C6

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE MEMO

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319-393-1515 ext.523

To: Mayor and City Council

From: City Administrator, Kim Downs

Date: October 5, 2017

RE: Paris Climate Agreement

Council member Aime Wichtendahl during a council meeting asked council if they would consider having discussion regarding the Paris Climate Agreement at a future work session. This coming Monday night you will have an opportunity to discuss the potential of implementing a policy that considers protecting the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

For those of you that may not be familiar with the Paris Climate Agreement I have included information in your packet to review and to aid in your understanding in what a climate agreement would mean to Hiawatha if you were to enact a future resolution.

The **Paris climate agreement**, is a landmark model of international cooperation marking the deepest global commitment to combat the threat of climate change. Its an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) dealing with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, adaption and finance starting in the year 2020.

In the Paris Agreement, each country determined, plans and regularly reports its own contribution it should make in order to mitigate global climate changes. There is no mechanism to force a country to set a specific target by a specific date, but each target should go beyond previously set targets.

In June 2017, U.S. President Donald Trump announced his intention to withdraw the United States from the agreement, causing widespread condemnation in the European Union and many sectors in the United States. Under the agreement, the earliest effective date of withdrawal for the U.S. is November 2020.

Our Linn County Supervisors passed a resolution in July supporting the Paris Climate Agreement with the intentions to reduce the threat of climate change. The supervisor's resolution is quite in depth. As the city council you may not want to go that deep or if at all. If you as a majority would decide you would like to recognize the Paris Climate Agreement I would assume you would want to approve a resolution that reflects what we currently do as a city to aid in the reduction of emission and to reduce our energy footprint.

United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

NEWSROOM
Get News on the Latest Climate Action

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KEY STEPS

The Convention
Kyoto Protocol
Paris Agreement

NEGOTIATIONS

Meetings
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Overview
Adaptation
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The Paris Agreement

160

160 Parties have ratified of 197 Parties to the Convention

On 5 October 2016, the threshold for entry into force of the Paris Agreement was achieved. The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016. The first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1) took place in Marrakech, Morocco from 15-18 November 2016.
More information

New!
Progress tracker: Work programme resulting from the relevant requests contained in decision 1/CP.21 (422 kB) *(version of 20 June 2017)*

Paris Agreement: essential elements

The Paris Agreement builds upon the Convention and – for the first time – brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so. As such, it charts a new course in the global climate effort.

The Paris Agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, the agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change. To reach these ambitious goals, appropriate financial flows, a new technology framework and an enhanced capacity building framework will be put in place, thus supporting action by developing countries and the most vulnerable countries, in line with their own national objectives. The Agreement also provides for enhanced transparency of action and support through a more robust transparency framework. Further information on key aspects of the Agreement can be found here.

Nationally determined contributions

The Paris Agreement requires all Parties to put forward their best efforts through "nationally determined contributions" (NDCs) and to strengthen these efforts in the years ahead. This includes requirements that all Parties report regularly on their emissions and on their implementation efforts.

Further information on NDCs can be found here.

In 2018, Parties will take stock of the collective efforts in relation to progress towards the goal set in the Paris Agreement and to inform the preparation of NDCs.

There will also be a global stocktake every 5 years to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and to inform further individual actions by Parties.

Taking the Paris Agreement forward

Through decision 1/CP.21, Parties also decided on a work programme to be undertaken in preparation to the full implementation of the Paris Agreement.

A tool to track progress made in relation to the work programme is available here:

New!
Progress tracker: Work programme resulting from the relevant requests contained in decision 1/CP.21 (422 kB) *(version of 20 June 2017)*

The information contained in the progress tracker will be updated regularly.

Status of ratification

The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016, thirty days after the date on which at least 55 Parties to the Convention accounting in total for at least an estimated 55 % of the total global greenhouse gas emissions have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depositary.

Information on the status of ratification can be found here:

Authentic texts of the Paris Agreement

Arabic
Chinese
English
French
Russian
Spanish

MS Word versions of the text of the Paris Agreement can be found here

Decision Adopting the Paris Agreement

Decision 1/CP.21 in all languages can be found here

Linn County supervisors pledge support for Paris accord climate agreement

Walker: 'We can collectively make a difference'

Sen. Rob Hogg speaks about climate change during a Linn County Board of Supervisors meeting Monday, July 17, 2017. (Mitchell Schmidt/The Gazette)

Mitchell Schmidt

The Gazette

More stories from Mitchell

Jul 18, 2017 at 8:08 am | Print View

CEDAR RAPIDS — While President Donald Trump has said he plans to pull out of the Paris climate accord, Linn County Supervisors say they're still committed to combating climate change locally.

The Linn County Board of Supervisors on Monday unanimously approved a resolution to register Linn

County in the We Are Still In coalition, a group of more than 1,200 elected officials, businesses, universities and investors from across the U.S. that have vowed to maintain the country as a global leader in reducing carbon emissions.

