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Council Members

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Bob Rampulla
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Bob Wheeler
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Hiawatha Insights

Oaths of Office

City Clerk Kim Downs, swore in the re-elected Mayor Tom Theis and newly/re-elected council members: Dick Olson, Denny Norton and Bob Wheeler on December 21, 2011. Each will hold a four (4) year term effective January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2015.

Mayor Theis and Council are pleased to appoint and re-appoint the following Board and Commission members:



Planning & Zoning Commission members re-appointed to a five year term ending December 31, 2016: Gilbert Lawrence, Keith Sams, Don Mohler.

Park and Recreation Board member appointed to complete a two year term ending December 31, 2013: Frank Glaser.

Water Board member re-appointed to a six year term ending December 31, 2017: Bev Daws.

Library Board member re-appointed to a six year term ending June 30, 2017: Janet Libe.

Board of Adjustment member appointed to complete a five year term ending December 31, 2013: David Matthews.

License/Appeal Board members re-appointed to a three year term ending December 31, 2014: Gary Casady, Wayne Winn.

History Commission members re-appointed to a three year term ending December 31, 2014: Roberta Hamdorf, Jerry Seifried, Edith Wheeler.

We additionally extend a sincere thank you to Park and Recreation member, Bruce Henthorn, and Board of Adjustment member, Doug Morris, for volunteerism and dedication to our City. We wish them well in their new endeavors, each will be greatly missed!

Volunteer Recognition Recap

On December 21, 2011, at the regular Council meeting, Mayor Theis and Council Members recognized our Hiawatha volunteers. These participants volunteered as City Board and Commission members, Friends of the Parks, Friends of the Library, and Fire Fighters.

Mayor Theis opened the ceremony stating, "Tonight we honor 205 volunteers who dedicate themselves to taking action and bettering our community. For this, the City Council and I express our gratitude and take this opportunity to recognize each individual, family and non-profit organization alike to celebrate ordinary people who accomplish extraordinary things through service". Each volunteer name was read aloud and hands were shook by the Mayor and Council Members: Nancy Melsa, Bob Wheeler, Bob Rampulla, Dick Olson and Marty Bruns.

With standing room only, Mayor Theis, thanked everyone for their volunteerism once again and after all volunteers received a standing ovation, made one final statement, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give" - Winston Churchill.



Thank You Nancy Melsa

Nancy Melsa served eight (8) years as Council Member and representing the residents of our community. Nancy is a long time citizen that brought bi-partisanship to the table and the love for her community.

Nancy was very involved in public safety and park and recreation activities, she was the first to volunteer for Holiday Parades, Chili Suppers, Ragbrai, Compensation Committee and often spoiled us with her delicious brownies.

The Mayor, Council Members and other Hiawatha Teams would like to extend a sincere thank you to Nancy for her dedication to the City and it's citizens.



Library Offers Tax Help From the AARP

Tax preparation aid is available from the AARP at the Hiawatha Library. This free tax preparation is for taxpayers with low to moderate income, without restrictions on age (giving special attention to people over age 55), and e-filing is available at no cost. There are several sites available around the Metro area, including the Hiawatha Public Library and appointments can be made by calling 211, the United Way hotline or call 1-888-AARP NOW or visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.



The Iowa Department of Revenue is no longer providing paper income tax forms or instruction booklets. Forms are available online at www.iowa.gov/tax. Library patrons may obtain the forms at the library by asking at the desk. We will print the forms you need for a fee of \$.10/page.

History Commission Remembers Tucker Park

Wesley "Tom" Tucker owned the original Lutz farm located on the Northeast corner of Center Point Road and Blairs Ferry Road. It is now the location of the office/business complex. The park was a timber of walnut trees. During the 1950's, the Hiawatha Optimist Club was organized and the members volunteered to clear the land and make it into a park. With much volunteer help from the Club members, they cleaned out the weeds and shrubbery, then tackled trimming the trees and ended up with a huge pile of brush. The members then decided to have an old fashioned wiener roast and picnic for work well done. They set the brush afire and had a very large, hot fire, so hot the members laid behind empty 50 gallon drums to roast the wieners. One HOT fire!

The City leased the land for \$1.00 per year before taking ownership of the park, which was named Tucker Park, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Tucker.

