



December 2016

Volume 105



Planning for New Tower Terrace Interchange Continues

In April, the metro communities and Linn County met with then Iowa Department of Transportation Director Paul Trombino. Another meeting of the metro communities was held in June to keep communications open with all agencies and accelerate the schedule for a new interchange.

On October 11, 2016 local officials requested the IDOT Commission add the \$20 million interchange project to their state plan in fiscal years 2020-2021. Local groups have pledged \$5 million to the project and awarded a grant in the amount of \$4 million from the Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO). The Iowa Department of Transportation also held a public information meeting October 12, 2016 in Hiawatha City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed widening improvements to I-380 from Iowa 100 to County Home Road, **including a new proposed interchange at Tower Terrace Road and reconstruction of the Boyson Road Interchange.**

The City of Hiawatha is the lead agency for the funding request to the CMPO and is preparing the documentation to submit the application for 2021 funds in January.

There is still the opportunity to submit comments regarding the project at the following IDOT website: <http://bit.ly/Iow-adot921901>. Other opportunities for input will be provided throughout the project development process.

North Center Point Road/Emmons Street/Robins Road Intersection Improvement Phase II

The second phase contract awarded to Rathje Construction Inc. from Marion, Iowa is under construction from Fisher Street to approximately 300 feet to the south. Upon completion the existing North Center Point Road/Emmons Street/Robins Road Intersection will approximately move 100 feet to the northwest.

The work scheduled on North Center Point Road is now complete for the winter. Construction will resume next spring which will include realignment of both Robins Road and Emmons Street to connect with the new intersection. All lanes will be open to traffic this winter.

The work next year includes construction of the center intersection, new traffic signal, new street lights, new bike trail and landscaping along the curbs and sidewalks.

Target project completion date is November 2017.



Boyson Road Trail Extension Completed

The construction project for the extension of the Boyson Road multi-use trail from 12th Avenue to 15th Avenue is now complete. The extension is a continuation of our efforts to develop a trail system along the south side of Boyson Road from Edgewood Road to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail east of North Center Point Road. This project constructed by Midwest Concrete from Peosta, Iowa was completed in just over one month.

New Railroad Crossing Installed on Robins Road

Hiawatha and the Chicago Central and Pacific Railroad approved an agreement to replace the existing railroad crossing on Robins Road. The existing rubber crossing was completed sometime in the 1990's and has settled and become very rough.

The crossing work was performed by the railroad crews the week of November 7, 2016. Hiawatha crews then replaced the approach to the new crossing the week of November 14, 2016 and the crossing was reopened to traffic November 16, 2016.



Snowbirds and Vacationers



Snowbirds and vacationers should contact the Police Department to complete a house check form providing contact information while you are away. Our house check form is available on the city website, www.hiawatha-iowa.com, or at the police department during normal business hours, Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Emergency contact, license plates of vehicles at the residence and other pertinent information is needed to complete the form. While you are away, officers can check the exterior of the residence to ensure all appears to be in order. This service is free and we encourage you to take advantage of the program. You can feel secure knowing your residence is being checked while you are away and the Police Department can provide additional security for you and your neighborhood.

Water Department Note: Just a few friendly suggestions to our vacationing or snowbird residents:

- When you plan to be out of town for an extended period of time, it might be a good idea to have someone check on your house to be sure you don't have any running water within the house, for example a running toilet.
- Another way to avoid a running toilet would be to turn the water control valve off for your toilets. This will cut water off to your toilet and help prevent it from running while out of town.
- Check your water heater for a "vacation mode" setting or turn to a lower setting.
- It's always a good idea to check any manufacturing literature for water heating or softening units.
- Residents can always call to have your water bill held. Water Service can also be turned off at the curb stop. This service will need to be done during normal department hours. It is always a good idea to call and set up an appointment for this service, we can be reached at 319-393-5556 opt. #4. Please take caution as the Water Department is not responsible for any home devices that may require water at all times.

Disposal of Christmas Trees



The City of Hiawatha does not provide Christmas tree pickup and removal. It is the responsibility of the resident to contact their garbage hauler and make arrangements for the removal of their Christmas trees after the holidays.



Santa's Workshop
North Pole



LETTERS FROM SANTA!

