



May 2019

Volume 134

Budget Announced for Fiscal Year 2020

The City of Hiawatha City Council adopted the budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2020 at the March 6, 2019 regular council meeting. The 2020 fiscal year will begin July 1.

Discussions began last fall with department managers and council members by setting priorities and goals for the upcoming year and have demonstrated responsible budgetary decisions and our accountability to the Hiawatha residents.

The City of Hiawatha elected officials have weighed the needs and benefits of projects and services against their associated costs. Some of the projects included in the FY20 budget are Water, Sewer, and Storm Sewer improvements, updates in the Park and Recreation Department, Library, Fire and Ambulance Service and the Police Department.

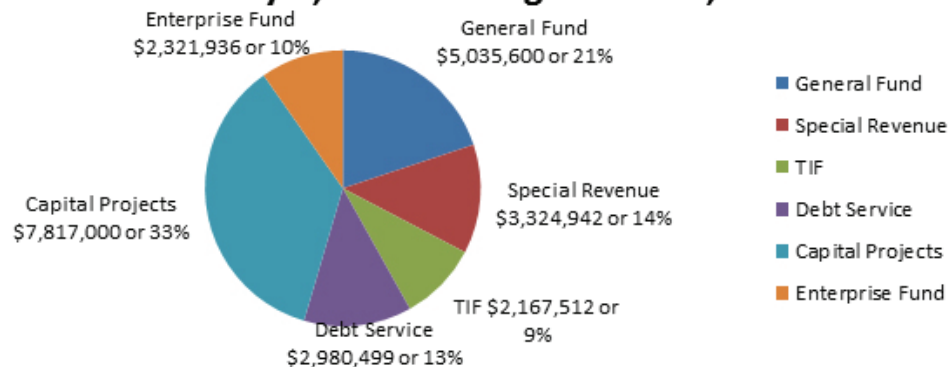
The tax rate will be reduced \$0.21 to the rate of \$14.99 per \$1,000 of assessed taxable valuation for Fiscal Year 2020. Based on a residential property valued at \$100,000, the city portion of your property taxes would be approximately \$853.75 annually, which estimates to a \$23.78 reduction compared to Fiscal Year 2019 property taxes. The city's tax levy is a very important part of the residential property-tax equation.

A property owners' tax bill is determined when Linn County Assessor values a property and the state sets a "rollback", or what percentage of the value of property is subject to tax. The property value is then multiplied by the levies of the other jurisdictions with taxing authorities, such as the State of Iowa, Linn County, Local School Districts and Community Colleges. The City of Hiawatha receives approximately 40% of the total taxes you pay to Linn County Treasurer.

FY20 City of Hiawatha Budget Highlights:

- City levy rate reduced another 21 cents to \$14.99 per \$1,000 of taxable value
- Impact to residential property owner: City property tax decrease of 2.71% (based on \$100,000 assessed property value)
- Impact to commercial property owner: City property tax decrease of 2.67% (based on \$100,000 assessed property value)
- Hiawatha receives 40% of total property taxes paid to Linn County Treasurer
- Achieved a General Fund ending balance of 38%

Total Budgeted expenses \$26,293,823 by Fund for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020



Hiawatha Fire Department 2nd Annual EMS Open House May 19

The Hiawatha Fire Department is hosting its second annual Emergency Medical Services (EMS) open house on Sunday, May 19 from 2 PM to 4 PM. There will be a variety of displays with information and interactive activities for children. Stations include practicing CPR, Stroke Recognition, Calling 911, and “Practicing being a Paramedic” where the kids learn about being an EMT by pretending to be EMS providers, under the guidance of adult EMT’s and Paramedics. Linn County Safe Kids Coalition is also scheduled to be present with bike helmet fitting. Along with all this the Fire Trucks and Ambulances will be out for display, and there will be cake and hotdogs available.

EMS week is our opportunity to celebrate the hard work done by Hiawatha Ambulance members who daily respond to medical emergencies in the community. The First Responders including police and firefighters, EMTs, and Paramedics who serve Hiawatha are truly the first line of emergency healthcare in our community, responding to all sorts of emergencies, day and night, heat and cold. Last year Hiawatha Ambulance responded to 993 medical calls. The ambulance service, which was founded in 2005, is staffed by both volunteer and paid members consisting of EMTs and Paramedics.

