

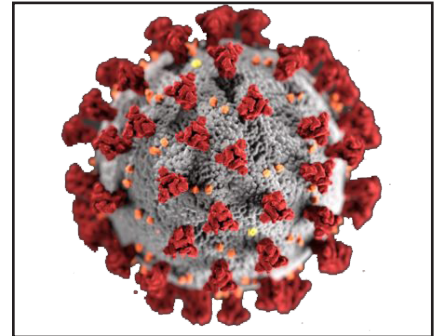


April 2020

Volume 145

Hiawatha COVID-19 Update

To protect the health and safety of Hiawatha City employees and the general public, the city of Hiawatha continues its closures of most city facilities to the general public thru April 30, 2020. This extension continues to align with federal and states extension of prohibiting mass gatherings of 10 or more people. City services will remain operational and available to the public either online or via phone or email. Departments are making efforts to ensure minimal disruption to public services during this time. Contact information for all city departments is available at hiawatha-iowa.com.



Hiawatha Closures include these City facilities:

- Hiawatha City Hall
- Hiawatha Public Library
- Public Works and Water Department - working in shifts
- Police Department will continue to patrol, respond to emergency and routine calls for service.
- Fire/Ambulance Department - Working in shifts opposite of others on the team to minimize exposure.
- Building inspectors - Residential & Commercial inspection of new construction only on site; Some video inspections being completed on electrical and water heaters. No rental inspections until self-isolation is lifted.

The city of Hiawatha continues to work with our partners to help ensure the health and safety of our community during this time. Linn County Public Health (LCPH) is working closely with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as local public and private partners in response to COVID-19.

We ask residents to follow recommendations offered by health care providers and public health officials to stay home as much as possible and to practice social distancing.

The City of Hiawatha continues to remind and share COVID-19 prevention guidelines:

- First and foremost, please stay home if you are exhibiting flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath. It is recommended that people with these symptoms stay home from school, work, public spaces, and social gatherings to prevent others from getting ill.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing and throw the tissue away immediately after you use it. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your inside elbow area.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you cough or

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- sneeze. If you are not near water, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid shaking hands or exchanging business cards. If you do, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Trusted Resources:

Please follow trusted resources for additional information about COVID-19 and Coronavirus are available here:

- [Iowa Department of Public Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control & Public Health](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [Linn County Public Health](#)
- U.S. Chamber resources for employers: [Guidance for Employers & Workplace Tips for Employees](#)

Please visit the City of Hiawatha's website hiawatha-iowa.com/COVID-19 for local updates and related information.

A public hotline has been established for Iowans with questions about COVID-19. The line is available 24/7 by calling 2-1-1 or 1-800-469-2211.

Work Resumes on the Village Center Redevelopment Project

The Village Center Utility and Street extension project contractor, Rathje Construction of Marion, has worked over the winter months to install the underground utilities. The next priority will be to pave the street extensions planned for the future development of the area. These include the extension of "A" Avenue westerly from Clark Street to an intersection with the new roadway extended east from Robins Road. This new street and utility project will provide the access and services for the proposed redevelopment of the former Oakbrook property. The completion date for the City project is June of this year with the proposed mix-use redevelopment scheduled to start this fall.



Work Started on New Traffic Signal at Center Point Road and Willman Street

The City Council approved a contract with Rathje Construction from Marion to install a new signal at Center Point Road and Willman Street. The new signals will replace the existing four-way stop installation with signals that will be actuated by pedestrians or side street traffic. The contractor constructed the large concrete bases for the signals and some limited underground conduit back in January. The contractor has now started the removal of the intersection and sidewalks. Traffic has been moved to the west two lanes of Center Point Road and Willman Street has been closed, with established detours. The goal is to have the new signals installed by July.

Design Work Completed on the Willman Street Rehabilitation Project

The design engineer has moved ahead with the Willman Street resurfacing project from Center Point Road to 4th Avenue. Because of the new library addition, we are planning a new asphalt overlay after repair of the deteriorated street areas and new curbs. We are also proposing the addition of a sidewalk on the north side of the street from the library to 4th Avenue. There was an open house in January to introduce the local property owners to the concept. We are proceeding with the design and bidding with the final plans and specifications prepared in March. The schedule is to approve a construction contract in May and have the work completed by September of this year. Any questions please contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.

Hiawatha History Commission Presents

Hiawatha, Iowa: The First 70 Years

Pre-order copies for \$15 or purchase for \$20 after June 1. Email Pat Semelroth at se_me@live.com to order, or for more information.



