The Hiawatha City Council met in a Work Session on May 21, 2018. Mayor Bill Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Council members present: Dick Olson, Aime Wichtendahl, and Steve Dodson. Rob Archibald was present by conference call. Denny Norton was absent. Staff present: City Administrator Kim Downs, Finance Director Cindy Kudrna, and Police Chief Dennis Marks. Guests: Bill Micheel and John Braumann.

Olson moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Wichtendahl. Motion carried.

City staff presented the Storm Water Advisory Committee recommendation for an increase to the storm water rates effective Fiscal Year 2019. Recommendation to increase residential rate from $2.75 to $3.25 per month for an annual increase of $20,712, and increasing commercial rate from $4.50 to $5.50 per month for an annual increase of $4,776. The impact on the resident is an increase of $6 per year and commercial is an increase of $12 per year. This item will come back to a regular council meeting setting a public hearing date to amend the Code of Ordinances to change the rates.

City staff and City Council members discussed options on managing the issue of feral/stray cats in the city. Staff recommended a temporary resolution as a trial period to determine effectiveness. Council members asked staff to add language to clarify there are no fines associated with this program and ear tipping if the cat is not wearing identification. This item will come back to a regular council meeting for approval.

City staff and City Council members discussed the Urban Revitalization Plan to open up Tax Increment Financing (TIF) rebate incentives to residential development in the Village Center area. This is a long process with a lot of steps occurring over the next few months. Sale of property in connection with the Village Center redevelopment is planned for later this summer with construction starting in the fall.

Bill Micheel from the City of Cedar Rapids presented information on the Corridor MPO Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Feasibility Study. Micheel gave the same presentations to other metro communities to get feedback on the three phases of the plan that include the following elements: purpose and need, peer agency governance review, transit levy assessment, funding, staffing, and formation agreements. Micheel said he would share comments received from the metro communities during the advisory meeting.

There being no further discussion, Wichtendahl moved to adjourn at 6:43 P.M., second from Dodson. Motion carried.

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Bill Bennett, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kelly Kornegor, City Clerk