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Hiawatha Insights

State of the City 2013

On July 18th, the Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO) held the 2nd Annual State of the City luncheon with 148 in attendance.

HEDCO Secretary Treasurer, Scott Gasway introduced speaker Mayor Tom Theis as a tireless advocate for Hiawatha, a friend of businesses and citizens alike.

Mayor Theis opened with, "I am a firm believer that you can't live in the past. However, you can learn from the actions or inactions of the past. You review what went well, what could have been done better and you try not to repeat past mistakes. You also appoint excellent commission and board members and hire the best support staff you can find. Finally, you elect the best people you can to serve on your City Council. All of these people working independently with one common goal: to improve the City! No system is 100% fool-proof, however, your City is doing its best not to repeat some of the things that didn't go quite as planned and build and expand off the things that went well." This is dedicated to "Continued Growth and Committed to Success", this was the theme for the day.



This shared, "To be dedicated to continued growth and committed to success you have to think ahead. The City has thought ahead with the opportunity of development along the proposed "Town Center" with the Council placing a six month moratorium along Center Point Road, which will expire on September 1st. It runs 300 feet on either side from Blairs Ferry Road to Boyson Road. This stressed that when it comes to redevelopment, it is important to get it correct the first time. The moratorium will set standards on road access, signs, setbacks, architectural characteristics and appropriate uses. The City would like new development to compliment City Hall, the Library, Farmers State Bank and Hiawatha Bank & Trust and to be destination driven."

This was excited to share the potential of the Corridor's Metropolitan Planning Organizations approval of their Fiscally Constrained Plan that identifies project eligibilities for funding for the Tower Terrace Interchange Project. The City has continued to share the need of the interchange for the metro communities knowing it will stimulate economic development, transportation safety and congestion relief. The City has been working on this for years without whining, begging or crying but informing and today the City is closer than ever before. In the April presentation, that was given to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT), Commissioner Charese Yanney said, "The interchange makes sense, keep working with your local DOT". This also spoke of hope when he mentioned his "ace in the hole" Nancy Richardson, former IDOT Director. Nancy knows the "who's" and the "how's" of the IDOT system.

This took a few minutes to highlight our commercial growth in 2012. There were five (5) large builds: Enseva; Compass Commercial Services; Hawkeye Electric; Iowa Stone and Kirkwood Community College as a remodel. Together their estimated assessed value is \$7,272,066.

Hiawatha businesses are the backbone of steady growth and many have partnered with the City on numerous projects. This was pleased to recognize the six (6) out of the 25 Corridor Business Journal's Fastest Growing Companies. Compass Commercial Services, Midwest Microwave Solutions, Mobile Demand, Crystal Group, Hawkeye Communications/Fandel Alarms and CEC. Most of these businesses have made this list more than once. This congratulated and wished each of them continued success.

As it is important to encourage new business development, it is additionally important to maintain current businesses.

State of the City 2013, *Continued*

(Continued from Page 1)

The City does this through networking and asking local businesses what is going on. The City participates in the quarterly HEDCO Summit networking sessions that all are welcome to attend. We additionally participated in the Metro Alliance Synchronist Program, interviewing 15 Hiawatha companies to see what our community strengths and weaknesses are. We hold strategic planning sessions to plan for future growth and opportunity and lastly we listen to their needs and find out what's working well in their business and how we can assist.

Lastly, This reminded people of Founder Fay Clark's dream of creating a city and today This spoke of the Council's dream of creating a "Town Center" concept around and near the Emmons Street/North Center Point Road and the need to realign the intersection. The City took its steps in purchasing and cleaning up properties close and within the Town Center concept, such as Oakbrook and the old A'Hearn building along Robins Road. This also mentioned and shared his excitement of the redevelopment that is occurring east of the intersection and south of Go Daddy. The Town Center concept is divided into phases. 25% of the intersection or Phase 1 has been completed with the construction of the new city hall. Much of Phase 2 has been purchased and cleaned up by the City and is ready for development. There are major changes that have occurred or are occurring in three of the seven phases of the Town Center Plan. This asked who wanted to partner on Phase 4. The Town Center Plan concept will be stimulated by the realignment of the intersection. The City will need to purchase some properties. Barring something unforeseen, the City should start planning, land acquisitions and utility work in the spring of 2014. The intersection realignment itself will take several construction seasons to complete.

