

Volume 33
City Contacts

Mayor:
Tom Theis
Mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com
319-393-1515 X 525

Council Members

Marty Bruns
mbruns@hiawatha-iowa.com

Nancy Melsa
Nancym@hiawatha-iowa.com

Dick Olson
dolson@hiawatha-iowa.com

Bob Rampulla
Mayor Pro Tem
brampulla@hiawatha-iowa.com

Bob Wheeler
bwheeler@hiawatha-iowa.com

City Staff
(319) 393-1515

City Administrator
Gary Rogers Jr.
cityadmin@hiawatha-iowa.com

City Clerk:
Kim Downs
cityclerk@hiawatha-iowa.com

Finance Director:
Cindy Kudrna
financedir@hiawatha-iowa.com

Park & Recreation Director:
Angie Cole
parkdirect@hiawatha-iowa.com

Community Development Director:
Mark Powers
bldgofficial@hiawatha-iowa.com

Public Works Superintendent:
Rod Jasa
streets@hiawatha-iowa.com

Water Superintendent:
Carl Ransford
watersuper@hiawatha-iowa.com

Police Chief:
Dennis Marks
chief@hiawatha-iowa.com

Fire Chief:
Mike Nesslage
mnesslage@hiawatha-iowa.com

Library Director:
Jeaneal Weeks
weeksj@hiawatha-iowa.com

Hiawatha Insights

Medal of Honor Proclamation



WHEREAS, Hiawatha war hero Salvatore Giunta, a Hiawatha native, attended Kennedy High School and enlisted into the United States Army on November 2003, and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant, Salvatore Giunta received the highest military decoration award given by the U.S. Government, the Medal of Honor on November 16, 2010, and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant, Salvatore Giunta earned the Medal of Honor for his gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty in action with armed enemy in the Korengal Valley, Afghanistan, on October 25, 2007, and

WHEREAS, Tonight we are here to honor and celebrate Staff Sergeant Salvatore Giunta's extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry Regiment, and the United States Army, and

WHEREAS, the City of Hiawatha additionally honors all soldiers of the United States Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy, and Marines for their honorable bravery and dedication to protect our country and its freedoms, and

WHEREAS, the City of Hiawatha would like to extend a sincere thank you to Staff Sergeant, Salvatore Giunta for his dedication to protect his fellow soldiers, family, friends and the United States of America, and

NOW, THEREFORE, It is now time to present to Medal of Honor Recipient, Staff Sergeant, Salvatore Giunta the key to the City of Hiawatha extending our gratitude for his bravery and ask him to accept this small token of appreciation on behalf of himself and for his fellow soldiers.

Medal of Honor Celebration

What a night! On Tuesday, November 23, 2010, our City welcomed home one of our very own, Staff Sergeant Salvatore Giunta. We celebrated Salvatore's life and his extraordinary heroism and selflessness. He definitely is a unique individual, when you first meet Sal, you see him as an ordinary young man who set off to the service to fight for our country's freedom and the freedom of others.

A Proclamation Ceremony began at 4:00 p.m. with Mayor Theis reading the Medal of Honor Proclamation, honoring Salvatore and all soldiers of the United States Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy and Marines for their honorable bravery and dedication in protecting our country and its freedoms.

Continued on Page 2

Medal of Honor Celebration Continued

Mayor Theis presented Salvatore with a key to the City, first time recipient. Bob Jones, Legion Commander, presented Sal with a lifetime membership to Legion Post #735. On October 25, 2007, Salvatore Giunta found himself and his battalion in enemy territory, that night Sal fought for his life and for the lives of his battalion. During the media session, Sal was asked many questions. One of the reporters asked him what was going through his mind during the attack, did his instincts kick in or was it the extensive training that brought him and others back alive. Sal's response, "Everyday we train for this very situation, I knew what I had to do and I just did it." Sal's gallantry and intrepidity earned him the Medal of Honor; he is one of 3,471 men and women who have been decorated with this award by the U.S. government. Sal is the first living American service member to receive the distinction for service in Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Another reporter asked if he would consider writing a book, Sal said, "I am okay with touring around the country to talk about my fellow soldiers and what our purpose is, that makes me feel good, consider writing a book, no, I really don't enjoy reliving the attack over and over again."

Salvatore Giunta is not just an ordinary man, he is a courageous man, who cares deeply for many and who, visibly humble, would give anything, including the Medal of Honor back to have his buddies stand beside him once again.

