proceed with "Council, this decision was not one that I wanted to make but was made through research, advice, and knowledge. I hope that all can see how it resulted through documentation and thorough efforts to protect the health and safety of our City, as well as the legal liability we could endure. I am thankful for the commentary I have received from each of you – the opinions, ideas, thoughts, etc. and respect you each tremendously for what you do for the City. It is easy to make quick conclusions without working hard, but I believe working hard and determining what is best leads to the best end results." Further communication of the decision to the cancellation of Pioneer Days in pursuant to Resolution 2020-05, Resolution 2020-06 and the SD Governor Officer Executive Order along with her research and findings around COVID-19. Thorstenson stated as the mayor it is my responsibility put the well-being, safety and health of the community first. Per recommendations of the Municipal League and the city attorney the event should be cancelled. The Pioneer Days could continue as long as there was no involvement from the City of White.

Three Pioneer Day committee members presented their research information to support the Pioneer Days continuing as schedule for July 16 through July 19, 2020. The presented a plan to the council for review on the safety measures they were going to implement. The committee welcomed any suggestions for update to their plan. The committee stated that this is a voluntary event and is outdoor with nothing to be held in enclosed areas. The committee members stated their request for Pioneer Days to take place and for the council to vote on rescinding the cancellation of the celebration. Mayor Thornstenson stated that before a vote could be presented a 24 hours notice would need to be provided per regulations. The following questions were asked and the council will seek legal counsel from the city attorney. Questions are: what is the liability, is there any precedence in the courts in regards to individual(s) suing for contracting the coronavirus, around the liability risk, what takes place if the council votes to reverse the cancellation by the Mayor? Special meeting schedule for Friday, July 10 with purposed start time of 8:30 pm, providing Agenda could be posted by that time. All council members confirmed they would be present.

Motion by Hopfinger to approve Annual Report for the City of White as presented, seconded by Kelm.

Motion by Gladis, second by Hopfinger to move into executive session (*Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-(1,2,3,4 and/or 5) at 8:17 pm. Council came out of executive session at 9:50 pm. Motion to adjourn at 9:50 pm by Gladis, seconded by Kelm.

Aspen Thorstenson, Mayor
Audra Wilson, Finance Officer