



MAYOR DODSON'S VISION FOR 2024 AND BEYOND



Believe. A word from the TV show Ted Lasso. Ted used it to instill confidence in his soccer team. I believe, too. I believe Hiawatha is a great place to live, work and play. I believe our citizens are one key to making our village a great place to live. Our businesses and work force are another key to making our village a great place to work. I believe our city departments, from Police, Fire and Ambulance, Public Works, Water, Parks and Recreation, Community Development, Engineering, Library and Policy Administration are keys in making Hiawatha a great place to live.

We have numerous housing projects started including single family dwellings, multi-family dwellings and senior housing developments. This is a good start to alleviate Hiawatha's housing shortage. We continue to see businesses move into or expand our village. This past year, the city council has approved golf carts and UTVs on certain streets and urban agriculture to include chickens and bees.

Our library has joined the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Hiawatha residents can sign up their 0-5 year old children at the library and they will each receive a book every month through age 5. Parks and Recreation continues improvements, such as restrooms and shade panels in Turtle Creek Park and lighting in Clark and Tucker Parks. Word has it, Hiawatha may soon build pickleball courts. We also did the Avenue of Flags recognizing our veterans. They sold out early and plans to add more are in the works. We also had the second tree lighting at the pavilion with the tree donated by a Hiawatha family. So, I believe, and hope you do too. We have a lot of planning, construction, and improvements coming this year. Be the best Hiawatha citizen you can be and believe. I will.

Over a 3 - year period, the City of Hiawatha has added:

- 328,970 square feet of commercial property
- \$76.9 million in property valuation

Room to Grow!

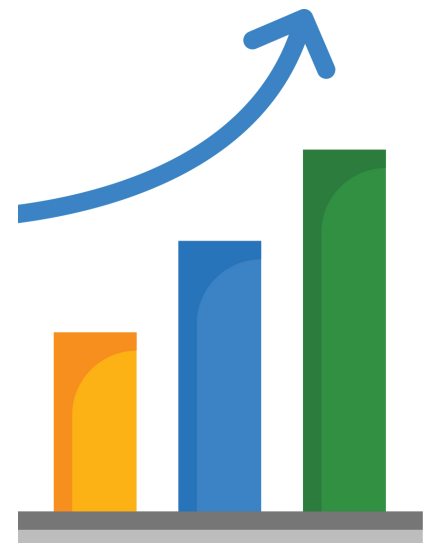
Hiawatha has 688 acres ready for development!

- 460 acres of commercial/retail/light industrial and multi-family
- 168 acres of low-density residential already platted
- 60 acres of low-density residential not platted

Hiawatha's population is estimated to grow to 9,154 by 2024 and 10,033 by 2029.

HEDCO and the City of Hiawatha support small businesses to increase local jobs, nurture community, create choice, promote entrepreneurship, and spur innovation.

- Hiawatha is home to more than 330 businesses who employ more than 3,898 people
- New commercial development with TIF incentives created \$5,000,000 of assessed value
- \$530,000 Local Option Sales and Service Tax funds spend on community projects in 2022



MEET YOUR NEW MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBERS



Steve Dodson
Mayor
2024-2028



Aime Wichtendahl
Council Member
2024-2028



Jeff Cater
Council Member
2024-2028



Ben Fiedler
Council Member
2024-2028

Mayor Steve Dodson: My family and I have lived in Hiawatha since 1999. I retired from Mercy Medical Center and I am a US Army veteran. My first experience with Hiawatha government came when I was asked to be on the Comprehensive Plan 2036 committee as a citizen. In 2016, I was appointed to the Board of Adjustment for Hiawatha. Later that fall, I ran for city council and was elected. In 2017 I completed training for the coveted Certified Elected Municipal Official (CEMO) designation awarded by the Iowa League of Cities. I was one of only 52 in the state at that time. That training gave me a deeper understanding how a city governs and works. In 2021 I was re-elected to the city council. During my council time, I am the liaison for the Hiawatha Water Board, board member of the Linn County Crime Stoppers, and served on many committees including the city's investment committee. I also was selected to serve on the United States Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC).

Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration between elected officials and citizens is an important part of being an elected official. This is one of the reasons I wanted to be mayor of Hiawatha. Our city has made many accomplishments in the past few years. This was accomplished by collaboration with local businesses and citizens as well as government officials. I want to continue leading Hiawatha to many more accomplishments and developments. We will work together to continue to keep our city taxes in check, bring new businesses to Hiawatha, and continue to bring recreation activities to our citizens. With my experience and leadership skills, let's work together to continue to make Hiawatha a great place to live, work and play.

Council member Aime Wichtendahl: I was first elected to the Hiawatha City Council in 2015, reelected in 2019, and 2023. I also served as Mayor Pro Tem from 2017 to 2019 and I am the current longest serving member of the Hiawatha City Council. I chose to run for a third term because I believe the American Dream starts here in Hiawatha. Whatever our people dream for their futures I want them to realize it here. Whether its finding or buying a new home, starting a family or creating a business I will work on the council to ensure their success.

Council member Jeff Cater: I have lived in Hiawatha since 2016. We are a family of 5. I am married to Katie, who is a Cedar Rapids 1st grade teacher, and have 3 children Harrison 24, Anna 21 and Ryan 18 all at the University of Iowa. We love our current location in Dell Ridge and all that the City of Hiawatha has to offer. I first became interested in serving the community in 2021 and ran unsuccessfully for city council at that time. However, as a result I was offered the opportunity to serve on the City Planning and Zoning Commission, the Fire Department 2 Steering Committee and the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee in 2022. The experience gained from this convinced me that playing a role in the future direction of the City was a valuable endeavor. My goals center around promoting the opportunity that exists here for retail growth, increasing food and beverage options, and continuing to offer as many recreational options for Hiawatha and Linn County citizens in general as possible.

Council member Ben Fiedler: My candidacy for Hiawatha City Council was inspired by a deep appreciation for the accomplishments of previous councils, many of whose members were retiring. In recognizing the need for continuity, I felt compelled to step into this role. With a passion for community service developed through involvement in local committees and volunteering, I am dedicated to enhancing community engagement. My overarching goal is to inspire a greater sense of connection among Hiawatha residents and ensure that the City Council reflects the diverse voices within our community. I have been a resident of Hiawatha since 2017; however, I have spent the majority of my life in this area. I have been a member of the Hiawatha Board of Adjustments, Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Rec Foundation, and the Fire Station 2 steering committee.

Hiawatha has an elected 5-member Council which plays a central role in Hiawatha government. Council sets policy, enacts ordinances, adopts budgets, and controls expenditures. Council members are elected to four year terms, with either 2 or 3 members up for election every two years.

Council elects a mayor pro tem from its ranks. The mayor, in cooperation with council, establishes standing committees and makes appointments thereto. These standing committees generally consider all matters pertaining to a particular area of public policy, such as land use regulation, historic preservation, or recreation, and make recommendations to the full council.

MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS CENTER OPEN 24/7

Imagine a place where, regardless of the hour or day, you can find solace and support for your mental health journey. Well, imagine no more - the Linn County Mental Health Access Center is here to turn that vision into reality. As of December 1, 2023, this haven is welcoming adults aged 18 and above, offering immediate assistance for mental health or substance use crises without the need for an appointment. What's even more reassuring? You don't have to be a Linn County resident to access these vital services. Just head over to 501 13th St. NW in Cedar Rapids.

The flexibility in how patients can arrive at the center reflects their commitment to accessibility. Whether you choose to come on your own, with the support of loved ones, or in the company of law enforcement or mobile crisis teams - the doors are wide open. If you have concerns or questions feel free to reach out to the Hiawatha Police Department's Law Enforcement Liaison, Jason Miller. Jason is a valuable asset available to our community who regularly and routinely assists those in mental health and/or substance use crisis. Please use this Hiawatha resource to connect to the Access Center. Contact Jason anytime you feel you or a loved one may need assistance or resources.

