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Council Members

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City Staff

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City Clerk:
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Finance Director:
Cindy Kudrna
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Park & Recreation Director:
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Community Development Dir:
Mark Powers
319-393-1515 X 229

Public Works Superintendent:
Rod Jasa
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Water Superintendent:
Carl Ransford
319-393-1515 X 232

Police Chief:
Dennis Marks
319-393-1515 X 133

Fire Chief:
Mike Nesslage
319-393-4180 X 13

Library Director:
Jeaneal Weeks
319-393-1414

Happy New Year 2010



Hiawatha Insights

State of the City Address



2009 proved to be an interesting year. In February, Dick Olson and I went to Washington, D.C. and made a presentation before legislative staffers on the importance of the Tower Terrace Interchange to the metro area. For the first time ever, we did receive 'earmarks' for the project which was pulled from the final bill. When we asked how we could improve our chances for the next time, we were told to make a joint presentation with Robins, Marion and Hiawatha. That will happen in February 2010.

Due to some unusual circumstances, North Center Point Road from Boyson Road to the railroad tracks was finally completed in late fall.

We continually look at ways to improve the City's website. We have also received many complimentary remarks about the monthly newsletter from citizens. Staff has done a tremendous job in bringing information to the fore front.

Design work on Boyson Road and Robins Road intersection plus the reconstruction of Boyson Road from the Cedar Valley Nature Trail to the Dry Creek Bridge has begun.

Hiawatha has two police officers that have completed a bicycle training program and did some patrolling on bicycles this last summer. In 2010, you may see them on the streets, in the parks, or on the trails and they will be doing this both day and night.

The best news of 2009 is the completion of the voluntary annexation. We added approximately 350 acres and most of this land will provide space for residential growth. This is the first opportunity in a number of years that the City has had a chance to expand.

We told you, the citizens, that if the Local Option Sales Tax passed, we would do our best to show the results. In 2010, you will see improvements in Tucker and Guthridge Parks and at least two street reconstruction projects to be completed, specifically Third Avenue and C Avenue. Some less exciting projects are street crack sealing and sanitary sewer televising.

On December 22, 2009, your City Council invited approximately 25 Hiawatha business leaders to City Hall to discuss what could be done to better "market" our City. The group had many great ideas. A committee was formed to come up with specific recommendations to present to the entire group at it's next meeting in March 2010.

The group had questions about Tower Terrace Interchange and listened to Kraig Paulsen, State Representative, explain how he is trying to help our cause in Des Moines.

Council Members Sworn In

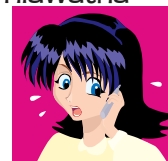
Mayor Tom Theis swearing in newly elected council members: Bob Rampulla and Marty Bruns at the December 16, 2009 City Council meeting. These terms take effect January 1, 2010 and end on December 31, 2014.



HPL Children's 2010 Programming

Hiawatha Public Library kicks off the new year with innovative new programming and the return of old favorites. Perhaps you are an anime fan or maybe you prefer sharing a book with a four-legged friend. Hiawatha Public Library (HPL) has something for all ages.

Anime-Nia, an anime club for eighth through twelfth graders, has its premier screening on Tuesday, January 12 at 3:30 p.m. Once a month, teens will have the opportunity to preview and review unreleased works of anime. *Save Me! Lollipop* tops the marquee this month.



Also, new to Hiawatha Public Library, Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center presents a **Snowshoe Hike** on Monday, January 18 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. The good folks of Wickiup invite kids in kindergarten through fourth grade to slip into a pair of showshoes and take a hike on HPL grounds. Class size is limited so call 319-393-1414 to register. If there is not enough snow, thirty kids are invited to interact with live animals and learn about animal furs and hibernation.

Weekly story times return to HPL. **Preschool Story Time** meets weekly on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. or Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. **Toddler Time** comes your way on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. and **Smart Start Lapsit Program** will be on January 21 at 10:00 a.m. Please call the library if you have questions about any of our story times.

Canine lovers rejoice! **Children Reading to Dogs** allows you to watch your child's confidence and reading skills grow when they share a favorite story with a furry friend. New readers may join us on Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m. Sessions are limited to fifteen minutes and are filled on a first-come/first-serve basis, ending at 7:00 p.m.



