

Volume 37  
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# Hiawatha Insights

## Future L.O.S.S.T Projects

In 2008, the citizens of Hiawatha embarked on an ambitious plan of capital improvements by approving a one-cent local options sales and services tax (L.O.S.S.T) to generate much-needed monies for projects designed to improve the quality of life for all citizens.

The funds generated by the current one cent local option sales and services tax are kept separate from other City monies. It is available only for capital improvement projects. It has been invested very wisely. \$1,505,037 has been spent on or budgeted for such things as critical street, water and sewer improvements and new construction, the purchase of police and fire equipment, and new parks and recreation equipment and programs. Without the availability of L.O.S.S.T funds these critical initiatives would not have been completed.

### Projects to be completed in FY11-13

#### 1 Interview/Evidence Room Update

Installing insulation, sheetrock and carpet to the two Police interview rooms to enhance and increase sound quality of recordings. Moving microphones and cameras to better facilitate the interview process.  
Total L.O.S.S.T \$20,000

#### 2 Police Dept Server Replacement

The current Police Department server is past the recommended replacement time frame.  
Total L.O.S.S.T \$10,000

#### 3 Police Dept Fleet Car Replacement

Replace the current unmarked car driven by the Investigator with a new/newer vehicle also being used for traffic enforcement.  
Requested L.O.S.S.T \$30,000

#### 4 Library Improvements/Enhancements

Study to expand or build new Library facilities.  
Requested L.O.S.S.T \$100,000

#### 5 Guthridge Park Pavilion/Stage & Improvements

Build a pavilion/stage for special events. In conjunction with Hiawatha Kids League, provide improvements and enhancements to the ball diamonds, fencing and dugouts.  
Requested L.O.S.S.T \$35,000

#### 6 E. Clark St Water Main Replacement

Replacement of 4 inch ductile Iron water main with new 8 inch PVC water main. Enhanced fire protection for residences in this area.  
Requested L.O.S.S.T \$110,000

#### 7 Boyson Rd/Robins Rd Realignment (Water Main Replacement)

Replacement of 8 inch and 10 inch ductile Iron water main with new 8 inch and 12 inch PVC water main. This will also accomplish keeping the water main out of the center of the new Boyson Rd street pavement.  
Requested L.O.S.S.T \$195,000

#### 8 Rehab Water Tower #1 Robins Rd

The Robins Rd. water tower is 40 years old. To keep it in a good state of repair, we need to remove it from service to drain, clean, sandblast and paint, inside and out.  
Requested L.O.S.S.T \$325,000

#### 9 Boyson Rd Trail Extension

Trail extension across I-380 to connect to existing trail along Boyson Road, east of N. Center Point Road. This will provide safe pedestrian travel in a corridor that lacks sidewalks and crossings in several locations.  
Requested L.O.S.S.T \$42,000

## Future L.O.S.S.T Projects continued...

The vast majority of the City's General Fund is obligated from year-to-year for such things as mandated programs and ongoing governmental operations. Without the local option sales and services tax, most, if not all, of the capital projects completed in 2009 and 2010, would not have been possible.

The local options sales and services tax is a vital component for funding the continued growth and development of the City of Hiawatha. On May 3, 2011, voters in Hiawatha and Linn County are being asked to return to the polls to vote on whether or not to extend the local options sales and services tax for 20 years. Should the tax be approved, it is estimated about \$15 million dollars would be generated over the next two decades to meet the City's expected future capital needs.

### An Extended Local Options Sales and Services Tax Would Accomplish:

1. Provide local share of Tower Terrace Road improvements .
2. Provide local share for Edgewood Road Extension.
3. Provide match to Federal funds which helps us fund future projects on our own.
4. Complete the North Center Point Road Streetscape project.
5. Road improvements for major roads in newly annexed areas.
6. Tax Relief - one way this provides property tax relief is that we receive our money for projects through bonding. By paying for projects with L.O.S.S.T dollars, we can reduce our bond request therefore reducing our debt service levy rate, which will reduce your tax rate.
7. Town Center Project - reconstruct and realign intersection, upgrade traffic signals and underground utilities.

## Survey Results Are In!

Thank you, City of Hiawatha citizens, for helping us select a name for the future "Town Center" area!