Hiawatha,
Iowa

70 Years
of History

1950-2020

Hiawatha Council Action

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained on-line 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 ext. 526.

Fire Department Responds to COVID-19

Hiawatha Firefighters and Paramedics began preparing for response and operations March 15, during the COVID-19 emergency. Staff had to make a number of adjustments to the daily operations of the department in order to protect both the public and the members from exposure to the COVID-19 virus. Initial steps taken included limiting access to the station. Effective that day, all members were screened for fever and critical questions, and continue to be, prior to every shift. Firefighters exercise proper social distancing routines in the station and on calls, and perform extra cleaning routines both on the station and on the ambulances.



“Protecting lives, property, and the environment are our mission. Everything we do focuses on that. However, we have to keep our crew healthy or there will be no one to respond”, said Chief Mike Nesslage. “We have to make sure we have healthy staff to respond.”

“While COVID is here, we still have patients who are going to have heart attacks, strokes, and get hurt, and we continue to take care of them,” added Dr. Tim Sagers, the department’s medical director.

HFD had a small reserve of personal protective equipment (PPE) in stock. According to Deputy Chief Matt Powers, “At this moment we enough PPE to cover calls, thanks in part to some generous donations and our existing stock. We are closely watching our PPE usage as we are concerned that as the pandemic continues we will need additional supplies.” The fire department is following CDC recommendations on the use of PPE to protect responders, and recommendations to extend the life of our PPE stock.

Firefighters and EMT’s are wearing PPE on every call as a precaution. “Don’t be overly-concerned if you see EMT’s taking care of your neighbor, while wearing face masks,” Powers added. “We have our responders wearing gear that matches the situation on every call, to protect both the patient and responders. The Fire Department received several large donations, including one featured on KCRG from Venture Crew 2000. Because HFD was well-stock, part of those donations were forwarded on to Mercy Care as they were running short. However, as the emergency goes on, all the agencies, including Hiawatha, will be in need. Linn County Emergency Management Agency is working on obtaining needed equipment for any agency involved in the response.

Every patient is screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. “Starting with the 911 call, the dispatchers are asking questions” Said EMS Deputy Chief Nick Jellison. “When the ambulance arrives, one responder will interview the patient for additional indicators of COVID-19, so they can upgrade their PPE if needed.” Those questions include the presence of fever, presence of symptoms like a new cough of chills, contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or recent out of state travel. Patients will be screened again on arrival at the hospital. Even with the screening, the fire department wants to make sure every patient receives the appropriate care. HFD is giving the same excellent care to every patient, with or without COVID. Information is critical. Information is funneled to the fire department via Linn County Public Health and the Iowa Department of Public Health. Much of that comes directly from the CDC.”

There are plenty of information sources out there, but the fire department relies on the critical information coming from the authorities, the Health Department and the CDC. In addition, a representative attends daily phone briefings from the Linn County Incident Command group that is operating out of the Linn County EMA. All the agencies and municipalities in the county are cooperating and working together to help save lives.

HDF has many members who are volunteers and stay at the station when on duty. They leave their families to come care for people in the community. All of the members, volunteer or paid, put themselves at risk every day.

April Calendar

- 01 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 08 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 13 Board of Adjustment
Meeting 5:30 PM - **CANCELLED**
- 13 History Committee
Meeting 1:30 PM - **CANCELLED**
- 14 Parks Commission
Meeting 6:00 PM
- 14 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 15 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 25 Earth Day Event 9-11 AM - -
CANCELLED
- 27 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM -
CANCELLED
- 27 Yard Waste & Brush
Pick Up 7:00 AM
- 22 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

May Calendar

- 02 City Wide Garage Sales -
CANCELLED
- 04 Amnesty Pick Up - **CANCELLED**
- 06 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 11 Board of Adjustment
Meeting 5:30 PM - **CANCELLED**
- 11 History Committee
Meeting 1:30 PM
- 12 Parks Commission
Meeting 6:00 PM
- 12 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 13 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 20 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 20 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 27 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

Temporary Building Permit and Inspection Policy



The City of Hiawatha has implemented temporary changes to our inspection and permitting processes amid the Covid-19 epidemic. Over-the-counter permits are temporarily suspended until further

notice. Applications for new permits may be obtained using our online portal at: <https://www.citizenserve.com/citizenserve-login/>. Assistance is available by phone between the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday at (319) 393-1515. Residential construction inspections will be completed as needed and depending on the situation. A 24-hour notice is required.