This closed hoping his stories demonstrated how our City is proactive, solution oriented, infrastructure conscious, plays attention to detail, does things that make sense, communicates, builds partnerships, and demonstrates that we listen to the people, we keep our fingers on the pulse of the community and put good people in the right positions to get the job done. The City is dedicated to "Continued Growth and Committed to Success".

Hiawatha Lions Club Hog Wild Days 2013 Recap

The Hiawatha Lions Club had great weather to celebrate their 30th annual Hog Wild Days event. Between the showers the only event that was delayed was the 5K run, which started about 20 minutes late. Mary Parker was elected best Grandmother; Jr. Miss Hog Wild Days was Dariah and Jr. Mr. Hog Wild Days was John. The 5K run place winners were Nathan Hopp (M) 16:01, Elaina Mertens (F) 19:48 and top walkers were Bill Copper (M) and Linnea Martin (F). The Hiawatha Lions Club screened the eyes of 16 toddlers in the Kid Site project. The world famous Hog Wild Days Parade was the best ever with thousands of spectators lining the streets. The Lions Club of Hiawatha would like to thank the many sponsors that support the activities and allow the Lions Club to continue the Hog Wild Days event.



Better Block Bus Shelter Program

As the City Council, city staff, the business community, and citizens evaluate our community, we ask what we can do to improve it. Bus shelters came to the top. A good bus shelter is an essential part of any successful urban mass-transit system. What constitutes "good", however, depends upon your point of view. From the perspective of the City that is responsible for its management, a good shelter is one that has low maintenance requirements and is vandal-resistant. From the rider's point of view, an ideal shelter is one that allows visibility and easy access to the bus, is comfortable and convenient, and is safe. The City Council and members of our business community understood the concerns of leaving transit riders waiting in the heat, rain and the freezing weather and the importance of safety. The two partnered to provide a well-designed, comfortable shelter to make waiting for a bus a pleasant experience. The City worked with our local transit system to determine the most used bus stop to begin the implementation of the installation of bus shelters throughout the community. City staff evaluated the percentage of use of each stop and has set up a "Better Block Bus Shelter Installation" program. The City will budget for the installation of two shelters a year in designated areas. The shelters are 6' X 12' rectangle structures with handicap accessibility and tempered glass panels that reduce the exposure to the wind, rain and sun. Each shelter's cost is approximately \$8,000. In April of this year, our first "Better Block Bus Shelter Installation" bus shelters were installed along Boyson Road, in front of the Boyson Court Square, across from Kirkwood Community College and on the north end of North Center Point Road by CCB Packaging. The shelter's were funded through a partnership between the City through Local Option Sales and Service Tax dollars and the kind donations of area business leaders; Kirkwood Community College, Ahmann Design and CCB Packaging.

It is through great partnerships that great things happen! The "Better Block Bus Shelter Installation" Program exists because of those partnerships. The City Council thanks Kirkwood Community College, Ahmann Design and CCB Packaging for their donation to this program and is appreciative of their partnerships with the City.



North Center Point Road



Boyson Road

Boyson Road and Robins Road Project Update/Traffic Signals

The intersection reopened to traffic on the week of Monday, July 22, 2013. Four-way STOP signs are temporarily in place until the traffic signals become operational. Work will continue on sidewalks, driveways, traffic signals, grading and seeding behind the curbs. Please be alert for any work zone traffic control in use during this time. The project is on schedule to be completed in September 2013.

Once the traffic signals are installed and become operational, you may notice a new style of left-turn signal. Placed OVER the left-turn lane, the flashing yellow arrow will be part of a four-arrow signal display. This signal is a first for Hiawatha, though it is being used at several Cedar Rapids and Iowa City intersections.

Why is a new type of signal needed?

This change is the result of Federal Highway Administration research, which demonstrated that the new signals:

- help to reduce the risk of crashes
- move more traffic through an intersection
- and provide additional traffic management flexibility.

Why is it a better left-turn signal?