In June of 2010, surveys were sent out to both residential and commercial addresses in Hiawatha to gather opinions on a name for the centrally located, walk-able neighborhood that will be the future focal point of the City.

We received a huge response with over 300 completed surveys returned to City Hall to be counted in the tally of votes. The winning name selection with 129 votes is "**Hiawatha Town Center**". The top three runners up are as follows:

- |    |                           |          |
|----|---------------------------|----------|
| 1. | Hiawatha City Center      | 79 Votes |
| 2. | North Center Point Square | 23 Votes |
| 3. | Hiawatha Town Square      | 11 Votes |



On November 1, 2010, the Hiawatha Council met at the Strategic/Goal Setting Session to review the results of the vote and agreed with the majority that Hiawatha Town Center is the appropriate title for the four-way intersection of Robins, Emmons, Center Point and North Center Point Roads.

## What Public Works Does for Hiawatha

The Hiawatha Public Works Department performs a wide variety of tasks. They include everything from repairing street signs and cleaning catch basins to plowing snow and mowing ditches. We have over 43 miles of streets with the associated signage and storm water and sewer utilities to care for. We have four employees with over fifty combined years of service in Hiawatha. The range of things we can do is only limited by time and budget.



The streets portion of the Public Works Dept., is funded by the State of Iowa Road Use Tax Fund. This fund consists of revenues from fuel tax, registration fees, driver's license fees and other miscellaneous sources. Just like everyone else, we are having to do more with less. The majority of the revenue comes from the fuel tax which is currently at about 20 cents per gallon of fuel and has not changed since 1989! Registration, title and driver's license fees have recently been increased but overall there is a statewide shortage of revenues for street related expenses. The only way our Street Department receives more revenue is if people drive more or an increased census, which only happens every 10 years. Some years we receive less money from the State than previous years while expenses always go up! For example: in 2005 the salt we used for snow fighting was \$41 per ton, this year we paid \$66. That's almost a 40% increase. Our revenues have increased just 7% from 2005 to 2010.

The Road Use Tax Fund is divided up between the IDOT (47.5%), counties (32.5%), and cities (20%). The City's portion is then distributed based on population. We currently receive about \$90 per resident per year for road maintenance. So if someone in Waterloo buys fuel for their car, a portion of that is distributed to Hiawatha. Property taxes are seldom used to fund operational expenses in the Streets Department. We do bond and apply for Federal and State grants to fund major reconstruction projects like the N. Center Point Rd. project we will be doing this summer. Local Option Sales and Services Tax money has also been used to fund street reconstruction projects like C Ave. and 3rd Ave. This is a great source of revenue in that everyone in the Metro area helps fund projects in Hiawatha. If you have any questions, please contact me at 393-6601 or streets@hiawatha-iowa.com.





## Lions Club presents FREE events at Hog Wild Days!

The Lions Club of Hiawatha presents FREE events at Hog Wild Days this June 16 - 19, 2011.

June 15, Thursday - 5:00 pm - JR. MR. & MISS HIAWATHA CONTEST. All boys and girls, ages 6 to 10 yrs old, are welcome to apply. Write a 50 word essay "Hiawatha, the best place to live because..." with your name, age, and phone number by June 13, 2011 and mail to Lions Club, PO Box 262, Hiawatha, IA. 52233. Also this year, we are having the HIAWATHA'S MOST FAVORITE GRANDMOTHER CONTEST. Write a 50 word essay on why your grandmother is the best, include her name and phone number, your name and phone number by June 13, 2011 and mail to the above address. Prizes will be awarded to all and the winners will ride in the 10:30 am Hog Wild Day Parade on Saturday, June 18, 2011.



Also each evening we are having FREE music in the park.

June 18, Saturday - 11:00 am to 1:00 pm - AFTER PARADE PARTY. Everyone is invited, young and young at heart, for FREE popcorn, frozen treats, face painting, tattoos, balloons, and music in the park.



June 18, Saturday - 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm - IOWA KIDSIGHT. Lions Club FREE vision screening for children ages 6 months to 4 yrs old. See website for details. [www.hogwilddays.com](http://www.hogwilddays.com).

June 19, Sunday - 2:30 pm - PING PONG DROP. FREE for all children 12 yrs old and younger. Every child wins a prize.

