



City Council

Agenda Item

Subject: Resolution No. 24-29 supporting Codington County
Meeting: City Council - Oct 07 2024
From: Amanda Mack, City Manager

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

NA

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

NA

STAFF RECOMMENDATION / SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move to approve Resolution No. 24-29 supporting Codington County

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Jail Resolution](#)

CITY COUNCIL OF WATERTOWN

RESOLUTION NO. [####-2024]

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE NEED TO BUILD A NEW CODINGTON COUNTY DETENTION CENTER TO BE FUNDED THROUGH PUBLIC PASSAGE OF THE CODINGTON COUNTY BOND ISSUE ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024.

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown recognizes the need for adequate detention facilities to ensure public safety, protect the safety of all our law enforcement personnel, uphold the constitutional rights of detainees, and properly administer justice in Codington County; and

WHEREAS, the current detention facility is outdated and no longer meets the needs of the county in terms of capacity, safety for our correctional officers, protection for our citizens, or operational standards thus leading to potential life-threatening danger to our law enforcement personnel as well as potential violations of the constitutional rights of those detained, including the right to adequate housing and humane treatment; and

WHEREAS, the failure to improve these facilities would have an adverse financial impact on the City of Watertown, as the city would face increased costs associated with the transportation of detainees to out-of-county detention centers, further straining law enforcement resources and increasing risks during transport; and

WHEREAS, a bond issue has been placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot to fund the construction of this new facility, with widespread community and governmental support for its approval; and

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown appreciates our strong and longstanding working relationship with Codington County and understands that partnerships with all other entities, governmental as well as others, operating within our community are vital to improve our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown is committed to supporting public safety initiatives that benefit the citizens of both the city and county;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF WATERTOWN:

1. The City Council supports the construction of a new Codington County Detention Center and recognizes the importance of this project for the well-being and safety of the community.
2. The City Council endorses the Codington County bond issue on the November 5, 2024 ballot as a necessary and responsible means of financing the new facility.
3. The City Council encourages all residents of Watertown and Codington County to participate in the upcoming election and to support the bond issue in order to improve the county's detention infrastructure.
4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of Watertown, South Dakota, this [Day] of [Month], 2024.

[Mayor's Name], Mayor