- It's safer. A national study demonstrated that drivers made fewer mistakes with the new signals than with traditional left-turn arrow signals.
- It's more efficient. The new signals provide cities with more options to handle a range of traffic volumes.
- It's more consistent. You'll soon see the same signals in every state because the new signals are being introduced throughout the U.S.



A steady red arrow means STOP. Drivers turning left must stop.



A steady yellow arrow means the signal is getting ready to turn to red. Drivers turning left should stop if it is safe to do so.



A flashing yellow arrow means left-turns are permitted. Drivers may turn left but must first yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians and then proceed with caution.



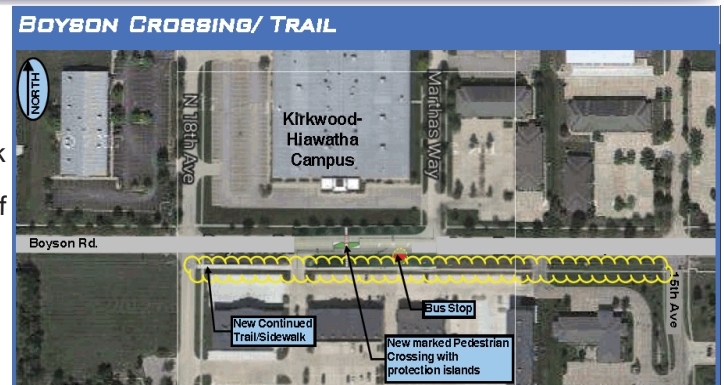
A steady green arrow means left-turns are protected. Drivers may turn left. Conflicting traffic must stop.

Boyson Road Trail & Median Project Update

Hiawatha City Council passed Resolution 13-150 authorizing staff to move forward with design plans for the Boyson Road Trail including Pedestrian Island from 15th to 18th Avenue and the 18th Avenue Sidewalk to Clark Park Construction Project.

The scope of work includes: Design approximately 800 LF of sidewalk removal and construction of a new 10" trail along with design of an island centered on Boyson Road for a pedestrian refuge; and 33 LF of 5' sidewalk designed to connection pedestrian route to a Clark Park along 18th Avenue. The engineering estimated project cost - \$90,000 utilizing available funding in Local Option Sales and Service Tax.

Bids will be let in August with construction to begin late September/early October.



North Center Point Road Project Update

The North Center Point Road from CC&P Railroad to Fisher Street Improvement Project is extending the four lane road section ending just north of the railroad tracks to connect with the existing four lanes at Fisher Street. The two southbound lanes of the new road were poured in July and the process to switch traffic over to the new section began in August. Once the traffic transition is completed, construction and improvements on the existing northbound section will begin, with an anticipated finish date around the middle of September 2013. Upcoming closures related to this construction include the temporary closure of Parsons Drive at North Center Point Road. Access to Parsons Drive will still be available from Robins Road, but through access to North Center Point Road will not. Upon completion of the four lanes of road, construction of the railroad elements will commence, requiring the closure of North Center Point Road at the tracks. This closure will last from October to late November 2013.



Council Action

July 3, 2013

Ordinance 748 - Amend Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter 99 Sewer Service Charges \$99.02 Rate increasing the Sewer Service Charges from 105% to 107% Effective July 1, 2013.

Resolution 13-163 - Fix Public Hearing Date (July 17, 2013 @ 5:30 P.M.) on the Proposal to Enter into a Five (5) Year Development Agreement with NGBA, LLC.

Resolution 13-164 - Approve a temporary five (5) day Class C Liquor License (LC) (Commercial) for Eastern Iowa Sports Complex located at 1100 N 18th Avenue, effective July 20, 2013, in order to hold a Cedar Rapids Roller Girls event with any future liquor license approvals subject to the owner of the Eastern Iowa Sports Complex submitting a timeline to the City of Hiawatha including deadlines for the completion of requirements requested by the City Attorney and Fire Chief.

Resolution 13-165 - Approve and authorize execution of a Demolition Agreement between the City of Hiawatha and PAKAR Management, LLC for the demolition of buildings and removal of debris on properties located in the North Center Point Road Corridor/Town Center area.