Hospitals and jails are not the right places for people experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis. The trained staff at the Access Center can triage a patient, assess their situation, and get them started on crisis stabilization, a sobering unit, or some other crisis service generally within the first 60 minutes of their arrival. And they equip every patient with a plan before discharge.

The array of services offered at the center is as diverse as the individuals seeking help. From crisis triage and screening to crisis counseling, mental health evaluations, and even substance use support - the menu is designed to cater to individual needs. Importantly, every service is voluntary, emphasizing the center's commitment to respecting personal choices.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS PARADE

Kudos to our Hiawatha Team for working together to spread holiday cheer throughout our wonderful community during the Holiday Lights Parade! And an extra special thank you to Santa and Mrs. Claus for taking time out of their busy schedules to join us! We hope you and yours had a wonderful holiday season! The winner of the Best Float was the Water Department's Abominable Snowman. Thank you for voting!



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE HIAWATHA TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

The second annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was a huge success! The tree has brought so much joy to the Hiawatha community! The Neef family kindly donated the 35ft Blue Spruce that was planted in 2002 in their front yard. 21 years later you will now find the beautiful tree centered in Hiawatha for the whole community to enjoy! City Staff moved the tree on November 27th, in preparation for the November 30th Tree Lighting. A special appearance was made by Santa and Mrs. Claus, craft kits provided by the Hiawatha Public Library, a performance by Music on the Move's Ukulele students featuring all their favorite holiday tunes, and free hot cocoa to the first 100 guests donated by the Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Foundation. With over 300 guests in attendance, we couldn't ask for a better evening of holiday cheer! The tree will be on display until after the new year. We can't thank our community sponsors enough for making this event happen! Coonrod Crane Service, Midland Concrete, Alliant Energy, Cedar Rapids Toyota, Farmers State Bank, Lowe's, Master Tool, and the Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Foundation.

HIAWATHA HISTORY COMMISSION

The Commission was contacted by an individual who found this receipt for a \$7.47 doll from Hiawatha Hardware dated 12-8-1955. Who was the owner of this store and where was it located? This was too early to be Kauffman's Hardware, which opened in the '60's. We do not have an answer and need your help! Do you remember? Please call Marilyn James with any relevant information at 319-721-7077.



IOWA PORK PRODUCERS DONATION

HEDCO Economic Development Coordinator, Liz Mathis and Hiawatha Police Chief, Ben Kamm were invited to an Iowa Pork Producers Association event at HACAP in Hiawatha. Iowa Pork donated more than 400 boxes of Tyson pork cuts to HACAP for food bank distribution to people in need in our area. Mathis talked about HACAP's efforts across nine counties and thanked them for locating their headquarters in Hiawatha. Iowa Pork also recognized public safety for their work in our community. Pictured is Ben Kamm, Hiawatha Police Chief. If you would like to volunteer at the Hiawatha food bank, go to HACAP.org



**STAY UP TO DATE WITH PROJECTS AND DETOURS AT
WWW.HIAWATHA-IOWA.COM UNDER THE "LATEST NEWS" SECTION**



Fire Station No. 2 - Fire Station No. 2 continues to move forward thanks to the favorable weather we have experienced over the past few months. The storm shelter walls and concrete roof are complete. The perimeter and interior walls of the administrative offices are going up quickly. By the beginning of the month, all of the walls should be complete with a watertight roof, including membrane. Interior heating, air conditioning and ventilation will start to be installed within the administrative office spaces soon. Installation of the exterior brick veneer has been started.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR WINTER

Snow removal routes in Hiawatha are designated as Emergency Snow Routes and Local Routes. The routes are served by 5 truck snowplows and 1 loader with a plow and wing. 6 operators man the plows during snow events. Hiawatha has approximately 45 miles of streets, of which 16 miles are designated as Emergency Snow Routes and 29 miles are Local Routes. Hiawatha will use approximately 300 tons of salt, 300 tons of sand and 2,000 gallons of salt brine with an average budget of \$75,000 during a normal winter of snow and ice control operations.

