



January 2020

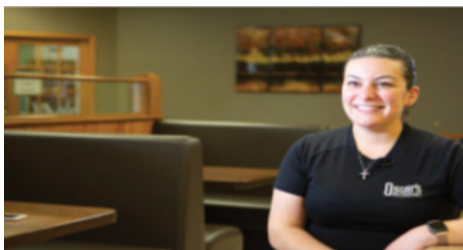
Volume 142

Here is a look back at the events of 2019 - From the Mayor's Desk

As mayor I have finished my first term with excitement; the excitement will continue into the next four years. We have accomplished many infrastructure projects, implemented new initiatives, and lowered our city levy rate twice. I have learned over the years Hiawatha is an amazing community making a positive difference in the corridor reaching milestones, surpassing strategic goals and all of that was done with the help of our dedicated Hiawatha team with support of the city council.

Hiawatha is an amazing city where hard problems breed innovation, where collaboration supports a diversity of opinions and where solutions are ultimately rooted in distinct local preferences. Our community is not without challenges, but our policies best reflect the values of those who live and work here. The following is a summary of our 2019 accomplishments presented to you with pride, dedication, hard work of many and a sense of satisfaction.

Hiawatha Making a Difference



Economic Development

- Over a 3-year period we have added 629,996 sq. ft. commercial property; up 136,000 sq. ft. from 2018
- \$78M in property value
- Peck's Landing - \$12M
- 476 Full-time employees; 132 retained
- 125 Part-time employees; 25 retained
- Celebrated 25 businesses' achievements and expansions
- Celebrated "50" Years in Business - Toyota & Be's Coins
- Held 12 Ribbon-Cuttings
- Sponsored four Hiawatha Network Summits
- Promoted Kirkwood's Learning Intern Initiative
- Home of five Corridor Business Journal's Fastest Growing Businesses
- Completed 20 Retail Synchronist visits
- 39% increase in permit fees
- Home Base Iowa Designation



Residential Housing Development Expansion Continues

- Pines at Turtle Creek (5th) – close to completion
- Dell Ridge – 34 lots; 60% constructed
- Rolling Prairie-102 Lots; 30% completed 26 Lots
- Heritage 12th-85% completed;
- Todd Hills Housing Development - about 70 lots (NEW development); sanitary and water infrastructure completed; roadway within the subdivision to be completed in the spring
- Continue to promote essential housing needs for infill needed; gap housing \$120,000-\$225,000
- Continue to promote needed multi-family development - currently 521% shortage

Quality of Life Projects Near Completion

- Dave Wright Dog Park
- Pedestrian Crosswalks
- Library Expansion & Remodel
Completion Date July 2020
- Guthridge Park Trail Upgrades

Property Tax Relief Initiatives Created

- Lowered City Property Tax Levy Rate by .42 over a two-year period; continued efforts to lower again in FY-21
- Property Tax Relief Fund and General Fund
- Reserve Fund as set by the Investment Committee and authorizes staff to utilize those funds during budget year process to reduce the City’s property tax levy asking

City Election 2019

Hiawatha’s city government takes a wholistic approach and remains steady positioning itself for continued city growth while utilizing taxpayer dollars in the best interest of our citizens as we reflect on our mission statement.

The City of Hiawatha will be a cohesive community of family neighborhoods that is aesthetically pleasing and responsibly governed to sustain and promote balance growth for the benefit of all individual and corporate citizens.



New City Hall Hours

After reviewing the results of a random survey of Hiawatha residents, surveying other metro communities in the Midwest, and considering staff preference, City Council voted to change the office hours of City Hall to 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM beginning January 1, 2020. This change will better reflect the time services are needed at City Hall. Thank you for responding to our survey!

Hiawatha Council Action

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained on-line at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/ or by request to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall at 319-393-1515 ext. 526.