"We are dismayed at the decision of President Trump to withdraw the United States from participating in the Paris climate agreement, though we are not defeated," Supervisor Stacey Walker, who proposed the resolution, said Monday. "Leadership on the tough issues can originate at the local level. One community can make a difference, this is our hope here today."

Following Monday's vote, the board held a news conference with a handful of local officials and environmental experts.

Senate Minority Leader Rob Hogg, a Democrat from Cedar Rapids, applauded the county board for joining a growing group of entities focused on a similar goal.

"This is an issue that we need to unite our community and our state and our country to address, and ultimately I believe the world. I hope that this movement today moves Linn County to the forefront of the organizations and places in the world that are taking action," Hogg said.

Iowa City, Johnson County, Des Moines and Fairfield also have registered to join the coalition. The presidents of Iowa State University and the University of Iowa, as well as Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller also are registered on the group's website.

Officials with Linn County planning and development and conservation, the city of Hiawatha, Mount Mercy University, PepsiCo's Quaker Oats in Cedar Rapids, climate change awareness group Iowa 350 and State Representative Art Staed, D-Cedar Rapids, also spoke at the meeting.

While one of countless resolutions passed by the county board this year, officials who spoke Monday said joining We Are Still In needs to be more than just praise for past efforts and a pledge to continued action. Addressing climate change needs to be ongoing.

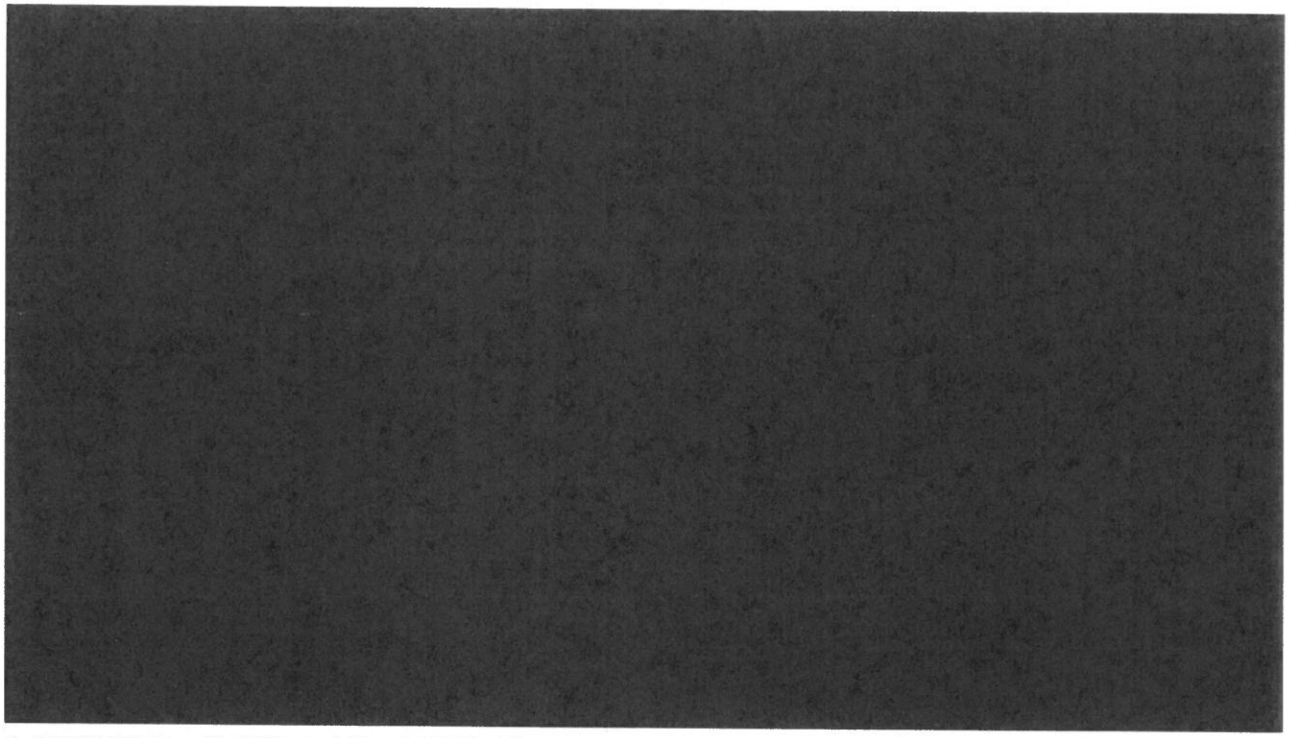
"I de believe if we can make a difference here in our community and effect change here, we can collectively make a difference," Walker said. "In absence of leadership in the federal government, the job is up to us locally."

President Trump announced June 1 that the U.S. would pull out of the Paris accord on global warming. The move will not fully take effect until 2021, but Trump said he plans to negotiate a new agreement "on terms that are fair to the United States."

