

**EMERGENCY RESOLUTION CREATING AN EXPECTATION
OF FACE COVERING WEARING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

WHEREAS, an outbreak of the COVID-19 disease, 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, which especially among older adults and persons with serious underlying health conditions, 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 United States Department of Health and Human Services have declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Governor Kristi Noem issued Executive Order 2020-26 which extended the previously declared state of emergency to exist in the State of South Dakota in response to the spread of COVID-19 until December 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed throughout South Dakota including Clay County; and

WHEREAS, the CDC and health experts have advised the use of face masks or face coverings over the nose and mouth will slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the failure to successfully reduce the spread of COVID-19 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, the South Dakota Board of Regents is requiring face coverings or face masks for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors in all public indoor spaces on the University of South Dakota campus; and

WHEREAS, the Vermillion Public School District is requiring face coverings or face masks for students, faculty, staff, and visitors in school district facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Vermillion City Council has adopted a face covering policy requiring face coverings or face masks for staff and visitors in city owned buildings; and

WHEREAS, there is an expectation in the city of the importance of wearing face coverings or face masks while inside public spaces by all residents, visitors, or guests.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the City of Vermillion that:

1. All persons entering a commercial establishment in the City of Vermillion are encouraged to wear a face covering or face mask while inside the establishment.
2. All restaurants, retail stores, salons, grocery stores, establishments selling alcohol, pharmacies, lodging establishments, exercise facilities, establishments offering goods and services, or soliciting patronage from the general public are encouraged to require their employees to wear a face covering or face mask at all times while having face-to-face interactions with the public.
3. It is also understood that there are individuals that due to health or other reasons cannot wear a face mask or face covering and/or other situations where face masks or face coverings cannot be worn and in these instances individuals are encouraged to use other protective measures such as social distancing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, pursuant to SDCL 9-19-13, this resolution is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the City and shall become effective December 10, 2020. This resolution shall remain in effect for a period of sixty (60) days, at which time it shall be automatically repealed unless specifically readopted for an additional period of time by the City Council.

Dated at Vermillion, South Dakota this 7th day of December, 2020.

THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CITY OF VERMILLION, SOUTH DAKOTA

By Kelsey Collier-Wise
Kelsey Collier-Wise, Mayor

ATTEST:

By Michael Carlson
Michael Carlson, Finance Officer

Adopted: December 7, 2020
Published: December 18, 2020
Effective Date: December 10, 2020