Hiawatha Approves Contract for Tower Terrace Road Reconstruction Project

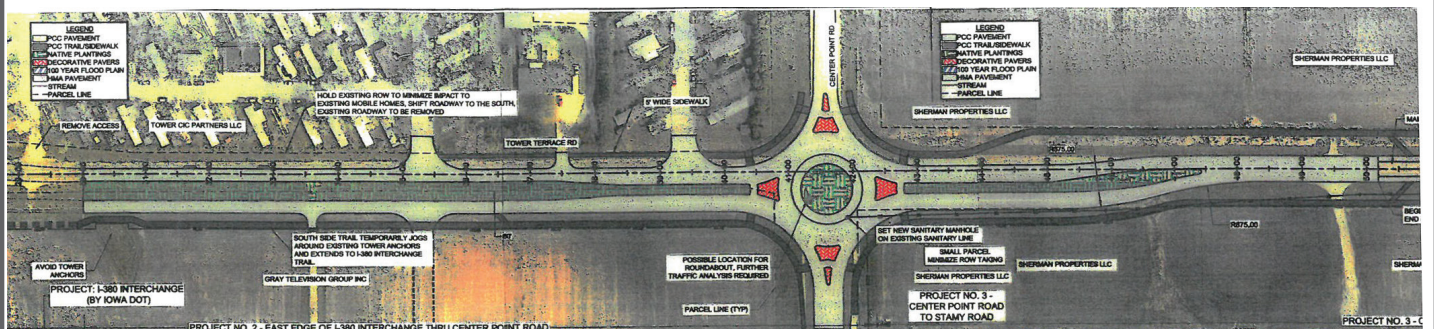
The Hiawatha City Council has approved a design contract with Snyder and Associates of Cedar Rapids for the Environmental Study/NEPA Study /Preliminary and Final Design of the City’s approximately 2000 feet of Tower Terrace Road reconstruction. This project will be completed in conjunction with the new Tower Terrace/I-380 interchange scheduled for FY 2021. The City has been given preliminary approval of Federal funding, approximately \$2 Mil, of the total construction cost of \$4.2 Mil. Final determination of using these funds for our section of Tower Terrace Road will be developed in a funding agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation.

The contract has been itemized into divisions with scheduled milestones. The divisions include the environmental study, a traffic study, the base roadway design, and the design of either the intersection, or the roundabout at North Center Point Road. The traffic study will make the recommendation to the build out of the roadway.

Primary milestones include:

- Kickoff Meeting May 2019
- Preliminary Plans/ROW Documents October 2019
- Check Plans July 2020
- Final Plans September 2020
- Contracts Turn-in December 2020

For questions about this and other projects, 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. 524.

Building Safety Month

The State of Iowa is celebrating Building Safety Month. This is an annual effort to bring awareness to the public regarding building safety and the officials working to achieve building safety. The state proclamation was signed by Governor Kim Reynolds on April 16 in the presence of the Iowa Association of Building Officials celebrating 60 years of service.



The Mayor of Hiawatha has also proclaimed May as Building Safety Month in a proclamation signed on May 1:

Whereas, our City is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster; and;

Whereas, our confidence in the structural integrity of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of building safety and fire prevention officials, builders, trades people, design professionals and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and;

Whereas, the dedicated members of the International Code Council create and implement the highest-quality International Codes® to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work and play; and;

Whereas, “No Code. No Confidence.” the theme for Building Safety Month 2019, sponsored by the International Code Council, encourages all Americans to raise awareness of the importance of safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, and new technologies in the construction industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William Bennett, Mayor of the City of Hiawatha IA, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2019 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their community in recognizing the importance of our building safety and fire prevention officials.

As part of the efforts to work cooperatively with local contractors, designers and suppliers the local code officials from Hiawatha, Cedar Rapids, Linn County and Marion have combined efforts and have placed informational handouts for permits and construction codes at the local Home Depot Store. Be sure and stop there for all your construction code information for the area jurisdictions. We owe a special thank you to Home Depot and the International Code Council for this cooperative effort to assure safety in our buildings.

Hiawatha Water Quality Report Available Online

Hiawatha's Yearly Water Quality Report (or Consumer Confidence Report) will no longer be mailed out to our Hiawatha residents. The report is now available online. To access the CCR Report go to the Hiawatha City Website (www.hiawatha-iowa.com) and select Water under Departments. On the Water page, scroll down select Consumer Confidence. This link will take you to the Iowa Rural Water Association Website where you can “View CCR Report”. You will be able to view reports from 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016, 2017, 2018.