MASTER PLANS

PARK & RECREATION MASTER PLAN



ROBINS ROAD CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN



FIRE/AMBULANCE MASTER PLAN



Future Project 2020 and Beyond

- VILLAGE CENTER DEVELOPMENT - complete development agreement of the 15 acres oakbrook development; commercial, retail, and residential. Infrastructure to be completed April 2020
- PUBLIC SAFETY GARAGE FACILITY BUILD - along Clark Street
- EXPANSION OF EDGEWOOD ROAD PARK - site work to begin while adding a temporary roadway expansion of Fitzroy Road and a 1-mile rock trail as part of the Park Master Plan
- PLAN PROGRESS OF FIRE-AMBULANCE MASTER PLAN & FUTURE OF NEW FACILITY
- ROBINS ROAD CORRIDOR REDEVELOPMENT PLAN OVERLAY AND REZONING IN PREPARATION OF FUTURE REDEVELOPMENT
- COMMUNITY SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
- FAY CLARK TRAIL LIGHTING & TUCKER PARK SPOT LIGHTING
- QUIET ZONE DELINATION AT EMMONS STREET AND NORTH CENTER POINT ROAD RAILROAD CROSSINGS
- TRAFFIC SIGNAL TO BE INSTALLED AT CENTER POINT ROAD AND WILLMAN STREET
- TOWER TERRACE ROAD INTERCHANGE AND ROADWAY EXPANSION BID LETTING FALL OF 2020
- CONTINUE TO PROMOTE ESSENTIAL HOUSING NEEDS

January Calendar

- 13 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 13 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 14 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 14 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 15 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 22 Property Inspection Mtg. 5:30PM
- 22 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 24 Friends of the Library Soup-er Supper 5:30 PM-8:30 PM
- 27 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM

February Calendar

- 05 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 10 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 10 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 11 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 11 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 12 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 17 Holiday-City Offices Closed
- 18 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 19 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 24 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 26 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

Every day as mayor, council members and city staff, we are on the ground, identifying problems, seeking opportunities and engaging with you to find solutions. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve you and allowing us to make a positive difference in your lives. "From my home to yours, I wish you a blessed and Happy New Year."

Mayor Bill Bennett

Robins Road Corridor Study Implementation

The City has recently completed the Robins Road Corridor Study. This was undertaken in preparation for the public improvement project scheduled for Robins Road from Emmons Street to Boyson Road. It is anticipated the improvements to the road, sidewalks and utilities will be a catalyst for development in the area. The Robins Road Corridor plan is intended to guide the land use and the right of way design concepts to align with the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Hiawatha.

The street design concepts in the plan define Robins Road as being a “main street” extension from the town center at the intersection of Robins Road and Emmons Street. This means the design will likely include an extension of Northwood Drive to a connection with Parsons Drive, planted medians at the south portion of Robins Road, a new controlled intersection at

Northwood Drive and Robins Road, on-street parking for the north section of Robins Road to Boyson Road, a trail width sidewalk along one side of the street and buildings with reduced front yard setbacks.

With the guidance and assistance from Bolton and Menk’s professional planner; Rose Schroder, City staff has completed documents which implement the land use recommendations from the Robins Road Corridor Study. The intent is to control and accommodate land development which reflects the vision of the Comprehensive Plan 2036 as detailed in the study.

The implementation phase is now underway. The Planning and Zoning Commission and the Council have accepted the plan. The resolution included incorporating the study into Hiawatha’s future land use map and the Design Guidelines for the area as the first step of implementation. This has been completed. Finalizing the implementation of the land use recommendations is underway and includes the development of an overlay district and rezoning for the area.

An overlay district is being established in our Unified Development Code (UDC) by amending the text of the UDC and the Land Use Matrix; the official zoning map for the City of Hiawatha. Along with the new overlay, rezoning is recommended for the underlying zoning districts. The nature of the mixed-use overlay requires:

Elimination of industrial uses which are not compatible with residential and retail uses.

- Elimination of residential single-family dwellings along the “main street” in order to accommodate neighborhood businesses.
- Create transitions from business uses to residential uses.
- Create high-density residential areas which will support the neighborhood business center.