Fireworks donations can be sent to LIONS CLUB, POBOX 262, HIAWATHA, IA 52233.



Website: [www.hogwilddays.com](http://www.hogwilddays.com)

## The Importance of Flushing Water Lines

**Starting Monday, April 18, 2011 through Friday May 20, 2011, weather permitting, Hiawatha Water Department will be flushing hydrants.**

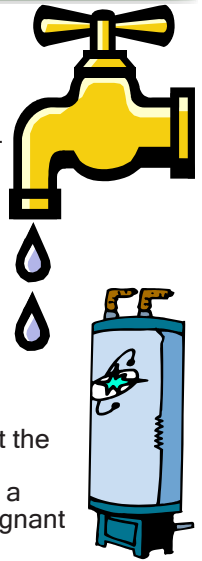
If the residents of Hiawatha notice the Water Crew working at fire hydrants and see water running into the street, you may think that the department is ignoring its own philosophy on conserving water. The process of periodically "flushing" fire hydrants, however, is an important preventative maintenance activity. Although it may appear to waste water, this process is part of a routine maintenance program necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system and to continue to deliver the highest quality of water possible to our customers.

Flushing the water system on a routine basis removes sediment from lines and keeps the entire distribution system refreshed. Hiawatha Water Department maintains over 40 miles of domestic water lines throughout the City.

As a result of the flushing procedure, residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience temporary discoloration of their water. This discoloration consists primarily of harmless silt or deposits and does not affect the safety of the water. The water is still drinkable. If you experience discoloration in your water after crews have been flushing in your neighborhood, clear the pipes in your own home by running all water faucets for a minute or two. We also advise to postpone doing your laundry until all internal pipes have been cleared.

This same philosophy of water line preventive maintenance is one that you should use in your own home. Your home's water heater should be drained and flushed at least once a year to keep it working efficiently and to protect the quality of water inside your home.

Also, if you go out of town and there is no water use in your home for a week or more, when you return, it's always a good idea to run all your faucets for a minute or so before using the water. This ensures that you don't use any stagnant water that may have developed in your home's pipes while you were away.



## Backflow Prevention Devices

Reminder to Hiawatha Residents: If you have an RPZ valve (Backflow Prevention Device) on your water line, please remember that this needs to be tested yearly (preferably in the spring) by a registered technician per City Ordinance. Inspection forms may be picked up at the City Hall or your registered technician should have similar forms. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Water Department at (319) 393-5556.

## Don't forget to Vote on May 3, 2011

The Local Options Sales and Services Tax vote is coming up on May 3, 2011. Polls are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Take the time to log into the Linn County Electronics Services website to confirm your voting registration and location.

Go to [www.linncountyelections.org](http://www.linncountyelections.org), fill in the address search. Click on your address to view your voting and election information, your polling place, names of elected officials from the local level to the Federal level and any special voting information.

## Council Action

March 2, 2011

Resolution 11-039 - Adopting the proposed FY 2011-2012 Budget.

Resolution 11-040 - Adopting proposed plans, specs, form of contract, estimate of cost for North Center Point Road Pavement Reconstruction from Stamy to Tower Terrace Rd P.C.C. Pavement, Trail, Sidewalk, Water Main, and Storm Sewer Project.

Resolution 11-041 - Fixing date of March 16, 2011 for a meeting on the proposition to authorize a Loan Agreement and the issuance of Notes to evidence the obligations of the City thereunder for not to exceed \$4,000,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2011.

Resolution 11-042 - Fixing date of March 16, 2011 for a meeting on the proposition to authorize a Loan Agreement and the issuance of Notes to evidence the obligations of the City thereunder for not to exceed \$220,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2011.

Resolution 11-043 - Approving one (1) permanent storm sewer and storm water drainage easement for the property owned by Wright Brothers Boulevard, L.C. and further authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Permanent Easement for Storm Sewer and Storm Water Drainage and Permanent Easement for Storm Sewer, and Storm Water Drainage Agreement to be recorded in the Office of the Linn County Recorder.