Add a little magic to the season and receive a letter from Santa, mailed directly to your child. Santa will write a letter to your child in an easy to read format. The letter will be mailed directly from Santa's workshop so your child will be overjoyed to see his/her name on the envelope with Santa's name and address in the corner. Santa would love to write your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews no matter where they live! So, let the elves know if you would like to receive a letter this year! Stop in Hiawatha City Hall to complete a questionnaire or register online at www.hiawatha-iowa.com!

Fee: \$3.00

Available: November 14 - December 16



Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

Santa Claus is coming to the Hiawatha American Legion!

**Saturday, December 3, 2016
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**



Santa will be at the Hiawatha American Legion, 207 Robins Road, on Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. There will be drawings for toys for the boys and girls, with each receiving a bag of goodies.

Hiawatha Council Action

November 2, 2016

Olson moved to grant the appeal submitted by Cynthia Strauch against the Hiawatha Police Department Order to Remove a Dangerous / Vicious Animal, a dog, Angel from the property located at 1014 Rainbow Boulevard, related to Code of Ordinances Chapter 57 Dangerous & Vicious Animals. Motion passed with 3 Ayes & 2 Nays.
 RESOLUTION #16-202 pledging an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Funds for a fiscal period of 1 year (FY17-18) to support Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO).
 RESOLUTION #16-203 pledging an amount not to exceed \$10,000 from Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Funds for a fiscal period of 1 year (FY17-18) to Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance.
 RESOLUTION #16-204 setting a public hearing date (11/16/16 @ 5:30 P.M.) to consider approval of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY17-24, identifying estimated capital expenditures & funding sources for the City of Hiawatha for an 8 year period. RESOLUTION #16-205 waiving the City of Hiawatha's right to review the Final Plat of Ries Acres First Addition to Linn County within the 2 mile radius of Hiawatha.
 RESOLUTION #16-206

authorizing the Community Development Director to issue & "At Your Own Risk" building permit to Focal Point Interiors to begin construction on a 5,500 square foot commercial building located at 1305 Boyson Loop.
 RESOLUTION #16-207 authorizing the Community Development Director to issue & "At Your Own Risk" building permit to Mother Goose Day-care to begin construction on a 3,200 square foot addition to an existing commercial building located at 1355 Boyson Loop.
 RESOLUTION #16-208 authorizing staff to proceed with the installation of an 80 Watt LED street light & light pole on the corner of Bowler Street & 10th Avenue by Alliant Energy with no cost to the City for installation of the street light, \$473 for light pole utilizing available funding in Road Use Funds, & approving a monthly fee.
 RESOLUTION #16-209 authorizing staff to proceed with the installation of an 80 Watt LED street light on an existing light pole located on the corner of Eisenhower Road & 10th Avenue by Alliant Energy with no cost to the City for installation & approving a monthly fee.
 RESOLUTION #16-210 approving Change Order #3 for the FY15-17 Emmons Street/North Center Point Road/Robins Road Intersection

Improvements Project with no change to the contract amount of \$823,649.93.
 RESOLUTION #16-211 approving Change Order #4 for the FY15-17 Emmons Street/North Center Point Road/Robins Road Intersection Improvements Project with an increase in contract amount of \$9,580, resulting in a revised total project contract amount of \$833,229.93.
 RESOLUTION #16-212 approving application for Partial Pay Estimate #3 for the Emmons Street/North Center Point Road/Robins Road Intersection Improvements Project, & direct City Clerk to make payment to Ricklefs Excavating Ltd., of Anamosa, IA, in the amount of \$129,479.24.
 RESOLUTION #16-213 authorizing staff to enter into agreements with Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield for renewal of employee Alliance Select Health Insurance for the plan period of 12/1/16 – 12/31/17, & renewal of the employee Delta Dental Insurance for the plan period of 12/1/16 – 11/30/17, & continue to offer employees the ability to participate in a Flexible Spending Plan with Wellmark Inc. / WageWorks for 1/1/17 – 12/31/17.