- New construction and additions: 24 hour notice required. No other change in current operations
- Remodels: inspections within the occupied space will be scheduled or suspended on a case by case basis.
- Residential furnace and WH replacement installations: Video inspection options are available. Onsite inspections have been suspended until further notice.

Commercial construction inspections will be completed as needed and depending on the situation. 24 hour notice is required:

- New construction and additions: 24 hour notice required. No other change in current operations
- Remodels: inspections within the occupied space will be scheduled or suspended on a case by case basis.
- Commercial furnace and WH replacement installations have been suspended until further notice.

Virtual inspections, if approved, require a 24-hour notice and shall be conducted using one of the following: WhatsApp (preferred), FaceTime, or Google Messenger. These resources can be found in the app store of your iPhone or Android device. The app must be downloaded and permissions accepted prior to the inspection. The inspector will video call the contact on file at the allotted inspection time and provide you with further details to proceed with the inspection. To keep our staff and the public safe during onsite inspections, social distancing shall be required as recommended by the CDC and minimum requirements observed:

- Maintain a minimum of six feet from the inspector at all times.
- Cover your cough or sneeze.
- Washing or sanitizing your hands is highly recommended.
- Reschedule the inspection if you are sick or have symptoms.
- Follow any additional directions of the inspector.

Failure to comply with the requirements above may result in a failed inspection, and further inspections may be suspended. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during these unprecedented and difficult times. Please contact the Community Development Department at (319) 393-1515 if you need further assistance.

REGISTER FOR HIAWATHA PARKS AND REC PROGRAMS AT
WWW.HIAWATHA-IOWA.COM

 HIAWATHA SOCCER (AGES 3-4) \$25-\$30 REC UNITED SOCCER (AGES 5-10) \$40 <i>Age appropriate soccer for youth in the corridor. Ages 7-10 will play at Tuma Soccer complex. June through July</i>	 BLASTBALL (AGES 3-5) \$25 - \$30 <i>Blastball is an exciting introductory game to baseball and softball for boys and girls. The game is safe and uses a foam bat and ball - no gloves required. July Session</i>	 TENNIS LESSONS (AGES 4-13) \$70 <i>Hiawatha is offering tennis lessons through Westfield Tennis Club. Classes will be held at the tennis courts located in Outridge Park. June & July Sessions</i>
 LIDS FOR KIDS - FREE <i>Kids and parents are invited to a Bike Helmet Giveaway at the Hiawatha Farmers Market compliments of Iowa Association of Justice. Free! June 7th</i>	 American Red Cross Babysitters Training <i>www.LittleSportsTorts.com</i>	
 WORLD OF SPORTS (AGES 3-6) \$50 <i>Learn the basics of hockey, soccer, t-ball, tennis, basketball, football, volleyball & more! Register at www.littlesportstorts.com June & July Sessions</i>	 BABYSITTING CLINIC - \$75 <i>This training will help participants to develop leadership skills; how to develop a babysitting business, keep themselves and learn about basic child care and basic first aid. June 10th</i>	

Dog Park Update:



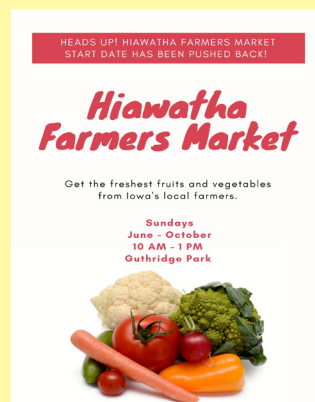


We are working hard to get our dog park up and running! Once we have a good turf base we will let your furry friends enjoy the park!

Thanks for your patience!

Due to COVID-19, Hiawatha Parks & Recreation has cancelled the following events:

- Whispering Pines Class - April 15
- Earth Day Event - April 25 - **Postponed**
- Self Defense Class - April 25
- Hiawatha City-Wide Garage Sales - May 2
*Garage Sales - Prohibited.
- Amnesty Day - May 4 - **Postponed**
- Hiawatha Farmers Market, originally set to begin the last Sunday in April, will now begin Sunday, June 7.



Leaves/Brush/Yardwaste Pickup

Pickup will begin April 27, 2020. Leaves and yardwaste must be in paper bags, **placed curbside by 7:00 AM, Monday, April 27, 2020.** The City will not pick up any branches larger than 12" in diameter and no pickup of tree demolition. Contact a tree removal service for disposal of tree demolition. All other branches should be spread along the curb to facilitate easier pickup. Do not stack them.