Resolution 11-044 - Approving one (1) permanent storm sewer and storm water drainage easement for the property owned by Rodney E. Schutzman and further authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Permanent Easement for Storm Sewer and Storm Water Drainage, and Permanent Easement for Storm Sewer and Storm Water Drainage Agreement be recorded in the Office of the Linn County Recorder.

Resolution 11-045 - Approving seven (7) agreements for temporary construction easements for properties owned by Wright Brothers Boulevard, LC; Gutenberg One, LLC; Rodney E. Schutzman; Sherwinn Inc.; Hotchkiss Enterprises, L.L.C.; CCB Packaging, Inc, and Fisher Real Estate Management L.C. and further authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Temporary Construction Easements.

Resolution 11-046 - Approving the Final Plat for Hunter Commerce Park Third Addition containing three (3) lots.

Resolution 11-048 - Authorizing the purchase of mowing and landscaping equipment for the maintenance of grounds for the Hiawatha City Hall, Library and Fire Station, at a total cost not to exceed \$3,749.97, with funding available through the General Fund Building/Grounds Maintenance Department Equipment and Capital Layout Fund, from Midway Outdoor Equipment of Hiawatha, IA and Greenvaley Ag & Turf of Hiawatha, IA.

March 16, 2011

Resolution 11-049 - Setting public hearing to consider authorization of \$4,000,00 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2011 and issuance of notes to evidence the obligation of the City thereunder and instituting proceedings to take additional action.

Resolution 11-050 - Setting public hearing to consider authorization of \$220,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2011 and issuance of notes to evidence the obligation of the City thereunder and instituting proceedings to take additional action.

Resolution 11-051 - Authorizing issuance of \$3,605,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2011 and levying a tax for payment thereof.

Resolution 11-052 - Awarding contract for North Center Point Road Pavement Reconstruction from Stamy to Tower Terrace Road P.C.C. Pavement, Trail, Sidewalk, Water Main, and Storm Sewer Project to Metro Pavers, Inc., of Iowa City for a total not to exceed \$2,281,242.90.

Resolution 11-053 - Authorizing staff to proceed with Hometown Rewards Application upon Alliant Energy approval and further authorizing staff to implement a Hometown Rewards Community Program.

Resolution 11-054 - Approving one (1) permanent storm sewer and storm water drainage easement for the property referenced to/ owned by Sherman Properties, LLC, and Christopher T. Sherman and Mary Kathryn Kendall Co-Trustees of the Kathryn A. Sherman Family Trust.

Resolution 11-055 - Approving one (1) permanent 10 foot public utility easement for the property referenced to/owned by Wright Brothers Boulevard, L.C.

Resolution 11-056 - Approving one (1) temporary construction easement for the property referenced to/owned by Sherman Properties, LLC. and Christopher T. Sherman and Mary Kathryn Kendall Co-Trustees of the Kathryn A. Sherman Family Trust.

Resolution 11-057 - Authorizing a partnership with the Hiawatha Kids League for the improvements of drainage, fencing, dugouts, and concrete work for the five (5) ball diamonds at Guthridge Park at total cost of \$25,438.68, with the City responsible for \$10,000 of total costs using available funding in FY 2011 Local Options Sales Tax Funds and HKL covering remaining costs.

Resolution 11-058 - Authorizing contract for annual auditing services for FY 2011-2013, at a total cost not to exceed \$9,795 for FY 2011, \$10,095 for FY 2012 and \$10,425 for FY 2013, with the Auditor of the State of Iowa in Des Moines, IA.

Resolution 11-059 - Authorizing staff to proceed with Council Chambers repairs due to inappropriate installation of cherry panels on wall and Council dais and replacement of drinking fountain aprons at a total project cost of \$25,015.00; with the City responsible for paying \$16,218.33 of total project cost and the remaining balance being paid by Novak Design and Knutson Construction.

## Projects

North Center Point Road from Stamy Road to Tower Terrace Road will be reconstructed this year. Improvements include a concrete curb and gutter street with center turn lane, storm sewer, sidewalk, trail, and bus stop pads. The project has a scheduled start date of April 11, 2011.

The project will occur in sections to allow access to businesses at all times. Construction signs with directions to businesses will be provided. Through traffic travelling to the north of Tower Terrace Road will be provided a signed detour route which includes Stamy Road, Kacena Road, Hawkeye Drive, Robins Road, and West Main Street in Robins.

