City of Hiawatha

Engineering Department

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To: Mayor and City Council **Date: January 30, 2019**

From: John Bender PE, City Engineer

Re: January 2019

Description: Engineering Department Report

- Working with Public Works on various projects.
- Working with the Community Development Department to review building site plans, final plats, and rezoning requests. Projects under way include the Todd Hills 1st Addition, Sherman Square 9th Addition, Dave Wright Expansion, Pecks Landing, and several new commercial site plans.
- We are now working with the future land owner of the Village Center surrounding the new intersection for redevelopment that is planned to start this spring. We have the property surveyed and developed the needed legal descriptions in order to transfer the property ownership.
- We are now have the Village Center engineering design contract approved and have started the work on the extension of "A" Avenue to serve the Oakbrook redeveloped property. The schedule is to construct this project in 2019.
- We held the public hearing to update our specifications to 2018 Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Program. (SUDAS). We have adopted the standards for the new construction season. We are now reviewing the 2019 revisions to the SUDAS and will bring this update to the Council.
- We approved a contract with Shive Hattery engineers to start the design work for the new signal at Center Point Road and Willman Street. We are planning a meeting on February 6th to review preliminary plans.
- The sanitary sewer extension project on the east side of Edgewood Road approximately 2000 feet south of Hunt Road and the replacement of the Mitchell drive pressure line is well underway. Maxwell Construction from Iowa City has the work completed on Mitchell Drive. The work on Edgewood Road will take place weather permitting. The completion date for the entire project is next spring.

- We have approved a contract with Anderson Bogert Engineers to start the study of railroad crossing "quiet zones" on Center Point Road, Emmons Street, and possibly Blair's Ferry Road. We need to develop a plan for these proposed improvements that allow the trains to eliminate the horn warnings at these crossings. The study will take several months to complete so we want to get started on this needed process.

- Council has authorized moving ahead with the Robins Road Planning Study for the area between the new intersection at Center Point Road and Boyson Road. Our consultant, Bolton Menk of Cedar Rapids, has the second steering committee planned for February 5th and the second public open house planned for February 7th at 5;00 PM. The information regarding new concept proposals can be found on the Hiawatha website at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/news/robinsroadstudy.

- The Metropolitan Planning Organization is finalizing the Tower Terrace Roadway Corridor management Study. The final steering committee meeting was held November 15th. A public open house was held in October with several hundred people attending. The study will be considered by the MPO Policy Board in March with each agency approving the study as a guide to move forward with the planning of this important transportation corridor.

- The new Tower Terrace Interchange design is moving forward. This project is scheduled to start construction in fiscal year 2021. The environmental document for the project has been approved and the recently completed Interchange Justification Report (IJR) has been reviewed and sent to the Federal Highway Administration for approval. The Iowa DOT has rescheduled the public hearing on this project for February 28, 2019 at the Hiawatha Community Center. More information can be found at: www.iowadot.gov/pim .

- With the new Tower Terrace Interchange design moving forward, the City is ready to proceed with the design of the roadway improvements of Tower Terrace east of the new intersection to Center Point Road. A Request for Proposals (RFP) has been received for the needed environmental studies, archeological studies, soil tests, preliminary and final design, and bidding documents in accordance with the Iowa DOT specifications. The steering committee is reviewing the proposals and will be rating the submittals the week of February 4th, with the goal to have a consultant chosen by February 15th.

I am sure there are other projects I failed to include in the report, but feel free to contact me with questions at any time.