Resolution 13-166 - Authorize the purchase of three (3) Zoll EKG/Defibrillators (monitors) for ambulances and seven (7) Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) for police cars in an amount not to exceed \$107,532.24 from Zoll Medical Corporation of Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

Resolution 13-167 - Grant permission for Contractor to proceed with the installation of improvements including pavement, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and water main in Pines at Turtle Creek Fourth Addition to the City of Hiawatha, Linn County, Iowa.

Resolution 13-168 - Rescind Resolution #'s 12-138, 12-154 and 12-177 and set street lighting standards as a Phillips Lumec UrbanScape LED 80w street light and a 20 foot nominal mounting height and 24 foot shaft length composite pole in new residential development areas and a Phillips Roadview LED 80w asymmetrical roadway light and a 23 foot above ground height and 5 foot burial depth concrete pole in new commercial/industrial development areas.

Resolution 13-169 - Declare an official intent to reimburse the Capital Project Fund for certain expenditures with a total estimated cost of \$10,000 in connection with consulting engineering services by Veenstra & Kimm, Inc., including land use planning and updating zoning classifications for Town Center Development/North Center Point Road Corridor.

Resolution 13-170 - Authorize the preparation of design plans and specifications for the Boyson Road Trail including Pedestrian Island and 18th Avenue Sidewalk to Clark Park Construction project at a total cost not to exceed \$6,400.00, with STS Civil of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

July 17, 2013

Resolution 13-176 - Approve sewer waiver on second water meter for 2515 Wolf Run.

Resolution 13-177 - Approve sewer waiver on second water meter for 125 N 19th Avenue.

Resolution 13-178 - Approve and authorize execution of a five (5) year Development Agreement by and between the City of Hiawatha and NGBA, LLC.

Resolution 13-179 - Approve Final Plat of Tower Commerce Center Seventh Addition.

Resolution 13-180 - Authorize Swick Cable Contractors right-of-way permission to bury fiber optics cable for 1075 Industrial Avenue.

Resolution 13-181 - Authorize Swick Cable Contractors right-of-way permission to bury fiber optics cable for 2203 and 2005 Miller Road.

Resolution 13-182 - Approve design of a new commercial building located in the I-380 Corridor area to the Hiawatha Design Guidelines for Midwest Shooting Supply located at 1490 Ketelsen Drive.

Resolution 13-183 - Grant Council consent for the discharging of weapons and firearms at an indoor shooting range within the City limits.

Resolution 13-184 - Approve a Permanent Electric Line Easement with Interstate Power and Light Company for the vacant property formerly known as 55 Boyson Road, owned by City of Hiawatha in connection with the Boyson Road and Robins Road Intersection Project.

Resolution 13-185 - Accept a Warranty Deed for the conveyance of real estate to the City of Hiawatha by Tower Commerce Center, Inc.

Resolution 13-186 - Fix date (August 7, 2013 @ 5:30 P.M.) for a meeting on the proposal to enter into a five (5) year Development Agreement with Pakar Management, LLC and Hawkeye Communications, Inc.

Library Levy

The Hiawatha Public Library is planning to put a special library levy on the ballot in November. Iowa Code (384.12(21)) allows cities to levy an additional tax of up to \$.027 per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation for the support of a public library. There is a petition and referendum required to pass the levy. The levy is put on the ballot in regular city elections, held in odd numbered years. According to the State Library of Iowa, this levy would generate approximately \$80,498 per year for the library.

A petition has been passed throughout the community, 195 signatures were needed to be able to present to City Council. 224 signatures were identified as Hiawatha citizens by the Clerk's Office. The Library Board will present the petition and request a special levy be placed on the fall election ballot at the City Council meeting on August 7, 2013.

One of the most urgent needs at the library at this time is additional staff. The library would like to use a portion of the funding to add two part-time library assistants. The remaining money would be used to establish a building expansion project fund, and when the expansion is complete to increase the annual operating budget of the library to offset some of the new and additional operating costs that come with a larger building.