At 5:00 p.m., a military parade in honor of Staff Sergeant Sal Giunta was lead by the American Legion Post 735 with Staff Sergeant Giunta riding on the top of a Hiawatha Fire Truck. There were 25 entries representing the United States Air Force, Army, Coast Guards, Navy, Marines and Patriot Riders; Hiawatha, Cedar Rapids, and Marion Color Guards, Police and Fire Departments. Along the parade route hung the 58' Patriot Flag extended in the air by a Cedar Rapids Fire Department Ladder Fire Truck, as Sal and his wife, Jenny, rode by.

The Patriot Flag is a 30' x 58' - 60 lb flag that will fly in all of the 50 United States before it flies in Manhattan - NYC, Washington DC and Pennsylvania on the Tenth Anniversary of 9/11. As this flag tours the country, it will send a message to the world and the families of the loved ones that were lost on 9/11/01. UNITED WE STAND: "We have NOT FORGOTTEN."

Following the parade, a private reception was held at the Hiawatha Community Center with 150 awaiting family members, friends, state and local representatives to welcome home Sal with warm hugs, appreciative handshakes and bright smiles, expressing how proud they were of him and how grateful they were to see him home.

"Welcome Home" Sign contest first place winner:
Lorena Madden



Hiawatha Awarded R.I.S.E. Grant

The City of Hiawatha applied for and received a grant from Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy Program (RISE), administered by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

The grant (approximately \$1.4 million) is 50% of project costs for the total reconstruction of North Center Point Road from Tower Terrace Road south to Stamy Road. This is believed to be the largest single grant the City has received.

The projected start date is April 15, 2011 with an estimated completion date of November 30, 2011. This is a wonderful project for the City that will reconstruct a major thoroughfare within Hiawatha. Provisions will be taken to provide access to existing businesses and provide a detour for through traffic.

Tumblebook Library Comes to Hiawatha Public Library

Today's kids are born into a digital world. Technology is the rule, not the exception. Therefore, Hiawatha Public Library is pleased to introduce Tumblebook Library, an online e-library of animated talking picture books which teach young children the joys of reading in a format they'll love! This service is free to library patrons and can be accessed via the link found at www.hiawathalibrary.com or www.tumblebooklibrary.com. The username is *hiawatha* and the password is *libra*.



Maybe your kids enjoy other types of books. Tumblebook Library includes a section devoted to chapter books, new books and nonfiction titles. There is even a tab for *Language Learning* which features books in French, Spanish, Italian, Chinese or Russian. Finally, by clicking on the *Puzzles & Games* tab, your child has instant access to memory games and spelling and sentence building exercises. And of course, the material is presented in a fun, interactive way. In other words, your child may be soaking up knowledge without realizing it!

Next time your child asks to play on the home computer, lead them to Tumblebook Library. You can be assured that they will have an enjoyable experience that they will want to replicate.

History Commission - Post Office

The first known record of an official Postal facility in Hiawatha was a rental agreement between the Post Office and Fay Clark on April 1, 1955 for a 25' x 30', 750 square foot building built by Fay Clark along Highway 150 on the east side of Center Point Road in the triangle where Emmons crossed Center Point Road. The other half of the building was shared by an automobile repair facility named "Triangle Garage". The actual month-to-month lease rate was \$30 per month and included heat, water, and electric with the landlord also furnishing a flag pole and a Post Office sign. After 1957, the rent increased to \$40 per month including utilities.

During the fall of 1964, when the Hiawatha population was only about 200, the Post Office relocated into a new 2,500 square foot leased building at 99 East Willman. Although it is much too small for the business it generates, 46 years later in 2010, it is still in that location.

According to some early residents, Fay Clark's wife, Adeline, was the first Post Master. Before an official post office was established in 1955, a rural carrier would drop off mail for local residents at the grocery store. All mail was tossed into one small box. Residents would pick up their mail when they came to the store.



Council Appointments

The Mayor and City Council would like to publicly thank the following for their dedication and service to the City of Hiawatha and accept their resignations:

Planning and Zoning Commission
Planning and Zoning Commission

Lee Rathje
Ron Reichert

The Hiawatha City Council appointed Dennis Norton to fill Lee's remaining term, expiring on December 31, 2013.

The Hiawatha City Council appointed Gilbert Lawrence to fill Ron's remaining term, expiring on December 31, 2011.