Hiawatha Public Library Offers Digital Resources

Although the Hiawatha Public Library cannot provide physical materials to you, but we are following the precautions recommended by our city, county, and state public health officials. We are frustrated, too, because we know how much our patrons rely on us. Please remember that we are answering our phones Monday-Friday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. If you have questions or need information, please call (319) 393-1414. We are happy to help.

The link to our Digital Resources page is <https://hiawathapubliclibrary.org/digital-resources> You will need your library account number and PIN. Please let us know if you do not have this information. The MLN Mobile App link is at <http://metrolibrarynetwork.org/mln/bookmyne/>. We encourage you to download the app. This resource allows you to search the catalog, place holds on both digital and physical materials, renew your materials, and access your account.



You might also want to take a look at:

- 3M Cloud Library-E-books: The Cloud Library offers e-books from publishers distinct from Overdrive. Keep e-books for 21 days with no worries about late fees. (<https://my.nicheacademy.com/hiawathapubliclibrary/course/1301>)
- Freegal: Downloadable and streaming music. Stream music 24-hours-per-day and download up to 5 songs each week - yours to keep for your personal use. Freegal offers access to about 16 million+ songs, including Sony Music's catalog of legendary artists. In total the collection is comprised of music from over 40,000+ labels with music that originates in over 100 countries. Freegal® Music is a free music service from your library. (<https://my.nicheacademy.com/hiawathapubliclibrary/course/354>)
- Kanopy: Kanopy is an on-demand streaming video service that provides access over 30,000 documentaries, foreign and classic films. The Great Courses and selections from PBS are also available. Kanopy is available only to Hiawatha residents through our website. (<https://my.nicheacademy.com/hiawathapubliclibrary/course/3129>)
- Overdrive: E-books and audiobooks. Overdrive offers downloadable books for any device that can read epub or Kindle files. Keep e-books for 14 or 21 days (your choice) with no worries about late fees. (<https://my.nicheacademy.com/hiawathapubliclibrary/course/1451>)
- RBDigital Audio and RBDigital Magazines: E-books, magazines and audiobooks: Download digital audiobooks to your computer, portable media player, or mobile device. Full digital copies of your favorite magazines accessible on your computer or mobile device. (<https://my.nicheacademy.com/hiawathapubliclibrary/course/177>)

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 Fax: 319-393-1516
 www.hiawatha-iowa.com

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Dave Saari (Hiawatha Police Chief 1973 - 2003)

David "Dave" M. Saari, 74, passed away on Thursday, April 2, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Dave Saari, served as our Hiawatha Police Chief for 30 years. He was hired in October of 1968, as a police officer for the City and in June of 1976, Dave was appointed Chief of Police. He was committed to reducing crime and enhancing the city's quality of life, Dave retired in 2003. Saari was a long-time resident of the metro area and thoroughly enjoyed his community and the people in it. Saari was a wonderful story teller and took great pride in representing the City of Hiawatha. Often, when asked to recall a memorable case, Saari told of robbery at Farmers State Bank on Center Point Road in the mid-1980s. The robber managed to escape from the bank with a bag of money only to dispose of it in a nearby trash bin. A witness saw the robber run from the scene a few minutes before Saari arrived. Saari walked to once was the Fireplace Bar only two blocks away where he asked the bartender if he saw any customers come in hurriedly. The bartender gestured to a man sitting on a bar stool and Saari proceeded to put the man under arrest for robbery. Along with his engaging stories, his love for the community which shined through his involvement with the Lion's Club, Hiawatha Hog Wild Days, Farmers Market, Hi-BRAI and Fun Fest. With gratitude the City of Hiawatha respectfully cherishes its memories of Dave Saari and his role as a police chief, team member, volunteer and friend. Rest in Peace, Dave.

CITY DIRECTORY

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
City Administrator	Kim Downs	319-393-1515 x523	kdowns@hiawatha-iowa.com
City Clerk	Kari Graber	319-393-1515 x526	kgraber@hiawatha-iowa.com
Finance Director	Cindy Kudrna	319-393-1515 x 522	ckudrna@hiawatha-iowa.com
Parks & Recreation Director	Kelly Willadsen	319-393-1515 x251	kwilladsen@hiawatha-iowa.com
Community Development Director	Patrick Parsley	319-393-1515 x229	pparsley@hiawatha-iowa.com
City Engineer	John Bender	319-393-1515 x511	jbender@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	Dennis Marks	319-393-1212	chief@hiawathapolice.com
Fire Chief	Mike Nessler	319-393-4180	mnessler@hiawatha-iowa.com
Library Director	Jeaneal Weeks	319-393-1414	weeksj@hiawatha-iowa.com

For more information about the 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.



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 mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com



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