AUGUST 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Visit our website: www.hiawatha-iowa.com				1	2	3
					Music in the Park Crazy Delicious 7pm	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park			Time Change Council 5:30pm		Music in the Park Full Circle 7pm	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park	History 1:30 pm Board of Adj. 6pm	Parks 6:00 pm Library 7pm	Council Airs 7pm Channel 18	Council Airs 10am Channel 18	Music in the Park 5 of Hearts 7pm	HiBRAI
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
HiBRAI Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park		Water 5:30 pm	Time Change Council 5:30pm		Music in the Park Do's & the Dont's 7pm	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park	P&Z 6 pm		Council Airs 7pm Channel 18	Council Airs 10am Channel 18		



SEPTEMBER 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park			Council 5:30pm		Kids Movie Night 6pm TBD	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park	History 1:30 pm Board of Adj. 6pm	Parks 6:00 pm Library 7pm	Council Airs 7pm Channel 18	Council Airs 10am Channel 18	Movies on the Square "Incredibles" 7:30pm	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park		Water 5:30 pm	Council 5:30pm			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park			Council Airs 7pm Channel 18	Council Airs 10am Channel 18		
29	30					
Farmers Market 11-2pm Guthridge Park	P&Z 6 pm					
Visit our website: www.hiawatha-iowa.com						

Walk Sequence Postal Customer Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

**DELIVER BY:
SATURDAY,
08/10/2013**

Corridor Business Journal Fastest Growing Companies June 2013

The Mayor and City Council would like to recognize Hiawatha's six (6) of 25 Fastest Growing Companies. Corridor Business Journal's June's issue was dedicated to the top 25 Fastest Growing companies of the year, of those, six (6) Hiawatha companies were selected.

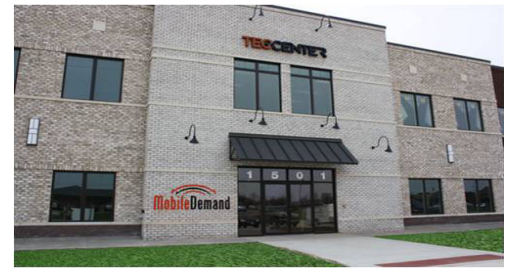
To earn a spot on the list, businesses had to meet a number of criteria. First, companies had to earn at least \$350,000 from 2010 - 2012. Those companies had to submit three (3) years of tax forms or audit statements to Honkamp Krueger & Co., a Hiawatha-based accounting firm, which independently tabulated the results. The winners were selected based on their growth. Congratulations to Compass Commercial Services, Midwest Microwave Solutions Inc., Mobile Demand, Crystal Group, Hawkeye Communications/Fandel Alarm, and CEC Communications. We are honored to have each of these companies as a part of our community business district. Our business community is the backbone to our city's steady growth and it has been an honor to partner with many of these companies.



Compass Commercial Services was in the #2 spot with a growth rate of 224.8%. This is their second time on the list.



Midwest Microwave Solutions Inc, with a growth rate of 176.2%, also their second time on the list.



Mobile Demand had a growth rate of 139.2% and has appeared on the list for their fourth time.



The Crystal Group had a growth rate of 108.6% and appeared on the list for their third time.



Hawkeye Communications/Fandel Alarm had a growth rate of 75% and appeared on the list for their first time.



CEC Communications Engineering Company appearing on the list for their first time.

Fiscally Constrained Plan

The Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on July 18, 2013 approving the Connections 2040 Vision and Fiscally Constrained Plan that included the I380 Interchange at Tower Terrace Road and a section of Tower Terrace Road from the Interchange to North Center Point Road. The Fiscally Constrained Plan is a key component of the Corridor Transportation Plan and Program development. This plan identifies project eligibility for future funding, it also opens up the door to potential State and Federal grant funding.



History Commission Remembers Anthony Manufacturing Company

Anthony Manufacturing Company, owned by Ernest Anthony, a machinist, inventor and builder, located on 4th Avenue, manufactured a specialized rip tooth sometime in the 1950's - 1960's. He made only four of what they called a plow. This style of plow was used to pulverize the soil, break up the crop residue and uproot weeds. Much like a cultivator, it was used to stir up the ground. Local residents that knew Anthony said he was a talented inventor and knew his job well.