Dr. Dvorak, our resident junior scientist, will continue to explore science and its wonders. On January 27 at 4:00 p.m., **Dr. Dvorak's Weird and Wacky Wednesdays** welcomes kindergarteners through fifth graders into the laboratory.



February is the perfect month for book lovers. Preschoolers through fifth graders, express this love by **designing a heart for our February bulletin board**. Just decorate a heart in any fashion that suits you, limiting its size to an 8.5 x 11" sheet of paper. Drop it off at HPL by January 25 and it will be featured on our next bulletin board.

HPL Adult's 2010 Programming

First, Learn to Knit with Laura! There will be 4 classes: Wednesday, January 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2010 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Bring about 400 yards of WORSTED weight yarn and Size 7 or 8 needles OR about 400 yards of BULKY weight yarn and size 10 1/2 needles, circular or straight.



Next, we are hosting career workshops. Come build your resume on January 19, 2010 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Or visit us to practice your interviewing skills on January 26, 2010 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. It's a great change to find help with your job searches.



And don't forget - the Master Gardeners return on Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. They will present: February 3rd - Gardening 101 with Zora Ronan; February 10th - Blueberries with Deb Walser; February 17th - Know Your Mushrooms with Dick Faas; and February 25th - Gardening Green with Ellen Skripsky.

HPL announces.....

Last, but certainly not least, the Hiawatha Public Library would like to announce and congratulate Jeaneal Weeks, Library Director for completing her Masters of Library Science. Her hard work and dedication has earned her the degree and distinction among her peers. Jeaneal.....Congratulations, we are very proud of you!!!



Holiday Parade

The Season of Giving was the theme for this year's Holiday Festival and Parade. The winners for this year's parade were:

- Best Walking Unit: Hiawatha Bank and Trust
- Best Decorated Vehicle: 89.1 The Spirit Radio Station
- Best Decorated Float: Pecks Flower Shop and Garden
- Best Fire Apparatus: Robins Fire Department
- Holiday Coloring Contest Winners: Hannah Kremer, Samantha Mackin, Kaylee Koenighain



The parade was enjoyed by many along the route. Miss Hiawatha, Stephanie Hansen and Miss Jr. Hiawatha, Sarah Hansen helped to light the ceremonial tree. Santa was dropped off at the Hiawatha Fire Department by the Pierce Rescue fire truck, where children enjoyed telling him their Christmas gift wishes. Children had their eyes tested by KidSight through the Hiawatha Lions Club while cookies and cocoa were enjoyed by over 200 attendees throughout the evening. Thank you to this years sponsors: Hiawatha Bank and Trust, Coffee Emporium, American Legion, Hiawatha Lions Club, Hiawatha Police, Fire, Public Works, Water and Parks & Recreation Departments. Special thanks to the Spirit 89.1 for announcing the parade and events.



Kids Movie Night & Senior Dining

Hiawatha Kids Night @ Community Center

The Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Commission gives children the opportunity to see a movie for FREE! Movies are shown on a big screen. Juice and popcorn are also provided. Children's activities with Veridian Credit Union start at 6:00 p.m. Movies begin at 6:30 p.m.

- Movie Dates: January 15, 2010
- February 12, 2010
- March 19, 2010



Hiawatha Senior Dining Activities

Senior dining meal reservations are required 24 hours in advance by calling Mary at 393-9348 between the hours of 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

- Bingo: Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.
- Canasta: Wednesdays 12:15 - 2:00 p.m. (except 2nd Wed. of month)
- Dance Day: Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.
- Monthly Jam Sessions: Third Tuesday of month 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
- Free monthly blood pressure checks - second and fourth Thursdays.
- Community Center is available for rental. Call 393-1515 for more information.

Hiawatha Police GTSB Report

The Hiawatha Police Department is committed to making the roadways safer for all travelers. Over the past several years, we have partnered with the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau in an effort to increase seatbelt usage while also targeting dangerous actions, such as speeding and operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

The statewide compliance rate for seatbelt usage is around 93%. In Hiawatha, we are seeing a similar number of drivers making the choice to buckle up. In October and November, we covered 16 reportable accidents in town. Of those 16 accidents only two resulted in personal injuries. We believe the high seatbelt usage is directly related to the low number of injuries reported. Please do your part and buckle up.