The project duration is expected to last for all of this year's construction season, with street completion in November, and sidewalk and trail completion in Spring 2012.

# APRIL 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Council 7pm			Activity Registration Day Community Center 8 a.m.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18		Disc Golf Tournament Fay Clark Memorial Park
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Water 6:30 p.m.	Council 7pm		Holiday City Hall Closed	Easter Egg Hunt 9:00 a.m. Guthridge Park
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Farmer's Market Begins 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	P&Z 6p.m.		Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18		City-Wide Clean-up Guthridge Park, 10th Ave. 9-11:00 a.m.

# MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park		Local Options Sales Tax Vote	Council 7pm			City Wide Garage Sale
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	Senior Evening Dance Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park		Water 6:30 p.m.	Council 7pm			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park			Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	Bike Parade, Concert in Park, Photo Contest Deadline	
29	30	31				
Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	P&Z 6p.m.					



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**DELIVER BY:  
SATURDAY,  
4/09/2011**

## Taking Caution with Courtesy

We hear people say often that Iowans exhibit noteworthy courtesy. Unfortunately, sometimes a courteous gesture has to be given or accepted with some caution. A common cause of motor vehicle accidents is failure to yield, and sometimes that failure to yield may be the result of the courteous gesture of waving someone through traffic or not stopping in front of a driveway so that someone may enter the highway. Iowa Code section 321.320 defines driver obligations for making left turns through traffic. It states: "The driver of a vehicle intending to turn to the left within an intersection or into an alley, private road, or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching from the opposite direction..." Iowa Code section 321.321 defines driver obligations for entering through highways. It states: "The driver of a vehicle shall stop or yield as required by this chapter at the entrance to a through highway and shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection from said through highway or which are approaching..." So as a responsible and licensed driver in Iowa, please use caution when courteously waving someone through traffic or when you are accepting someone's courtesy and being waved through traffic. Please also exercise caution when you are entering a highway and yield to traffic already using the roadway.



## Cedar Valley Humane Society to Extend Hours

The Cedar Valley Humane Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building healthy relationships between people and animals, and eliminating cruelty, abuse and overpopulation of animals through education, adoption services and inspiring compassion for all living things. Since the construction of their present facility in 1969, the open-admission animal shelter has cared for more than 100,000 homeless, abandoned, abused, sick, and neglected animals. The Cedar Valley Humane Society's primary service area is unincorporated Linn County, but they offer adoption and other services to residents throughout Eastern Iowa. For more information, please visit [www.cvhumane.org](http://www.cvhumane.org).



**Cedar Valley Humane Society**

Beginning February 21, 2011, the Cedar Valley Humane Society extended its hours. The new hours are Monday through Friday from noon to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5:00 p.m.

"Our new hours will make it more convenient for families to come out and meet animals available for adoption," says Zach Melton, Executive Director of the Cedar Valley Humane Society. "Being open seven days a week also will allow us to respond faster to certain situations, such as a lost pet". The Cedar Valley Humane Society is located at 7411 Mount Vernon Road SE in Cedar Rapids.

## History Commission Article Correction

RETRACTION - March 2009 Hiawatha Insight Crandic Article was incorrect.

The Interurban that ran through what is now Hiawatha was the Waterloo, Cedar Falls and Northern. The roadbed for WCF&N is now the bike trail going up to Waterloo.

Thank you Stephen for providing us with the accurate information and allowing us to provide that to our resident readers.

## Call Before You Dig!!!

Warmer weather means spring and we know that spring and summer mean home improvement projects, including digging on your property, fences, decks, and home additions, all prime examples. Please always exercise caution before digging by calling Iowa One Call. This is a free service provided to not only protect all utility, water and communication lines underground, but most importantly, to protect you!

Before beginning any project that involves digging, contact Iowa One Call at 811 or 1-800-292-8989 at least 48 hours in advance and provide them with the address of the project and they will come out and mark off all areas that cover water, gas, electric, communication and any other underground services that are on your property.

You can also visit their website to enter a new dig ticket online at [www.iowaonecall.com](http://www.iowaonecall.com). Know what's below. Call before you dig!



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

WE SUPPORT  
**SAFE DIGGING  
MONTH**

**APRIL**