Pictured on right: City Clerk, Kim Downs swearing in Dennis Norton



Hiawatha Businesses

Securian Advisors MidAmerican, a financial services firm has been committed to helping individuals, families, and businesses achieve their financial goals and prepare for the unexpected since 1986. We have six advisors with varied experiences, which allow us to provide a wide range of offerings to our clients. Our goal is to help people plan and secure their financial future, so their focus can be on things they enjoy in life.

Each client receives a one-on-one process to analyze unique client situations and offer products of lasting value to provide long-term strategies. As a client, you can expect consistent, responsive service that is highlighted by dedication and commitment to providing strategies that reflect the best interests of our clients.

Stop by our office at 1327 Boyson Road, visit our website at www.securianmidamerican.com or call us at (319) 378-1074 to discuss your needs and determine how we can meet them best.

Boyson Dental is a family practice that offers state of the art general dental services. These services include teeth cleaning, management of gum disease, metallic and cosmetic fillings, crowns and veneers, dental implants, as well as dentures and relief of tooth pain.

Drs. Doug Recker and Chris Moothart are graduates of Linn-Mar High School and The University of Iowa.

Boyson Dental is conveniently located at 1475 Boyson Road in Hiawatha. Please call 393-4019 to schedule an appointment.



Council Action

November 3, 2010

Ordinance 683 - Repealing Ordinance 665 due to errors in the legal descriptions related to the division of taxes under Iowa Code Section 403.19, Amendment No. 6 to the Hiawatha Urban Renewal Plan.

Ordinance 684 - Amending Ordinance Nos. 279, 467, 512, 513, and 584 providing for the division of taxes under Iowa Code Section 403.19 with corrected legal descriptions, Amendment No. 6 to the Hiawatha Urban Renewal Plan.

Resolution 10-256 - Approving and authorizing execution of a three (3) year development agreement by and between the City of Hiawatha and Go Daddy Group, Inc.

Resolution 10-257 - Correcting and amending a scrivener's error in the legal descriptions in amendment No. 6 to the Hiawatha Urban Renewal Plan; Amendment No. 6: Resolution No. 10-106.

Resolution 10-258 - Initiating an amendment to the Zoning District Map by the City Council rezoning Sherman Properties, LLC a change from A (Agricultural Zone District) to C-4 (Central Service District).

Resolution 10-259 - Awarding contract to Pirc-Tobin Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$62,061.50 for the Thiher Drive Drainage Improvements Project Phase I.

Resolution 10-272 - Preauthorizing \$20,000.00 for compatible equipment to resolve City Hall boiler issues.

Resolution 10-273 - Amending 2010 Employee Handbook Sections VII Supplement Employment; VII Smoking Policy and VII Military Leave of Absence.

Resolution 10-274 - Amending 2010 Part-Time/Temporary/Seasonal Employee Handbook Sections VII Supplement Employment; VII Smoking Policy and VII Military Leave of Absence.

November 17, 2010

Ordinance 685 - Adoption Code of Ordinance Chapter 63 Speed Regulations adding Commercial/Industrial Districts and Special 25 MPH Speed Zones.

Ordinance 686 - Amending Code of Ordinance Chapter 41 Public Health and Safety §41.08:1 Discharging Weapons and Firearms adding the following language; except by written consent of the City Council and approved by the Hiawatha Police Chief and §41.08:2 correcting a scrivener's error for hunting purposes on private land.

Resolution 10-275 - Setting a public hearing date (December 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.) to consider the approval of the capital Improvement Plan for FY11-15.

Resolution 10-276 - Approving the Tax Increment Financing Indebtedness authorizing the classifications of TIF indebtedness.

Resolution 10-277 - Approving the classification of Tax Increment Financing Indebtedness to the County Auditors and to be filed by December 1, 2010, this confirms the City's eligibility to receive tax increment revenue in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and that \$2,140,705 will be certified to the Linn County Auditor for fiscal year 2012 collections.

Resolution 10-278 - Approving and placing on file the FY09-10 Annual Financial report.

Annual Retreat Recap

The Hiawatha City Council/Boards/Commission met in a joint meeting to review the year's accomplishments and to reset goals. Hiawatha Council, Water Board, Planning & Zoning Board, Library Board, Board of Adjustment, License and Appeals Board, History Commission, Park & Recreation Commission, Housing Board of Appeals and City Staff were represented by a total of 41 attendees.