The Emergency Snow Routes are defined in the City of Hiawatha Municipal Code, Chapter 69.12, Snow routes, and other major collector streets. These streets are referred to as "Main Arteries," which connect major sections of the city, have the highest traffic counts, and provide access for emergency fire, police, medical services, schools, commercial businesses and bus routes. Local Routes are streets that have a low volume of traffic in residential and commercial areas. During a snow event snow plow operators will focus on Emergency snow routes first, then proceed to Local Routes.



North-South Routes

- Center Point Rd from Blairs Ferry Rd to end of City limits.
- Robins Rd from Center Point Rd north to end of City limits.
- 6th Ave from Blairs Ferry Rd north to Emmons St.
- 10th Ave from Blairs Ferry Rd north to end of North 10th Ave.
- 12th Avenue from Blairs Ferry Rd north to Boyson Rd.
- North 15th Ave from Emmons St to end of North 15th Ave.
- 18th Ave from Blairs Ferry Rd to end of North 18th Ave.
- Miller Rd from Blairs Ferry Rd north to end of City limits.

East-West Routes

- West Clark St from 4th Ave east to Center Point Rd.
- Emmons St from Miller Rd east to Center Point Rd.
- Northwood Dr from Robins Rd to Nixon Dr.
- Boyson Rd from Miller Rd east to end of City limits.
- Tower Terrace Rd from western City limits to Robins Rd.
- Litchfield from 12th Ave to 15th Ave.

Please contact Public Works Superintendent Rod Jasa at 319-393-1515 or rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com with any questions.

SIGNS IN THE RIGHT OF WAY

The City of Hiawatha adopted a sign code in 2018. The signs in the right-of-way ordinance in Section 166.10.3A are included in the regulations.

The Hiawatha Sign Code; Chapter 166 states "No sign or sign structure other than official traffic, street, or related sign approved for placement by the controlling public agency shall be placed on any street or highway right-of-way". The "street or highway right-of-way" includes the street/ curb, boulevard and sidewalks. Private property usually begins about one foot inside the sidewalk. This is a friendly reminder that small signs are not allowed to be placed on street corners or in the street right-of-way between the sidewalk and the street. Examples of the signs most often improperly placed in the right-of-way are open house signs, temporary business signs, garage sale signs and political signs. If you are placing a sign of this nature it is required that it be on your property and not in the right-of-way. If these types of signs are found in the Public right-of-way, they may be collected by City of Hiawatha Staff. If you have any questions regarding this issue contact the Community Development Department at (319) 393-1515.

Right of Way (ROW) is:

- Comprised of the public and private areas of land dedicated to public travel or the provision of utility services.
- Sidewalks and grassy areas (boulevards) in the ROW are maintained by the adjacent property owner.

Easements are:

- Areas of your property used for utilities, storm water drainage, sewer lines, etc...

Easements are not:

- To be built on or permanently obstructed without prior authorization.
- The same size, type or location for every property.

Common types of easements:

- Utility, access, drainage and temporary construction

National Peanut Butter Day

Edible Crafts for Tweens

Wednesday, January 24th • 3:30-4:15 pm
Hiawatha Public Library
150 W Willman Street

National Peanut Butter Day recognizes an American staple. Whether creamy or chunky, with chocolate or with jelly, peanut butter gets the recognition it deserves each year on this day. We will create edible peanut butter treats and a peanut butter craft.



Future health care apprentices took part in a signing ceremony at Kirkwood Community College in Hiawatha to earn their certified nursing assistant license, while still attending high school. It's part of a \$1.2M grant from Iowa Workforce Development to strengthen the health care workforce and provide apprenticeships and job opportunities. Representatives from UnityPoint Health, Grant Wood AEA and Kirkwood took part in the ceremony.