November 16, 2016

RESOLUTION #16-214 approving the Capital Improvement Plan for FY17-24, s/c.
 RESOLUTION #16-215 setting a public hearing date (12/7/16 @ 5:30 P.M.) to consider the proposal to enter into a 5 year Development Agreement with O'Brien Property, LLC & Focal Point Interiors, Inc. & providing for publication of notice.
 RESOLUTION #16-216 approving the certification of Tax Increment Financing indebtedness to the Linn County Auditor's Office for FY18 Collections.
 RESOLUTION #16-217 approving & placing on file the FY15-16 Annual Financial Report.
 RESOLUTION #16-218 approving & placing on file the Annual FY15-16 Urban Renewal Report.
 RESOLUTION #16-219 authorizing the solicitation of used car bids for replacement of Unit 600.
 RESOLUTION #16-220 approving a 3 year renewal of an Agreement with CGI Commu-

nications, Inc. to continue an online Community Video Program on the Hiawatha website.
 RESOLUTION #16-221 approving an increase to the deposit rate charged on sanitary sewer only accounts from \$20 to \$50, effective on all new accounts set up after 11/16/16.
 RESOLUTION #16-222 approving application for Partial Pay Estimate #2 for the 2016-2017 Emmons Street/North Center Point Road/Robins Road Intersection Improvements Phase 2 Roadway Package Project, & directing City Clerk to make payment to Rathje Construction Co., of Marion, in the amount of \$188,443.47.

December Calendar

- 07 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 12 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 12 Board of Adjustment Meeting 6:00 PM
- 13 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 13 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 14 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 19 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 20 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 23 Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 26 Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 28 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 30 Holiday - City Hall Closed

January Calendar

- 02 Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 04 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 09 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 09 Board of Adjustment Meeting 6:00 PM
- 10 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 10 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 11 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 17 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 18 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 23 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 25 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

The Hiawatha Police Department is now on Nextdoor

During the car break-in's over the summer this platform was used by neighbors in the Hiawatha area to remain informed about current events in their neighborhood and city. We became aware of Nextdoor and decided it will be an opportunity for the police department to disseminate accurate information to our residents.

Nextdoor is the private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. It's the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world and it's free!

Thousands of neighborhoods are using Nextdoor to build happier, safer places to call home.

People are using Nextdoor to:

- * Quickly get the word out about a break-in
- * Organize a Neighborhood Watch Group
- * Ask for help keeping an eye out for a lost dog
- * Track down a trustworthy babysitter

Nextdoor's mission is to provide a trusted platform where neighbors work together to build stronger, safer, happier communities, all over the world.



Another Good Neighbor Policy

If you search "Barking Dogs" on the internet you will soon realize by the plethora of articles an annoying barking dog can cause major conflict between neighbors. Acts of violence against animals and their owners are frequently in the news.

As stated in previous articles, many of our ordinances deal with the practical matters of living peacefully side by side in our community; "peaceful coexistence." This is certainly the case for our ordinances associated with keeping a dog. If you include "barking" in the noise ordinance we have no less than three chapters dealing with this issue.

CHAPTER 50: NUISANCE ABATEMENT PROCEDURE

25. Noise. All unnecessary noise and annoying vibrations.

CHAPTER 55: ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL

55.08 ANNOYANCE OR DISTURBANCE. It is unlawful for the owner of a dog to allow or permit such dog to cause serious annoyance or disturbance to any person or persons by frequent and habitual howling, yelping, barking.....

55.09 SANITATION. It is the duty of every person owning or having custody or control of an animal to clean up, remove and dispose of the feces.....

CHAPTER 53: NOISE CONTROL

4. Animals and Birds. No person shall own, possess or harbor any animal or bird which frequently or for continued duration emits sound native to the species which are a noise disturbance.....

Controlling loud animals and cleaning up their feces are common problems in most communities. This nuisance is difficult to control apart from the cooperation with our pet owners. Our ordinances make it clear the owner is responsible for his/her pet.

If the pet is not properly controlled the City will undertake the necessary enforcement through the Police Department or through Community Development. However, if this problem is not arrested by our pet owners it can damage our community aesthetics and reputation. Be a good neighbor and care for your neighbors and fellow Hiawathans by caring for and controlling your pet.



Snow Ordinance Reminder

Our snow ordinance will be in effect when the National Weather Service (NWS) predicts a snowfall in which three (3) or more inches of snow are expected. While the Snow Emergency is in effect, **there is no parking on any city street.** Vehicles found parked in violation of this ordinance will receive a **\$25** parking ticket and/or be impounded. During overnight snow removal operations, vehicles found in violation on City streets will be towed. The Snow Emergency declaration will be sent to all the local media including but not limited to: KGAN (Channel 2), KCRG (Channel 9) and KWWL (Channel 7). The declaration will also be posted on the City website, www.hiawatha-iowa.com. Your cooperation is appreciated.