The City dug out an area for the Hiawatha lagoon system that was the start of a sanitary sewage system through the gravity and lift station operation. Later in 1965, it became the Cedar Rapids Dry Creek Sewer System. With the closing of the lagoon, the Hiawatha Fire Department made an ice skating rink out of that lagoon area, much to the enjoyment of the residents. Over the years, rest rooms, playground equipment, pavilions, a splash pad and parking area were added. This was a great start for the Hiawatha Park System.



Finance Department - What We Do

The Finance Department consists of a Finance Director, Cindy Kudrna, who has been with the City of Hiawatha for nearly five years. The Finance Department is responsible for the accurate and timely recording of all financial transactions of the City and safeguarding the City's assets. Pursuant to the Hiawatha City Code, the Finance Director is the accounting officer and treasurer of the City and is responsible for all financial aspects of the City including:

- Preparing and monitoring the annual budget and the five year capital improvement plan (CIP)
- Providing financial information to the Mayor, the City Council, City Departments, and Citizens
- Developing and ensuring compliance of internal fiscal control policies and procedures
- Preparing monthly finance reports by fund
- Preparing and filing State and Federal financial reports
- Monitoring cash flow and investing City funds accordingly
- Processing accounts payable and reconciling the procurement card program
- Being the main contact for the annual audit
- Assuring compliance with State and/or Federal grants
- Keeping financial records including: Special assessments; TIF development agreements and rebate schedules; All debt issuance and obligations; Liability insurance policy and claims.



New!! Place a Request or File a Complaint on Website

For your convenience, we have created a new link on the City website to easily place a request or file a complaint with the City. Often there are times you wished you could share an idea, or inform someone of an issue that you may have noticed, by using this link, you can do just that. It's as easy as 1-2-3!

Go to www.hiawatha-iowa.com's homepage and toward the bottom left of the page under "Resources", click on the link "Place a Request or File a Complaint" to share your thoughts by e-mail. This e-mail will be sent to the City Clerk. The Clerk's office will address your e-mail or forward your e-mail to the appropriate department for follow-up.

Don't forget to check out our new Registration/Reservation link under Parks and Recreation and the new Water/Sewer Utility Online Services link under Water Department!

RESOURCES

- 201201 Hiawatha Insights
- Hiawatha Fire and Ambulance
- Hiawatha Public Library
- Iowa Parks and Recreation Association
- Report a Pothole
- Report a Streetfight Out
- Place a Request or File a Complaint

Honkamp Krueger has moved.....

Honkamp Krueger & Co., P.C. has moved to their new location at 1751 Boyson Road in Hiawatha.

Honkamp Krueger & Co., P.C. is a Top 100 CPA and business consulting firm, the seventh fastest growing firm in the U.S. and the fastest growing firm in the Midwest. Based on the past 60 plus years of meeting our clients' needs, we offer a full menu of 30+ service options in the areas of: accounting and audit, business advisory, franchise services, human capital, not-for-profit and government, risk advisory, software solutions, tax, wealth management and workforce management.

Honkamp Krueger & Co., P.C. can be reached at (319) 378-3370 or by their website: www.honkamp.com.



Redistricting/Reprecincting

Lines have been drawn and polling locations are established!

The Linn County Auditor's Office has established Hiawatha area precinct and polling locations. In September's newsletter, we shared with you the need to re-establish our precinct boundaries due to the federal decennial census with a population increase of 7024. Based on Iowa Code, each precinct could not be larger than 3,500 in population and has to be determined by a census block. Upon review, we were instructed by the Iowa Secretary of State and the Linn County Auditor's Office that it was necessary for us to re-precinct into four (4) precincts. Precinct boundaries were drawn as demonstrated on the map along with polling location keys.

Polling locations are as follows:

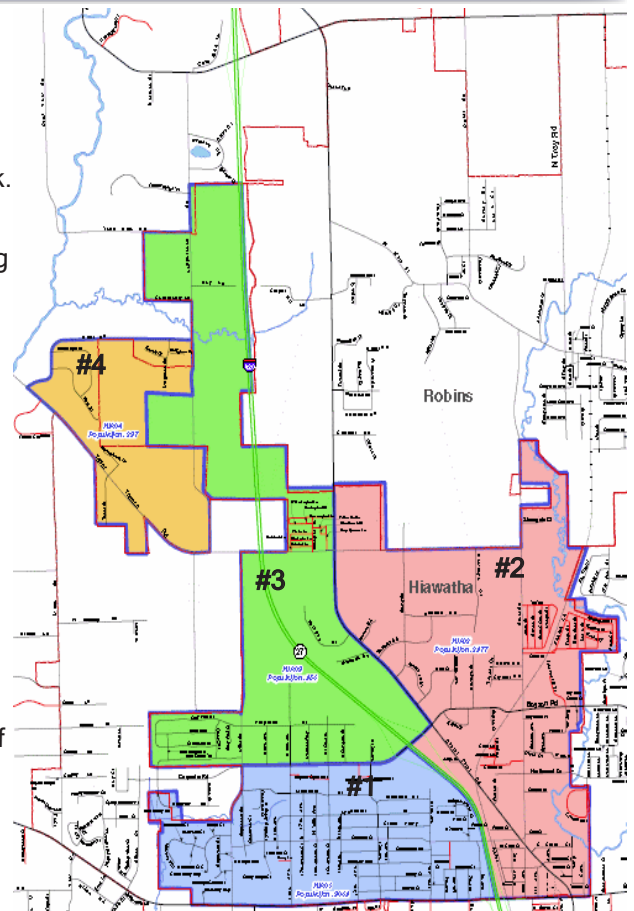
Precinct #1 - Hope United Church of Christ - 150 Ninth Avenue (color blue on the map)

Precinct #2 - Hiawatha Community Center - 101 Emmons Street (main level) (color red on the map)

Precinct #3 - Hiawatha Multi-Purpose Room - 101 Emmons Street (lower level)(color green on the map)

Precinct #4 - King of Kings Lutheran Church - 3275 N Center Point Road (color yellow on the map)

A county-wide mailing of new voter ID cards will be mailed in Mid-February to all actively registered voters. This will be coordinated by the Iowa Secretary of State's Office along with press releases to help spread the word about precinct and polling place changes during the month and the days/weeks leading up to the Local Option Sales and Service Tax Election held March 6, 2012.



Council Action

January 4, 2012

Ordinance #719 - Amend Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter 69 Parking Regulations §69.12 Snow Routes deleting Subsection 3. Parking Restrictions on Snow Routes.

January 18, 2012

Resolution 12-004 - Set public hearing date (February 2, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.) to consider the approval of the Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2012-2016.

Resolution 12-005 - Award contract for Guthridge Park and Tucker Park Splash Pad Resurfacing Project to Outdoor Recreation Products of Ames, Iowa for the amount of \$43,649.

Resolution 12-006 - Amend the Farmer's Market Vendor Lease Agreement implementing a monthly lease rate and increasing seasonal lease rates.

Resolution 12-007 - Approve and authorize execution of a Mutual Settlement Agreement and Release by and among the City of Hiawatha and Gary Rogers.

Resolution 12-008 - Authorize staff to proceed with the State Energy Program Energy Retrofits Grant Application for assistance with installation of LED lighting along North Center Point Road and Stamy Road where lights do not currently exist.

Resolution 12-009 - Direct City Engineers to proceed with plans and specifications and requests for quotations for Pilot Project LED Lighting for six (6) light poles along North Center Point Road from Boyson Road to Sherman Road.

Resolution 12-010 - Review and Adopt proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost and authorize City Engineers to proceed with the quotation process for the Ushers Creek Erosion Repairs Project (Heritage Green).

Resolution 12-011 - Amend Purchasing Policies and Procedures updating staff authorization and bid/quote thresholds.

Resolution 12-012 - Amend Pay Plan Policy and Procedures Sections Pay Plan Policies The Compensation Committee and Pay Plan Procedures deleting City Administrator and adding City Clerk.

Resolution 12-013 - Approve naming Cedar Rapids Gazette as the official City Newspaper.

Resolution 12-014 - Continuing current City Attorney compensation/fee structure through June 30, 2013.

Resolution 12-015 - Setting Holiday Schedule for FY 2012-2013.

Hiawatha Library Annual Report

The Hiawatha Public Library presented its annual report to the City Council on January 4, 2012. The library circulated 304,123 items in FY11 which represents a 5.7% increase over the previous year. Circulation has climbed from 122,928 in 2001. The library has the highest circulation for cities its size in the entire state. Circulation per capita for the Hiawatha Library is 44.4, compared to North Liberty's 29.32. The library has 7.3 full-time equivalents for staffing.

