



July 2020

Volume 148

The City of Hiawatha Extends its City Facility Closures Due to Increased COVID-19 numbers in Linn County

It's understandable that many of us are going stir crazy, wanting to go back to some semblance of normalcy after months of social distancing and quarantining. Sadly, the reality is that 40 states—including Iowa, Illinois, Alabama, Arkansas, and Georgia, Arizona and many more—are seeing increases in cases. To keep ourselves and our families safe, this means we will likely need to continue maintaining our social distancing a while longer.

Keeping safety in mind, many municipalities are deciding to cautiously reopen certain critical functions while maintaining social distancing. If this remains the case until a vaccine is widely available, cities might see a long-term, rather than short-term, shift in employees working from home in addition to issues with daycare providers shutting doors for certain periods of time to waiting to see what our school districts will choose to do for the FY20-21 school year.



Linn County has seen a significant increase in the number of COVID-19 cases since June 21. Continuing the mitigation strategies below are crucial in slowing community spread, saving lives, and keeping establishments open.

- Continue to practice physical distancing. Maintain at least a 6 foot distance between yourself and others outside of your household.
- Wear a mask, or a cloth face covering, when physical distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
- Stay home if you feel ill, no matter how mild the illness. Contact your healthcare provider.

While anyone is at risk for contracting COVID-19 if exposed to the virus, some are more susceptible to becoming severely ill. As many prepare for the upcoming holidays, Linn County Public Health urges residents to take steps to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19. These safety measures not only protect you, but they protect our community members who are more vulnerable to severe illness, and even death.

The city hoped to begin Phase II by mid July but with so many COVID-19 cases keeps us in Phase I:

- Public Access-limited access by appointment only
- Essential meetings only; boards, commission and council meetings when in session will follow the mass gathering criteria which included limited capacity, social distancing, practice best hygiene and public health measures as prescribed by Iowa Department of Public Health. Virtual meetings continue.
- Encourage citizens to continue to utilize online services and the drop box in front of city hall for utility billing and permitting payments.
- Community Center Rentals allowable with limited access requiring physical distancing, utilizing best hygiene practices that consist of wearing mask, hand sanitizing and staying home when you are sick.
- Library Curbside Pickup Available- M-Th 10 AM-7:30 PM; F-S 10AM-4:30 PM. Closed Sunday.
- Library Phone Service Available- M-Th 10 AM-8 PM; F-S 10AM-5 PM. Closed Sunday.
- Library Book Drop is open.
- Parks - Social distancing required.
- Pavilions available and playgrounds open with warnings.

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- Splash pads open with following aquatic and playground guidelines.
- Trash - carryout only.
- Restrooms open with daily cleaning procedures.

The complete reopening plan can be found at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/news/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/DRAFT-Update-Reopening-Plans-Phase-I-II-Council-6-17-2020.pdf

Water Department Payment Options

The Hiawatha Water Department would like to thank all our customers for working with us during these uncertain times when City Hall was closed. As we slowly open our offices back up, we do encourage our customers to use one of our many payment options to reduce walk-in traffic.

The following options will continue to be available:

- Drop box outside of City Hall, 101 Emmons Street
- Online Payments at <https://hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/water/pay-bill/>
- Pay by phone (requires customer account number) at 877-690-3729 Jurisdiction code - 2510
- ACH – Automatic Withdrawal from your checking or savings account on the 15th of every month

Beginning August 2020, the Water Department will be reinstating our policy on water service termination for delinquent accounts. Along with the reinstatement of our termination policy, we will begin charging penalties after the 20th of the month. If assistance is needed, there will be payment agreement options available. You must contact the water office at 319-393-5556 to discuss possible arrangements.

Fire Hydrant Flushing occurs every spring. With the onset of COVID-19, we were unable to run this annual process. We would still like to flush hydrants this year, possibly in late August/early September. We are unsure if we will be able to begin or even complete this task, but we wanted our customers to know in case you see our Water Operators out while the flushing units.

Absentee Ballot Request Forms Available for the November 3 General Election

Due to COVID-19, the Linn County Auditor's Office strongly encourages voters to vote by mail. To support this, the Auditor's Office will mail absentee request forms to approximately 145,000 active, registered voters in Linn County in



late July or early August. A postage-paid return envelope will be included. As an alternative to mail, the Linn County Auditor's Office will have four secure drop boxes for voters to deposit their absentee ballot request forms and ballots.

The drop boxes will be installed in mid-July and will be located at:

- Linn County Public Service Center, 935 2nd St. SW
- Marion Hy-Vee, 3600 Business Highway 151
- Edgewood Hy-Vee, 5050 Edgewood Rd NE
- Johnson Avenue Hy-Vee, 1843 Johnson Ave NW

In accordance with state law, the Auditor's Office will mail ballots starting Monday, October 5. Voters have until 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 24 to submit absentee request forms.