The following is a brief summary of traffic enforcement activities for October and November.

- 16 Operating While Intoxicated Arrests
- 36 Seatbelt contacts
- 139 Speed contacts
- 2 Child Restraint contacts



Council Action

December 2, 2009

- Resolution 09-157 - Establishing a Fire Department Explorer Post in Conjunction with the "Boy Scouts of America" and provide a fire and ambulance *Learning for Life* Program for young adults.
- Resolution 09-158 - Authorizing travel expenses for two (2) individuals to attend the Washington D.C. Conference, February 8-10, 2010.
- Resolution 09-159 - Approving the distribution of Local Option Sales Tax dollars for FY 2010-2011 projects.
- Resolution 09-160 - Approving the ambulance service agreement between the City of Hiawatha and Fayette Township.
- Resolution 09-161 - Authorizing the transfer of the Fire Department Brush Truck to the Public Works Department
- Resolution 09-162 - Authorizing staff to proceed with solicitation of proposals for a Fire Department Light Rescue Truck, replacing the 289 Brush Truck.

December 16, 2009

- Resolution 09-163 - Authorizing City Engineers to proceed with the Third Avenue (from Clark Street to Marion Street) Reconstruction and Water Main Improvement Project.
- Resolution 09-164 - Authorizing City Engineers to proceed with the C Avenue (from Tucker Street to Blairs Ferry Road) Street Reconstruction Project.
- Resolution 09-165 - Authorizing the replacement of two (2) Hiawatha Police Department vehicles.

Council motioned approval of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY 2010-2014.
Council motioned accepting and placing on file the 2009 Strategic Planning and Goal Setting Report.
Council motioned accepting the resignation of Library Board Member: Mark Schile, effective December 31, 2009.
Council motioned accepting the appointment of Travis Christopher to the Library Board: effective January 1, 2010 to term ending June 30, 2015.

Strategic Planning Report - City Administrator

The Goal setting session was held November 23, 2009 and facilitated by Jeff Schott, Institute of Public Affairs, University of Iowa.



Gary Rogers

In preparation for the goal identification process, Council and staff were asked to complete a questionnaire in advance. After discussing a long list of accomplishments, including:

- A community contribution of \$100,000 for the 2008 flood victims
- A community approval of a Local Option Sales Tax
- The conveyance of Council and other meetings on cable T.V.
- The Hiawatha Insights Newsletter
- The new City Hall
- The new Fire Truck
- The new Water Lab and Iron Removal System and control center
- The Parks improvements and many more items.

A list of new and ongoing activities were identified.

The list of "on-going Priorities", overlap the goals of the Council as future activities to become accomplishments. The ongoing priorities included:

- Tower Terrace Interchange & Corridor
- The Edgewood Road Extension
- Planning for a new Library
- Completing the Planning & Zoning Ordinance updates
- Amending the TIF plan
- Completing a Wellhead protection program
- The Town Center Project
- Boyson Trail
- Boyson & Robins Road Interchange
- Continue the Newsletter, Nixle, Website and other communication avenues.

Council goals for the next year include:

- Reconstruction of North Center Point Road
- Annexation issues
- Library Complex land acquisition
- Continue to expand public safety technology e.g. paperless tickets, radio/modern upgrades.

The above is a partial list, the full report is available on the City Website www.hiawatha-iowa.com. An action plan will be developed and acted upon by Council in January.