METRO KIWANIS VALENTINES DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Saturday, Feb 10th
8 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Hiawatha Community Center
101 Emmons Street



Are you looking for a fun way to burn calories, build strength, improve balance and more?

Try a **FREE** Jumping Fitness Class!
January 23, 2024 • 6:00 PM
Hiawatha Community Center
*Pre-registration Required



www.bit.ly/jump4free

SCAN HERE

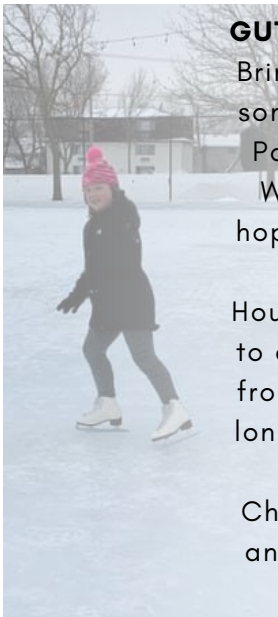
GUTHRIDGE PARK ICE RINK

Bring your skates and have some fun at the Guthridge Park Ice Rink this winter!

Weather permitting, we hope to have the rink open this month!

Hours: The rink will be open to all ages for free skating from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM as long as weather conditions are accommodating.

Check the Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Facebook page for rink status.



VOLUME 186

January Calendar

- 03 Mahjong 2:00 PM
- 04 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM
- 04 Mystery Book Club 2:00 PM
- 08 Preschool Story Time 10:00 AM
- 08 Scrabble Club 5:30 PM
- 08 Paws to Read 6:30 PM
- 09 Tuesday Tales 10:00 AM
- 10 Mahjong 2:00 PM
- 11 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM
- 11 Pound Fitness 6:00 PM
- 15 Mahjong 2:00
- 15 Preschool Story Time 10:00 AM
- 15 Crafts for Kids Winter Fun 1:00 PM
- 16 Tuesday Tales 10:00 AM
- 17 Expressive Arts 10:00 AM
- 17 Mahjong 2:00 PM
- 18 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM
- 18 Comic Book Club 7:00 PM
- 20 Cats in the Library 10:00 AM
- 22 Preschool Story Time 10:00 AM
- 23 Tuesday Tales 10:00 AM
- 23 Jumping Fitness 6:00 PM
- 24 Mahjong 2:00 PM
- 24 Crafts for Tweens 3:30 PM
- 25 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM
- 26 Doodlebugs 10:30 AM
- 29 Preschool Story Time 10:00 AM
- 30 Tuesday Tales 10:00 AM
- 31 Mahjong 2:00 PM

For additional information visit www.Hiawatha-Iowa.com/calendar

City Hall & Library
HOLIDAY CLOSURES
January 1 - 2
February 19

Ukulele Group Lessons
March 25 - April 25
Hiawatha Community Center
Beginners Ukulele: 5:15pm - 6:15pm
Ukulele 2: 6:30pm - 7:30pm
\$105 6 weeks
<https://bit.ly/learn2playuke>

Friends of the Hiawatha Public Library

SOUPER BOWL SUPPER!
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 @ 5:00 - 7:00
HIAWATHA COMMUNITY CENTER
101 EMMONS ST.

SELECT FROM A VARIETY OF DELICIOUS SOUPS!
HOT DOGS AND CHIPS FOR THE KIDS.
COOKIES AND DRINKS ALSO PROVIDED.
LIMIT 2 BOWLS OF SOUP PER PERSON.
\$7.00 FOR ADULTS; \$3.00 FOR KIDS UNDER 12
CASH ONLY, PLEASE.

Beginners
YOGA

Bring balance and harmony to the mind, body, and spirit in this slower paced practice. Great for beginners but all levels are welcome!