Visit LinnCounty.org/Vote for more information.

Hiawatha Police K9 Golf Outing is August 2, 2020



The Hiawatha Police K9 Unit will be hosting its annual 4-Person Best Shot Golf Outing at Hunters Ridge Golf Course Sunday, August 2 in Marion to raise funds to support the K9 Program. This year will be a special event as they celebrate the retirement of their current Police Canine, K9-Reso, a German Shepherd, that has served since 2012. They will introduce to you their newest Canine, K9-Kaya, a Dutch Shepherd, that joined their department this Spring and is currently in training.

Check-in is from 11:00 AM to Noon, with a Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM. There will be a dinner, raffle drawing, and prizes, with a K9 Demo following dinner.

The proceeds from this fundraising event provide for the continued financial support of the Hiawatha Police K9 Unit and the purchase and training of future K9 teams.

Cost of registration is \$85 per golfer and is due July 28. Registration forms can be found on the event calendar at www.hiawatha-iowa.com. Following COVID-19 best practices.

To ask about different sponsor possibilities, or for questions about the golf outing, contact Officer Erik Naaktgeboren at K9@hiawathapolice.com.

GreenState Credit Union Presents

MUSIC IN THE PARK

CANCELLED

CANCELLED

CANCELLED

CANCELLED

AUG 07
JIMMY ROSE
CLASSIC ROCK

AUG 14
THE PRODIGALS
ROCKABILLY

AUG 21
NEW TRICK
CLASSIC ROCK

AUG 28
ROBBY VEE & CARAVAN
ROCKABILLY

FRIDAYS IN AUGUST 6PM | GUTHRIDGE PARK
CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE AT 5:45PM



THE WAIT IS FINALLY OVER!

The Dave Wright Family Dog Park ribbon cutting will take place Wednesday, August 5th at 12:00 p.m.

The dog park will be open to the public to follow! Your furry friends are going to love it!

Visit www.hiawatha-iowa.com for all dog park rules and information!



HiBRAI HALF

AUGUST 23, 2020

HiBRAI Half: Registration is now open for our 18th Annual HiBRAI Ride, **Sunday, August 23, 2020!**

This year's ride will be featured as the HiBRAI Half, taking riders out and back from Hiawatha to Solon Recreation and Nature Area a 46 mile ride.

*Registrations will only be taken electronically, visit ImAthlete.com to get registered today!



Hiawatha! 2020 Fun Fest!
August 7&8

In an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we have made the difficult decision to cancel Hiawatha Fun Fest 2020. The health and safety of our families, staff and performers, is our #1 priority. We will see you back next year at **Fun Fest 2021!**

Work Nears Completion on New Traffic Signal at Center Point Road and Willman Street

The City Council approved a contract with Rathje Construction from Marion to install a new signal at Center Point Road and Willman Street. The new signals are now complete along with the replacement of the intersection and sidewalks. All that remains is working with Alliant Energy to coordinate the connection of the signals with the predetermined timings. We are also working with the City of Cedar Rapids as these signals will be synchronized with the signals at Blairs Ferry Road and Emmons Street. The goal is to have the new signals in operation by the end of July.

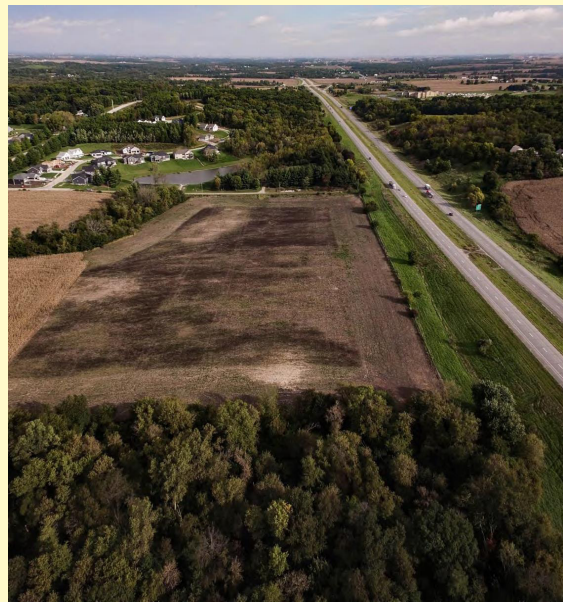


Any questions please contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.

Willman Street Rehabilitation Project Bids Received

The Willman Street resurfacing project from Center Point Road to 4th Avenue started the week of July 6. This work includes a new asphalt overlay after repair of the deteriorated street areas and replacement of the curbs. Also included is the addition of a sidewalk on the north side of the street from the new library expansion to 4th Avenue. The schedule is to have construction completed by September of this year.

Any questions please contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.



