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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF STURGIS TAKES STEPS REGARDING COVID-19

STURGIS – In line with guidance from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) City of Sturgis Officials are taking a variety of actions within City Departments and facilities to help mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), more commonly known as simply “coronavirus”. These measures include the cancelation of certain City events and activities as well as a changes in procedure at some City facilities such as the Sturges-Young Center for the Arts and the Doyle Community Center. The City is also recommending that Sturgis area citizens, businesses, and organizations educate themselves on recommendations related to COVID-19 and take appropriate steps to prevent the spread of the virus.

Effective immediately, the City will be canceling or postponing all events and activities of over 100 participants sponsored or organized by the City, including events at the Sturges-Young Center for the Arts and Doyle Community Center. Smaller City events and activities may be canceled or postponed if they include significant groups of at-risk populations; these include but are not limited to select Doyle Community Center fitness classes. Information on specific cancellations or postponements will be available on the websites and Facebook pages of the City of Sturgis, Doyle Community Center, and Sturges-Young Center for the Arts, as well the Sturgis247 Community Calendar.

In addition to these actions the City is asking citizens, businesses, and organizations to take steps to protect themselves and others as recommended by the MDHHS. This includes:

- Staying at home when you are sick.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Follow best practices for washing your hands and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Access services as much as possible online or by phone.
- Limiting large gatherings or smaller gatherings that include those in at-risk populations such as older adults, those with underlying medical conditions, those with a compromised immune system, and those who are pregnant.

While City Hall will remain open during its normal hours, many City services can be done online or without coming into City Hall. Customers can pay their utility bill online at the City's website, sturgismi.gov. You may also mail in your payment or you can place your payment in the Treasurer's drop box, 24 hours a day, located in the drive between City Hall and the Fire Department. Envelopes are provided; please make sure you include your service address and/or account number with the payment. If you pay with cash in the drop box, the City will mail you a receipt. Questions or requests to the City can also be sent online via the Action Line Request Forms on the City's website or by calling 269-651-2321.

The City encourages everyone to be well informed about COVID-19, including symptoms and additional measures to help prevent the spread of the virus. You can find more information online at michigan.gov/coronavirus and coronavirus.gov.

The City is continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation and will regularly update the community as necessary. Please continue to watch the City's Facebook page and website for more information. You can also receive updates by signing up for Nixle alerts on the City's homepage.

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