Session 1:
January 29 - February 19
Mondays, 8:30 - 9:30 AM
Hiawatha Community Center
\$50/session or \$15/drop-in
<https://bit.ly/Hi-Yoga>

**DELIVER BY
MONDAY,
01/01/2024**

Postal Customer Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Hiawatha, IA
Permit No. 33
ECRWSS

HIAWATHA COUNCIL ACTION

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained online at www.Hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/ or by request to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall at 319-393-1515 x526.

November 15, 2023

Resolution #23-196 - #23-198

FY2024 Budget Amendment and transfers

Resolution #23-199

Underwriting Engagement Letter

Resolution #23-200

TIF Funds for FY25

Resolution #23-201

FY23 Annual Urban Renewal Report

Resolution #23-202 - #23-204

Auditor's and Annual Financial Report

Resolution #23-205

Olmstead's Second Addition

Resolution #23-206

Daws, Clymer and Thiher Water Main Replacement

Resolution #23-207

Springbrook Dr Sanitary Sewer Project

Resolution #23-208

Library Teen Programming Coordinator

Resolution #23-209

FY24-25 Holiday Schedule

Resolution #23-210

2024 City Council Meeting Schedule

December 6, 2023

Ordinance #1002

Rezoning 313 C Ave from C-2 to C-3

Resolution #23-211 - #23-217

12th Ave & Boyson Rd Intersection

Resolution #23-218

Boyson Rd - Hawkeye Dr to Robins Rd

Resolution #23-219

Purchase of four (4) non-contact flow meters

Resolution #23-220

Chicken permit and inspection fee

Resolution #23-221

Purchase of Fire Station cameras

Resolution #23-222

28E Iowa Alcohol Beverages Division

Resolution #23-223

Capital Improvement Plan FY24-28

January Meeting Calendar

| | | |
|----|---------------------|---------|
| 03 | City Council | 5:30 PM |
| 08 | History Commission | 1:30 PM |
| 08 | Board of Adjustment | 5:30 PM |
| 09 | Parks Commission | 5:30 PM |
| 09 | Library Board | 7:00 PM |
| 15 | Planning and Zoning | 5:30 PM |
| 16 | Water Board | 5:30 PM |
| 17 | City Council | 5:30 PM |

| TITLE | NAME | PHONE | EMAIL ADDRESS |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| City Manager | Dennis Marks | 319-393-1515 x523 | dmarks@hiawatha-iowa.com |
| City Clerk | Kari Graber | 319-393-1515 x526 | kgraberehiawatha-iowa.com |
| Finance Director | Cindy Kudrna | 319-393-1515 x522 | ckudrna@hiawatha-iowa.com |
| Parks & Recreation Director | Kelly Willadsen | 319-393-1515 x251 | kwilladsenehiawatha-iowa.com |
| Community Development Director | Patrick Parsley | 319-393-1515 x229 | pparsley@hiawatha-iowa.com |
| City Engineer | Jon Fitch | 319-393-1515 x528 | jfitch@hiawatha-iowa.com |
| Public Works Superintendent | Rod Jasa | 319-393-6601 | rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com |
| Water Superintendent | Marty Recker | 319-393-1515 x232 | mrecker@hiawatha-iowa.com |
| Police Chief | Ben Kamm | 319-393-1212 | chief@hiawathapolice.com |
| Fire Chief | Matt Powers | 319-393-4180 | mkpowers@hiawatha-iowa.com |
| Library Director | Chris Stoner | 319-393-1414 | cstoner@hiawatha-iowa.com |

For more information about City of Hiawatha and its services, call [319-393-1515](tel:319-393-1515) or visit www.hiawatha-iowa.com

CITY COUNCIL | City of Hiawatha Regular Council Meetings are the first and third Wednesday of each month.



**MAYOR
STEVE DODSON**
mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com



**COUNCIL MEMBER
BEN FIEDLER**
bfiedler@hiawatha-iowa.com



**COUNCIL MEMBER
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**COUNCIL MEMBER
JEFF CATER**
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Hiawatha!
Say hello to a great place to live, work and play.