Turtle Creek Park Phase I Bids Received

The City Council approved a design contract with MSA Professional Services to move ahead with the Turtle Creek Park Phase I construction project. This includes the grading of Fitzroy Road east of Edgewood Road and grading of the proposed new soccer fields south of Fitzroy.

Also included is the first phase of a trail from Edgewood Road around the park to provide approximately 1/2 mile of walking trail that will be a rock surface, but will be paved with asphalt in Phase II of the park development. Construction will start this summer with the completion scheduled by November of this year.

Any questions please contact the Parks and Recreation Director at kwilladsen@hiawatha-iowa.com.

Work Completed on Village Center Redevelopment Project

The Village Center Utility and Street Extension Project contractor, Rathje Construction of Marion, has completed the work on the Village Center Street and Utility project. This included the extension of "A" Avenue westerly from Clark Street to an intersection with the new roadway extended east from Robins Road. This new street and utility project will provide the access and services for the proposed redevelopment of the former Oakbrook property. The proposed mix-use redevelopment is scheduled to start this fall.



Any questions please contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.

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.

Sidewalk Maintenance Project Begins

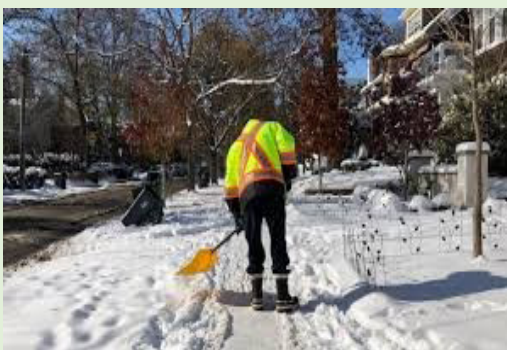
The implementation of the “Sidewalk Maintenance Program” has begun. Sidewalks are being systematically inspected in the first quadrant defined by I-380 on the north, Blairs Ferry Road on the south and between Edgewood Road and 12th Avenue. Many of the sidewalks are already marked for repair and many of the repair notices have been sent. Owners will be required to repair their sidewalks before October 30, 2020.

A permit to complete the repairs is required; however, the fee for residential sidewalk repairs has been eliminated to facilitate the program and reduce the cost to the home owner. This fee elimination is available only for lots used for one and two-family dwellings. All other properties will require a commercial sidewalk repair permit and a fee of \$100.

Repair specifications allow existing 4-foot sidewalks to remain 4’ in the repair process. The new standard for new sidewalks in Hiawatha requires all sidewalks to meet the American Disabilities Act standard of a minimum 5’ width. However, Council is allowing 4’ wide sidewalks in existing areas where the present sidewalk is 4’ wide. Repairs must comply with the adopted engineering standards and meet ADA tolerances.

The Sidewalk Maintenance Program is our directed effort to keep Hiawatha beautiful, safe and accessible to all of our citizens and visitors. Hiawatha values our public sidewalks and the purposes they serve in connecting our community and enhancing its livability. Join us in retaining and improving this valued asset.

A copy of the approved program details can be found on our website at: www.hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/public-works/sidewalk



July Calendar

- 12 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 13 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 13 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 14 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 14 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 15 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 19 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 20 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 22 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 26 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 27 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM

August Calendar

- 02 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 05 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 09 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 12 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 16 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 18 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 19 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 24 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 16 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 23 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 26 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 30 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Guthridge Park

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

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

ECRWSS

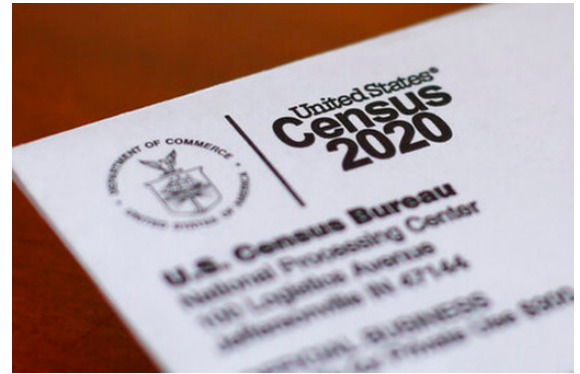
**DELIVER BY
 SATURDAY,
 7/25/2020**

Postal Customer

Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

There's Still Time to Complete the 2020 Census

The Linn County Complete Count Committee is reminding residents that the time to complete the 2020 Census has been extended until October 31. A census is held once every ten years, and it allows the U.S. to get a count of all the people living in the country. That helps determine funding for public resources and state representation in Congress. The census response period was extended until October due to the coronavirus pandemic. The census can be completed online at www.2020Census.gov, or residents can call the U.S. Census Bureau at 844-330-2020 for English or 844-468-2020 for Spanish.



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 Nesslage	319-393-4180	mnesslage@hiawatha-iowa.com
Library Director	Jeaneal Weeks	319-393-1414	weeksj@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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 mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com



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