REMEMBER - Don't park in the street if:

- The 24 hour (or less) prediction by the NWS is for three (3) or more inches of snow.
- Three (3) or more inches of snow has fallen and/or your street has not been cleared.

When in doubt about parking, just move your vehicle off the street.

Also, the City will **NOT** generally conduct snowfall clearing operations on all streets for a snowfall of less than two (2) inches. This policy remains unchanged from prior years. Please remember: sidewalks must be shoveled within 24 hours of the cessation of snowfall, clear snow from around fire hydrants that are near your property, check with your neighbors regarding snow removal and direct sump pumps and downspouts away from hard surfaces so that water doesn't build up and freeze, creating slippery conditions on driveways, sidewalks or streets.

For current road conditions: call 511 or log onto the Iowa DOT winter road conditions web page: <http://weather-view.iowa.dot.gov/>.

Sign up on the Hiawatha website (www.hiawatha-iowa.com) to receive notifications for snow emergencies!



The Hiawatha History Committee Presents

"Did You Know" the history behind Hiawatha street names?

Emmons Street

Emmons Street was named after Al Emmons who owned one of the first businesses in Hiawatha, a bulk plant supplying heating oil tanks to heat homes and providing delivery to farms.



Fisher Street

Fisher Street was named after Fred C. Fisher who was Hiawatha's first City Attorney.



“Kitchen Table” Forum Recap



On November 19, 2016 Oscar’s Restaurant hosted the City’s first “Kitchen Table” forum in an effort to reach out to our citizens. Police Chief Dennis Marks and City Administrator Kim Downs were available to answer citizens’ questions. A total of six citizens visited with Marks and Downs. There were quality conversations regarding citizen protection, drug use, street lights and officer safety.

Citizens felt safe in their neighborhoods and complimented the chief on the work he and his officers do. Mr. Johnson a Hiawatha citizen said, “Keep up the good work.” We discussed the increased use of heroin throughout eastern Iowa and what kind of pressures it puts on both our police and fire departments.

The “Kitchen Table” forum was created to take city administration to the citizens. The City of Hiawatha continues to find methods to increase our government’s transparency and be more open to the public in our daily practices. Mayor Bennett, City Council and city staff understands transparency is a process that promotes accountability and provides opportunities for our residents to be better informed about what is going on in our community. We will hold four “Kitchen Table” forums throughout the year to allow engagement between the city administration and our citizens.

Hiawatha Fire Department Chili Supper Recap

Hiawatha Firefighters want to thank the community for supporting our annual chili supper. It was held on November 5, 2016 at the fire station. Firefighters began preparation to make 30 roasters of chili weeks in advance. They start cooking on Friday morning, allowing the chili to simmer overnight, being ready to serve on Saturday. This year, over 900 people attended, enjoying mild, hot or super hot chili along with hot dogs and homemade desserts.



More than \$4,000 was raised, after expenses, which will go toward the purchase of a thermal imager camera. The thermal imager camera (TIC) is a infra red device that allows firefighters to see through smoke, helping to find victims, locate the fire and detect dangerous conditions. The fire department currently owns one TIC. Earlier this fall, the fire department responded to simultaneous fires when two houses were struck by lightning during the same storm. This reinforced the need to have two TICs available. Additionally, having two TICs will allow multiple crews to operate, each with a TIC, independently at a fire, increasing safety. The Hiawatha Firefighters Association would like to thank the individuals and businesses that donated to us during the chili supper.

Hiawatha Fire Department Reducing Exposure to Cancer

There is considerable attention being given of the high occurrence of cancer among firefighters. The number of retired firefighters who perish from the effects of cancer appear to be higher than that of the normal population. This has led to research on firefighter’s exposure to carcinogens. Of significance in one study was that, even when wearing personal protective equipment and taking all normal safety measures, detectable amounts of known carcinogens were found in the firefighters systems.