By the numbers:

Circulation: 304,123 items checked out

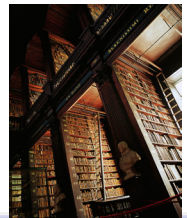
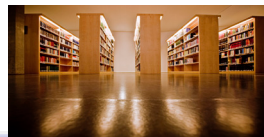
Technology: 22,672 people used computers for 16,765 hours

Fun: 10,890 children and teens attended library programs while 704 adults participated in adult programming

Meetings: 1,057 groups met in the library meeting rooms

Volunteers: 670 hours of volunteer time

Book Clubs: 4 book clubs with 54 members



Employee Safety Day



In our efforts to provide a healthy and safe environment for our valuable employees, the City held a "Stand Down" safety training day, on November 3, 2011, for all 46 staff members to attend, drawing attention to workplace safety.

The day was filled with several classes: some demonstrated new ideas about making the City a safer place to work; refresher courses; and recognized previous accomplishments regarding safety.

By providing safety awareness, it will lead to better practices, which will ultimately keep our employees safe, reduce lost time for employees, worker's compensation claims and the cost of insurance premiums.





FEBRUARY 2012



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	Kids Movie Night 6pm Movie: TBA	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	Council 7pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	City Hall Closed	Water 6:30 p.m.	Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18		
26	27	28	29			
	P&Z 6 p.m.					



MARCH 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
						Womens Street Smart Self Defense Class 10am - Noon
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Special Election Voting!	Council 7pm		Kids Movie Night 6pm Movie: TBA	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	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		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Water 6:30 p.m.	Council 7pm			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	P&Z 6 p.m.		Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18		

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**DELIVER BY:
SATURDAY,
02/11/2012**

Neighborhood Watch/Crime Prevention Signs

You will begin to see new Crime Stoppers signs being placed around not only Hiawatha but all cities within Linn County. Linn County Crime Stoppers is a "tip line" set up to receive information on criminal activity and assist local law enforcement with identifying individuals and/or vehicles associated with a crime. From time to time, you may see a picture in the local newspaper or on the evening news asking for the public's help. If you have specific knowledge of the event, you may provide that information, while remaining anonymous. You simply call the number and provide as much information as you know about the incident. You will be given a unique identifier for the information you provided. If the information you provided assisted law enforcement, you may be entitled to a cash reward.

Crime Stoppers information is not limited to only those incidents you see in the media. Information on any other criminal activity can also be reported. Again, if the information you provide assists law enforcement with solving a crime or making an arrest, you may be entitled to a cash reward. Crime Stoppers is a "tip line" and generally should not be used for crimes that are in progress. In progress crimes should be reported to your local police department immediately.

The question has been recently asked about the difference, if any, between this and the Neighborhood Watch Program. These two programs have the same intended result of making our community safer by becoming involved. The Neighborhood Watch Program is completely separate of the Linn County Crime Stoppers Program. Neighborhood Watch is geared toward neighbors watching out for neighbors. Crime Stoppers is a way for citizens to provide information about criminal activity anywhere in Linn County while remaining anonymous.



Pollution Prevention Center Going Appointment Free!

The Cedar Rapids/Linn County Solid Waste Agency is making it easier for Linn County residents to recycle household hazardous materials like oil-based paints, cleaners, and lawn and garden chemicals. Starting January 3, 2012, the Pollution Prevention Center, which accepts household hazardous materials for free from Linn County residents, has gone appointment free!

Since 1996, Linn County residents have had to make an appointment to drop off unwanted paint, chemicals and cleaners. Now thanks to an increase of trained staff, those items can be dropped off whenever the Solid Waste Agency facility at 1954 County Home Road, Marion, is open. Hours are 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Saturday.

"We are glad to be able to offer this service to all Linn County residents," said Karmin McShane, Solid Waste Agency Executive Director. "Going appointment free will make it easier for residents to use the Pollution Prevention Center whenever their schedule allows and helps the Solid Waste Agency's resource recovery efforts."

All items that are dropped off at the Pollution Prevention Center are inspected. Those that can still be used are placed in the Swap Shop. All Swap Shop items are available free to Linn County residents and can be taken whenever the Agency is open.

The services offered by the Pollution Prevention Center are completely subsidized by the Solid Waste Agency. Despite being a government entity, the Cedar Rapids/Linn County Solid Waste Agency does not receive any taxpayer dollars. All services, programs, and operations are funded by landfill tipping fees.

What: Solid Waste Agency's Pollution Prevention Center going appointment free

When: January 3, 2012

Where: 1954 County Home Road, Marion

Who can use it: Available to all Linn County residents for no charge

When can they use it: 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Saturday

SolidWaste
Cedar Rapids • Linn County
Agency
living. together. green