Mayor Theis shared information with the Boards and Commissions about the following topics:

Oakbrook Property	PAETEC
Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation	Additional Annexation
Boyson/Robins Road Project	Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy Grant
Local Option Sales Tax Projects	

City Clerk, Kim Downs shared with the Boards and Commissions the City's participation in the November 11, 2010, Go Daddy's Career Fair Event.

City Administrator, Gary Rogers briefly reviewed the City's major accomplishments, ongoing priorities and priority projects, programs, policies and initiatives.

Priority Projects, programs, policies and initiatives (12-24 month period for completion):

Land acquisition within Town Center Plan	Emmons and Robins Road Intersection
Develop a multi-year city facilities needs program	Evaluate economic development programs other than TIF
On-line bill paying for citizens/patrons - in process	Develop programs to prioritize nuisances properties for land acquisition

Each of the Board and Commission Chairs presented a synopsis of their past year's activity and what they see for the future.

Mayor Theis thanked each one of the members for coming to the retreat and for all they do for the city. Members overwhelmingly enjoyed the meeting and a round of resounding applause was their way of saying thank you.

DECEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Council 7pm			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Board of Adj. 7p.m.	Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	Council 7pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Water 6:30 p.m.	Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	City Hall Closed	City Hall Closed
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	P&Z 6p.m.			City Hall Closed	City Hall Closed	

JANUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Council 7pm			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	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		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Water 6:30 p.m.	Council 7pm			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18		
30	31					
	P&Z 6p.m.					

City of Hiawatha
101 Emmons Street
Hiawatha, Iowa 52233
Phone: 319-393-1515
Fax: 319-393-1516
www.hiawatha-iowa.com

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**DELIVER BY:
SATURDAY,
12/11/2010**

Tis the Season...

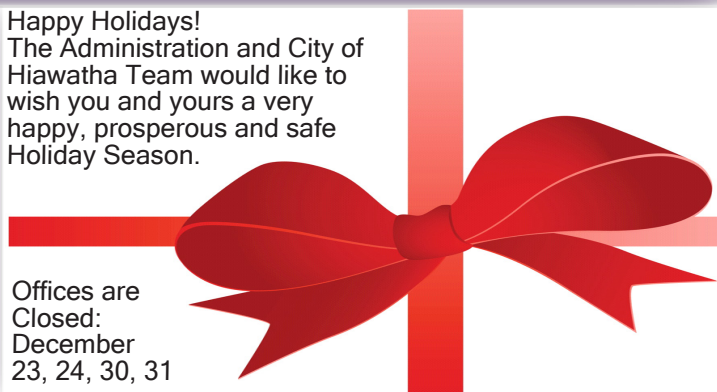
The City of Hiawatha does not offer Christmas tree pickup and removal.

It is the responsibility of the resident to contact their garbage hauler and make arrangements for the pickup and removal of their Christmas trees after the holidays.



Happy Holidays!
The Administration and City of Hiawatha Team would like to wish you and yours a very happy, prosperous and safe Holiday Season.

Offices are
Closed:
December
23, 24, 30, 31



Hiawatha Annual Chili Dinner

This year, the Hiawatha Fire Department hosted it's annual chili dinner on November 6, 2010. Approximately 870 people attended the event, up from 730 the year before, and over \$5,000 was raised. Planning for the event starts weeks earlier, with the actual preparation and cooking starting the Thursday before. On Friday, roasters are made up with the secret recipe, and then it's simmered overnight.

The proceeds from this year's chili event will go toward the purchase of a new thermal imager camera. The original camera is nearly 10 years old and has been rebuilt once. The new camera has much improved technology, increasing our ability to save lives and reduce property losses. The new camera is priced at around \$10,000, so we are still raising money to meet that need.

The Grand Prize this year was two round trip airline vouchers from Allegian Air. They were won by Beth Dunkle, a third grade teacher at Hiawatha Elementary School.

Thanks to all of you who came out and supported the event, and to all the business partners who donated supplies, and money to make the event happen.



Santa Claus is Coming to the Hiawatha Fire Station!

Santa Claus is coming to town, on December 11, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Santa will arrive on a big, red fire truck driven by elves from the Hiawatha Fire Department.

So, you'd better watch out, you'd better not pout, you'd better not cry, and I'm telling you why. Santa will be handing out goodie bags to all of the good little girls and boys. There'll be door prizes to register for and cookies and cocoa for one and all. So remember, He sees you when you're sleeping, he knows when you're awake, he knows if you've been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake!

This event is sponsored by the elves from the Hiawatha American Legion, Hiawatha Fire Department and the Hiawatha Lions Club.