One area of higher concern is the neck. Firefighting hoods currently in use are single layer and because the skin on the neck is thinner, this presents a significant route of exposure. The chemicals from the smoke can penetrate the hood, reaching the skin and contaminating the firefighter. In the past, we provided each firefighter only a single hood and pair of gloves. This means that they are faced with wearing a dirty hood and gloves or having a period of time where their hood and gloves are being washed and is out of service.

At the October 19, 2016 council meeting, City Council took action to make the firefighters safer by approving the purchase of two pairs of glove and two hoods for each active firefighter. Additionally, the new hoods are multi layered with a layer of carbon filter sewed in, which will provide greater protection against contaminants.

The fire department has also added other measures to help reduce our exposure. Decontamination kits have been added to the fire engines. Firefighters can be hosed down and roughly decontaminated before leaving the scene. Skin wipes have been added so that firefighters can wipe down their face and neck immediately after extinguishing the fire, reducing their exposure. Firefighting is inherently dangerous but City Council, City Staff and the Fire Department are committed to improving firefighter safety.

Smoke Detector Day Recap

On Saturday, October 29, 2016, 20 Hiawatha Firefighters branched out across Hiawatha to check smoke detectors and replace batteries where needed. The fire department conducts its smoke detector event every October during fire prevention month. The purpose is to help individuals that are unable to take care of their smoke detectors. Many times, residents are unable to replace the batteries or check the detectors because they are high on the wall. Others may not have the physical ability to replace their detectors. This year firefighters visited 51 homes and checked over 215 smoke alarms.



This program is funded through donations from both individuals and businesses. In addition to over \$200 that was received from individuals, Neighbor Insurance sponsored the programs by providing funding for the batteries. This allows us to replace detectors and batteries even when families can’t afford to do so. Remember, smoke detector batteries should be replaced annually and smoke detectors themselves should be replaced after 10 years. If you need help with your smoke detector or CO alarm, please call the fire station during normal business hours at 393-4180.

UNITED WAY 2-1-1 INFORMATION

Individuals can call 2-1-1, 319-739-4211, 1-866-469-2211 for a variety of resources including food, clothing, shelter, information about the Affordable Care Act, free medical clinics, employment supports, energy assistance and much more. Individuals, families and the greater community all benefit from United Way 2-1-1.

Those who call 2-1-1 work with trained and certified Information and Referral Specialists who assist individuals and families in finding possible resources to meet their needs. Information about where people call from (i.e., zip code), what they call about and gaps in services are then shared to assist with community planning.

Park Restrooms Will Be Closed

There will be Porta Potties placed in Guthridge and Clark park during the winter months for any walkers/joggers from November 1 to April 1.

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

PRSRRT STD
US Postage
PAID
Hiawatha, IA
Permit No. 33

Walk Sequence

**DELIVER BY
SATURDAY,
12/10/2016**

Postal Customer Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

Presenting Corporate Citizens Appreciation Plaque

On November 2, Mayor Bennett and our Hiawatha City Council presented their first Corporate Citizens Appreciation plaque to Cedar Rapids Toyota for their dedication to the City of Hiawatha. Throughout the years, owner Scott Ryan and his associates have extended themselves by supporting many of our community initiatives from the Police K9 fundraiser, equipment for Hiawatha Fire, adding a vehicle to our park and recreation department for the summer along with sponsoring kids summer programs and most recently our fall festival.

Toyota has been an exemplary corporate citizen setting a positive example in our community for years. We are very grateful and consider ourselves fortunate to have them in our community. Thank you Toyota for supporting our efforts and for helping us make Hiawatha a great place to call home.



Hiawatha Holiday Greeting

During the holiday season more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to you, the citizens of our community, who have made our community's progress possible.

To our business community, HEDCO, our boards and commissions, your partnerships are a gift to our community as well.

One of the pleasures of this holiday season is the chance to say "Thank You" and to wish you and your families peace and joy this holiday season and throughout the coming New Year.

Season's Greetings

Thank you from your Mayor and City Council Members.

City Directory

Main Phone: 319-393-1515

Mayor:
Bill Bennett X525
mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com

Council Members:
Marty Bruns
mbruns@hiawatha-iowa.com

Dennis Norton
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Dick Olson
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Bob Rampulla
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City Clerk:
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Finance Director:
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Park & Recreation Director:
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Community Development Director:
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