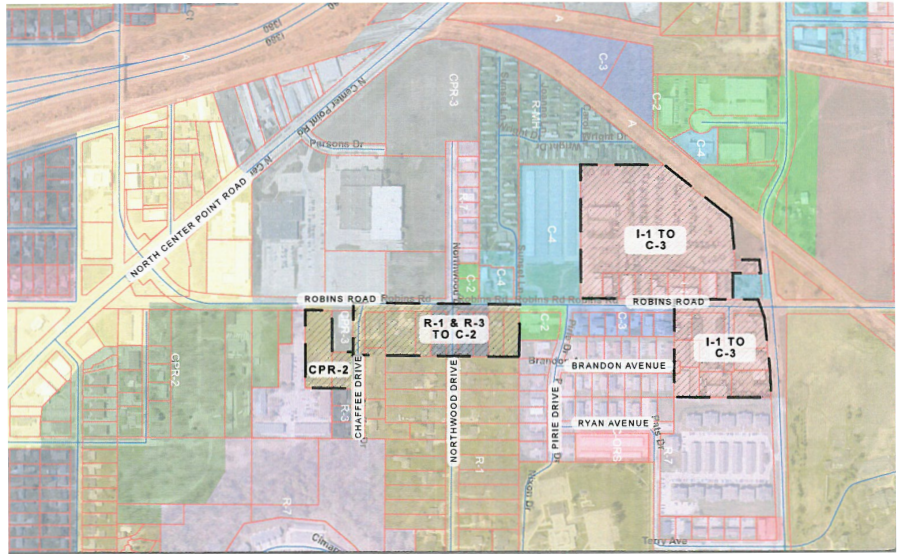
This area is viewed as being a mixed use of retail and entertainment with high to medium density residential. It is pictured to be an area friendly to walkers and bikers where the local retail amenities, restaurants and services are nearby and accessible. The businesses located directly on Robins Road would also accommodate traffic from the community at large and the greater Cedar Rapids metro area as a unique location for small boutiques and shops. This mixed-use concept focuses on the efficiencies of living, working and playing in one area thus reducing land area consumption and transportation impacts. The concepts are considered “green” as they may also include planned green space and stormwater detention efficiency.

The planned mixed-use concept will include buildings and developments in which the main floor or front buildings will be for business and retail while upper levels and building off the main road will be for residential uses. The residential uses are to include a variety of essential housing; medium density single family dwellings, condominiums and apartments priced at all levels. Green space, access to the trail system and parking associated with these uses is also envisioned in the design.

The implementation process timeline includes notification to all affected property owners as required for rezoning. The notifications will be sent in mid-January for the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to be held on January 27 and the subsequent public hearing meeting at the City Council on February 5, 2020. Both meetings will be at Hiawatha City Hall at 5:30 PM and will allow for public input.

Specifications such as building size allowances, building densities and building exteriors are included along with allowable uses. The creation of the Robins Road Corridor Community will be an overarching vision of the development proposed to become a part of the central business district for Hiawatha. Amenities such as signage, street benches and way finding signs can be added to the overlay. For pictures of the proposed development concepts view the report at the City of Hiawatha web site: <https://www.hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/community-development/planning-zoning/>

The City intends to be prepared for redevelopment in this area by having the controls in place to fulfill the recommendations to facilitate the orderly redevelopment in the area. Additionally, city economic development staff is ready to work with developers and HEDCO should any opportunities arise in proposed projects.



HICREW KIWANIS

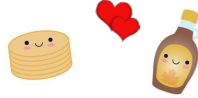
VALENTINES DAY

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

WITH OMELET BAR

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

FACE PAINTING & CRAFT TABLE FOR THE KIDS!



YOU COMPLETE ME

LOCATION: HIAWATHA COMMUNITY CENTER

101 EMMONS ST. HIAWATHA

8:00AM-11:00AM

ENJOY HEART-SHAPED PANCAKES, SAUSAGE AND OMELET BAR WITH ALL THE FIXINS' COFFEE, MILK AND JUICE.

FREE WILL DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED

FUNDS RAISED HELP CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Dog Park Nears Completion

Area pet owners will soon have a new dog park, the first for Hiawatha, to visit with their furry friends. The roughly 2-acre park is located just south of Boyson Road along the Cedar Valley Nature Trail. It came together thanks to agreements between the City, Linn County and nearby Dave Wright Auto. The collaborative efforts have created a dog park unlike any other in the area! We are excited to provide your K-9 companion/s a place they can exercise, play and enjoy the outdoors! The Dave Wright Family Dog Park is anticipated to open spring of 2020 with weather and turf coverage pending. Once the winter season is complete City Staff will evaluate the park to determine when the grand opening will be. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!



Library Renovations Progressing with a Few Adjustments

Life is always an adventure when you are building a public facility. Thankfully, the rain (and/or snow) has not been an issue, and groundwater seems to be under control. The contractor had to make a few adjustments along the way with unsuitable soil conditions due to extreme wet soils, and footing sizes were expanded in areas for less soil bearing pressure.