May Calendar

- 01 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 08 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 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
- 16 Gardening for Dummies 6-7 PM
Hiawatha Library
- 19 EMS Open House 2-4 PM
- 20 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 22 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 27 Memorial Day - City Offices Closed

June 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 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 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)

**The Hiawatha Farmers Market is held
Sundays from 11 AM-2 PM in
Guthridge Park.**



FRIENDS OF HIAWATHA PARKS AND RECREATION PRESENTS

LIDS FOR KIDS

FREE HELMETS FOR THE FIRST 100 KIDS!

MAY 19, 2019
10AM - 1PM

**HIAWATHA FARMERS MARKET
10TH AVENUE PARKING LOT
GUTHRIDGE PARK**

Helmets are sponsored by Iowa Association for Justice

- April 15 - STRONG with Shiho
- April 22 - Yoga with Amy
- April 29 - HIIT with Kim
- May 6 - PiYo with Denise
- May 13 - STRONG with Shiho
- May 20 - HIIT with Kim
- May 27 - NO CLASS
- June 3 - PiYo with Denise
- June 10 - STRONG with Shiho
- June 17 - Yoga with Amy
- June 24 - HIIT with Kim
- July 1 - Piyo with Denise
- July 8 - HIIT with Shiho
- July 15 - Yoga with Amy
- July 22 - HIIT with Kim
- July 29 - NO CLASS
- August 5 - PiYo with Denise
- August 12 - STRONG with Shiho
- August 19 - Yoga with Amy
- August 26 - HIIT with Kim
- September 9 - PiYo with Denise
- September 16 - STRONG with Shiho
- September 23 - Yoga with Amy
- September 30 - HIIT with Kim
- October 7 - PiYo with Denise
- October 14 - STRONG with Shiho
- October 21 - NO CLASS
- October 28 - HIIT with Kim
- November 4 - PiYo with Denise
- November 11 - STRONG with Shiho
- November 18 - Yoga with Amy
- November 25 - HIIT with Kim
- December 9 - STRONG with Shiho
- December 16 - Yoga with Amy
- December 23 - Zumba with Tara
- December 30 - HIIT with Kim

MOTIVATIONAL MONDAYS

FREE FITNESS
HIAWATHA COMMUNITY CENTER
101 EMMONS STREET
APRIL 8 THROUGH DECEMBER 30
6 PM

SPONSORED BY TRUENORTH



Join the Cedar Rapids, Marion and Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Departments for this local skills competition for kids ages 7-14, May 18 at 9AM, at the Marion High School Track. The Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Championships event was founded in 2015 to continue on the tradition of the Hershey Track and Field Games in Iowa. The Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Championships is a free, state-wide event that requires no special equipment to participate. Local meets are hosted all around Iowa, giving participants a chance to compete in their hometowns. Local meet champions will have the opportunity to participate in the state competition.

To register, go to <https://events.clearthunder.com/LHIKTCREG2019> and select "Cedar Rapids/Hiawatha/Marion".

National Public Works Week is May 19-25

In accordance with the tradition of the American Public Works Association, those who work in professions that provide and maintain public facilities and services will be honored during National Public Works Week, May 19-25, 2019.

We value our communities and the role public works professionals play in keeping them safe and functioning smoothly, reports the American Public Works Association, sponsor of National Public Works Week. Our objective is designed to increase public awareness of their contributions as well as to enlighten the public about the duties, practices, and goals of public works professionals.

Public Works professionals include those who manage water, sewer, parks, storm water and street systems as well as those responsible for maintaining public buildings and grounds. These professionals do everything from plow snow and repair water main breaks to empty trash cans in the parks. They are, in short, the people who maintain and improve the systems and services vital to a community's health, safety and comfort.

Thanks to Rod Jasa, Kirk Stout, Trent Coberly, Kevin Beckner, and Rob Opfer for your dedication to your profession and the City of Hiawatha.



What's the Big Deal about Summer Reading?

If the Starks from Game of Thrones were librarians, they would ominously say, "Summer is coming!" What exactly does that mean and why does it matter? Hiawatha Public Library doesn't consider summer frightening, but revels in the opportunity it presents. So, what is coming this summer?

On June 3, the Library launches *A Universe of Stories*, an out of this world incentive-based reading program. Universe invites readers of all ages to connect with books and their library, while earning rewards.