JANUARY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 	2
3	4	5	6 Council 7p.m.	7	8	9
10	11 History 1:30p.m. Board of Adj 7p.m.	12 Parks 6:30p.m. Library 7p.m.	13 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	14 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	15 Kids Movie Night 6:00p.m.	16
17	18	19 Water 6:30p.m.	20 Council 7p.m.	21	22	23
24	25	26 P&Z 6p.m.	27 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	28 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	29	30
31 Lil Cougar Dance Clinic						

FEBRUARY 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Council 7p.m.	4	5	6
7	8 History 1:30p.m. Board of Adj 7p.m.	9 Parks 6:30p.m. Library 7p.m.	10 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	11 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	12 Kids Movie Night 6:00p.m.	13
14	15 	16 Water 6:30p.m.	17 Council 7p.m.	18	19 Special Needs Movie Night 6:00p.m.	20
21	22	23 P&Z 6p.m.	24 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	25 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	26	27
28						

Walk Sequence

Postal Customer

Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

Your Responsibility Regarding Snow Removal

Each year, we receive numerous phone calls with questions regarding the resident/landlord's responsibilities toward snow removal and other related snow items.

Property owners - have **24** hours to remove snow from their sidewalks **after the cessation of snow fall**. City Code Chapter 136.03. The City can remove the snow and assess the costs to your property taxes. Bear in mind this is contracted out. This is done so pedestrians and school children can have safe routes to walk on. If you want to report a sidewalk that needs to be cleared, please wait the 24 hours, then call 393-1515.

Check your mailbox - to be sure that it is behind the **BACK** of the curb line, preferably about six inches. City Code Chapter 135.14. If a snow plow hits your mailbox and/or post, buy a new one if needed and bring the receipt to City Hall. You can be reimbursed up to \$50.

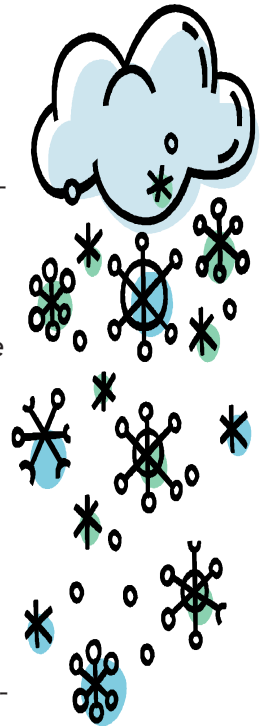
You can help out - The Water Department and Fire Department by clearing snow from around fire hydrants that are near your property. This makes it easier for the firemen to find them during emergencies.

Keep your vehicles - in your driveway or parking lot during snow events. This makes it easier for the plow trucks to clear the street, curb to curb. Residents in violation of removing their vehicles from the street during a snow emergency will be tagged or possibly fined.

Please, please, please - do not push, plow, pile or deposit snow from your driveway, sidewalk, and parking lot (residential or commercial) into the street. It is against our City Code to do this. Chapter 135.12. This includes pushing snow from your driveway across the street into your neighbor's right-of-way. The city snow plows will have to make extra passes to clean this up and the snow will end up in your neighbor's driveway. Try to keep driveway and sidewalk snow in your yard behind the sidewalk. Save as much room as possible in the right-of-way for street snow. If you have a contractor plow your driveway, sidewalk, or parking lot, please inform them of this. If you have no place to put the snow then you will have to have it hauled away. Because of the problems we have had in the past, we will be issuing warnings and possible fines to violators. It is recommended that you do not clear the end of your driveway until the street has been cleared.

Check with your neighbors - especially the elderly, to see if they need help with shoveling their sidewalks and driveway. It's a great way to build community spirit and check on neighbors.

Keep Garbage Cans/Bags Back - It's important to remember to keep your garbage bags/cans back far enough from the curb that they are not in the plowing area.



Census - How It Affects the Nation

We can't move forward until you mail it back

That's why it's so important that you fill in the form and promptly mail it back. Census information affects the number of seats your state occupies in the U.S. House of Representatives. And people from many walks of life use census data to advocate for causes, rescue disaster victims, prevent diseases, research markets, locate pools of skilled workers and more.

When you do the math, it's easy to see what an accurate count of residents can do for your community. Better infrastructure. More services. A brighter tomorrow for everyone. In fact, the information the census collects helps to determine how more than \$400 billion dollars of federal funding each year is spent on infrastructure and services like:

- Hospitals
- Job training centers
- Schools
- Senior centers
- Bridges, tunnels and other-public works projects
- Emergency services



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Participation isn't just important - it's mandatory!