Lower level concrete wall placement is complete and shoring has been removed. Sheet waterproofing, exterior drain tile installations, and backfilling at exterior of foundation walls are in progress. Lower level structural steel erection, under slab backfill and drainage system, and plumbing and electrical rough-in's, will follow in coming weeks. The ramp to the lower level has been removed and sub-floor backfill is nearly complete. Plumbing and electrical rough-ins below the floor have been installed, and the subfloor drainage system is installed.

Concrete wall placements are mostly completed and the lower level concrete floor slab is also completed. Bar joists and decking for the main level is complete, along with the concrete for the flooring. Most of the exterior backfilling has been completed, and the wall framing has begun, along with plumbing, HVAC, and electrical rough-ins. The parking lot storm sewer system has been reinstalled, and most of the exterior backfilling is scheduled to be complete soon (with only exception being where the wall infill was placed at the removed ramp).

Wall framing (both lower level and main level) is scheduled to begin in the next weeks, as well as the plumbing, HVAC, and electrical rough-ins in these framed walls. Phase I completion date is set for April 16 and Phase II renovation of existing library should be completed at the end of July.



Hiawatha History Commission

Guthridge Park Has History

Hiawatha City Park was renamed Guthridge Park in 2000, after former Hiawatha Mayor, Dale Guthridge. Guthridge was known for saving Hiawatha money by doing a lot of the city work himself. He thought nothing of plowing the streets after a snowstorm or digging a trench for a new water pipe. Guthridge was certainly a jack-of-all-trades; he designed the cake for the fire department's station dedication and sewed dresses for a daughter's wedding.



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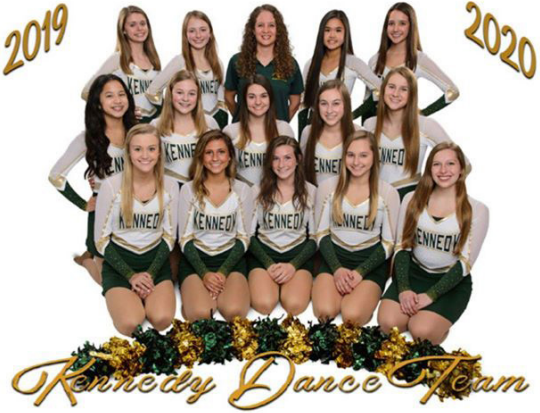
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 SATURDAY,
 1/18/2020**

Postal Customer

Hiawatha, Iowa 52233



Kennedy
DANCE CLINIC
 February 16, 2020
 Hiawatha Community Center

Kennedy Dance Clinic
 Come learn a routine from the Cedar Rapids Kennedy Dance Team! Each child should wear gym pants, a t-shirt, tennis shoes, and socks to the clinic. We would like each child to bring plenty of spirit and most importantly, their smiles! Registration deadline is February 10. Register online at Hiawatha-iowa.com, or at City Hall.

FUSION EDGE PHOTOGRAPHS

CITY DIRECTORY

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
City Administrator	Kim Downs	319-393-1515 x523	kdowns@hiawatha-iowa.com
City Clerk	Kari Graber	319-393-1515 x526	kgraber@hiawatha-iowa.com
Finance Director	Cindy Kudrna	319-393-1515 x 522	ckudrna@hiawatha-iowa.com
Parks & Recreation Director	Kelly Willadsen	319-393-1515 x251	kwilladsen@hiawatha-iowa.com
Community Development Director	Patrick Parsley	319-393-1515 x229	pparsley@hiawatha-iowa.com
City Engineer	John Bender	319-393-1515 x511	jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com
Public Works Superintendent	Rod Jasa	319-393-6601	rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com
Water Superintendent	Marty Recker	319-393-1515 x232	mrecker@hiawatha-iowa.com
Police Chief	Dennis Marks	319-393-1212	chief@hiawathapolice.com
Fire Chief	Mike Nessler	319-393-4180	mnessler@hiawatha-iowa.com
Library Director	Jeaneal Weeks	319-393-1414	weeks@hiawatha-iowa.com

For more information about the City of Hiawatha and its services, call [319-393-1515](tel:319-393-1515) or visit www.hiawatha-iowa.com.

CITY COUNCIL | City of Hiawatha Regular Council Meetings are the first and third Wednesday of each month.



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