That's the what, but why? Adults, families, teens and young kids seek activities and structure to replace the void created by the absence of school. Summer reading provides that. Summer reading offers the flexibility of trying new things and meeting new people without dipping into your wallet. Often, lasting connections are formed not just with individuals and families, but also with the library itself.

Libraries embrace the opportunity to be a "third place" in the community. Outside of work or school, or home, Hiawatha Public Library is a community meeting place where educational and recreational ideas flow freely. Summer reading enhances that.

Finally, summer reading is about outcomes, such as stemming learning loss and advancing school readiness but above all, it's about having fun. Try a new author, tackle that personal "movies to watch" list, take in a story time with your grandchild, learn from our NASA Solar System Ambassador or check out an audiobook for that long bike ride. Yes, summer is coming and Hiawatha Public Library is eager to make it warm and welcoming.

Check out our programs at www.hiawathapubliclibrary.org.



Blastball Registration Now Open

Blastball is a fast paced action game for kids that has all the excitement that t-ball lacks. This program teaches baseball/softball fundamentals: hitting, throwing and fielding. Kids will also learn teamwork and sportsmanship offering a lot of fun for players, as well as parents. Sessions will consist of practices and scrimmages, and will be held at Guthridge Park July 15 through Aug. 8, Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday, 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. or 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.. Registration by May 15 is \$25; after May 15 registration is \$30. Registration includes a shirt. The deadline is June 15.

Hiawatha Recipient of Tree City USA Growth Award

The City of Hiawatha was recently honored with the 2018 Tree City USA Growth Award at the 29th Annual Community Forestry Awards Luncheon in Des Moines. The award was presented by the Arbor Day Foundation and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources April 3 at the Sheraton in West Des Moines. The Tree City USA award is a symbol for communities who have made a commitment to the management of public trees," says state forester Jeff Goerndt. "Hiawatha has provided an outstanding example for other Iowa communities by enhancing our forest resources and demonstrating the great value of trees in providing multiple benefits for future generations."

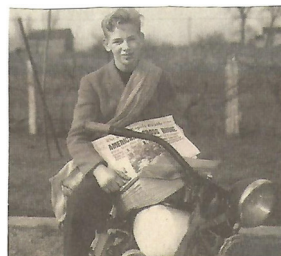
Hiawatha was one of 16 Iowa communities to qualify for Tree City USA Growth status. To receive the award, a city must, at a minimum, provide education and public relations; partnerships; planning and management; and tree planting and maintenance in their communities.

May is Bike Safety Month

May has been designated National Bike Month by the League of American Bicyclists and is celebrated in communities from coast to coast. To raise awareness, bike helmets will be given away, free of charge, at the Farmer's Market May 19 from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

There was a time in history when bike helmets weren't often used (pictured - History Committee member, Dick Larson, left, and participant from last year's Bike Rodeo, right), which often resulted in injury and even death. Today, however, we know that bike helmets are an important part of bike-riding. Needless to say, we've come a long way in bicycle safety.

Do you have any photos you would like to share with the Hiawatha History Committee? If so, call Pat at 319-721-9730 or email at se_me@live.com.



Richard Larson was a Gazette carrier in 1945 when this photo was taken. He recalls the Gazette Carrier News, which was produced for carriers. Larson, who now lives in Hiawatha, submitted the photo.

1945



2018

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

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ECRWSS

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05/18/2019**

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Water Dept. Clerk Deb Larson Retiring

After more than 18 years working in the City of Hiawatha as the Water Department Clerk, Deb Larson is retiring.

Throughout her years of service, Deb has been a friendly face for customers to see when they pay their water bill at City Hall. Deb has also assisted other city departments as needed, along with keeping track of the Water Department finances.

Help us celebrate Deb's retirement by stopping in to say farewell and good luck in her retirement.

Welcome Jeff White to Hiawatha Parks & Rec



Hello! My name is Jeff White, I am a proud veteran and very excited that Hiawatha has given me the opportunity to join the Parks and Recreation Department.

A few things about me, I'm married to a wonderful woman and we have a daughter named Lola who keeps me very busy with all of her after school activities.

We enjoy camping, fishing, going on walks, riding our bicycles and I also have other hobbies I enjoy doing which include hunting and bowling. I'm looking forward to having a chance to say Hi to those who use our parks and facilities.

City Directory

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Mayor:

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mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com

Council Members:

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City Clerk:
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Finance Director:
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