While Trump has said the accord allows China, India and other countries to emit greenhouse cases while imposing unfair burdens on the U.S., supporters of the agreement — including many business leaders and environmental activists — say it is needed to combat global warming.

| Comments: (319) 339-3175; mitchell.schmidt@thegazette.com

Linn County Supervisors sign resolution in support of Paris Agreement



By KCRG-TV9 News Staff | Posted: Mon 1:43 PM, Jul 17, 2017 | Updated: Mon 6:07 PM, Jul 17, 2017

LINN COUNTY, Iowa (KCRG-TV9) - The Linn County Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved a resolution supporting the objectives of the Paris Agreement and approved Linn County's registration in the "We Are Still In" Coalition.

Linn County has demonstrated a commitment to sustainability and environmental protection through efforts like including high energy efficiency standards in construction projects and including the promotion of personal health and environmental protection in the Linn County Strategic Plan. More examples of sustainable efforts implemented by Linn County departments are available on Linn County's website.

After the July 17 morning Board of Supervisors meeting, Linn County hosted a press conference in which stakeholders spoke about the importance of working to reduce the effects of climate change and examples of steps that organizations have taken to reduce emissions and promote clean, sustainable energy.

Press conference speakers included:

Stacey Walker, Linn County Supervisor
Les Beck, Linn County Director of Planning & Development
Dennis Goemaat, Assistant Director of Linn County Conservation
Rob Hogg, Iowa State Senator
Art Staed, Iowa State Representative
Neil Bernstein, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Mt. Mercy University
Dr. Mark Weldon, Sustainability Principal Engineer, Quaker/PepsiCo

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2017 9:30 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Chairperson Oleson, Vice Chairperson Harris, Supervisors Rogers, Houser and Walker. Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Oleson called the meeting to order.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to approve minutes of July 11 & 12, 2017 as printed.

David Thielen, LCCS Exec. Dir., presented an update on the Linn County Community Service Advisory Board recommendation for Linn County Case Management. He stated that he reached out to AmeriHealth regarding a possible extension of the contract and received a communication that they are not in the position to negotiate the contract at this time and declined to meet with the Board. In addition, the email stated that they confirmed that it is their intention to have their members reassigned to their staff case managers or sub-contractors on or before Dec. 31.

Discussion continued regarding Linn County's accreditation (ends November 28) and in addition, the status of possible staff retirements.

Supervisor Rogers recognized the attendance of Sen. Hogg and Rep. Staed in the audience today and that it would be worthy of the Board to speak to them and reach out to members in the Republican party (House and Senate) for greater clarification on questions.

Garth Fagerbakke, Facilities Mgr., presented a contract with Manpower temp. agency for a position to work 75 days that the Board approved last week.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to approve contract with Manpower temporary employment agency for a temporary Custodial position to cover medical leaves in the facilities department.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Harris to approve Liquor License for Ced-Rel Supper Club, 11909 Hwy. 30 retroactive to July 12, 2017 noting all conditions have been met.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Harris to approve Liquor License for F. B. & Co., Waubeek, retroactive to July 14, 2017, noting all conditions have been met.

The Board discussed a Resolution in Support of the Objectives of the Paris Agreement and Approving Linn County's Registration in the "We Are Still In" Coalition.

Chairperson Oleson stated that he feels strongly about this issue. Conservation is something that he has been interested in his entire life and described his life growing up in the rural area and his 122 yr. old family farm. He also camped in parks and the concern at the time was acid rain. There have been a lot of successes with environmental pollution cleanup since then but they didn't have a lot of global competition then for the lifestyle they live in America. Coal plants are being produced daily all over the world to get electricity to people. He understands the motivation and it shouldn't just be in this country and deny to others based on environmental concerns. The world follows the U.S. and with that comes the reality of producing carbon gases and how that affects the next generation. The whole point of the Paris Agreement was the United States and countries that have all of these luxuries to be able to responsibly show a different path for other countries that want those same things. They cannot do that by sticking their heads in the sand and ignoring it. That is not how they solve things in this country. Supervisor Walker is a member of the generation of millennials that has brought forth a social conscience that brings forth this issue. This resolution is one of significance.

Supervisor Walker thanked everyone for coming to the meeting today and stated that it has been an honor to work with fellow Supervisors on this important resolution. It is a unique opportunity to bring together partners from non-profit's, other local governments and the private sector to achieve a common goal to make better the environment not necessarily for their sake of the here and now but for the sake of generations to come. "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors" as the old Native American proverb holds, "We borrow it from our children". Understanding the significance and necessity of international cooperation of the topic to address the challenge of a changing climate, they are dismayed at the decision of President Trump to withdraw the United States from participating in the Paris climate agreement, though they are not defeated. Leadership on the tough issues can originate at the local level. One community can make a difference and this is their hope today with this resolution.

Supervisor Rogers thanked Supervisor Walker for his leadership on this issue. He knows that almost the entire world with the exception of a few countries and now the United States have signed onto this Accord and now Linn County joins the world including North Korea in supporting the objectives of the Paris Accord. With regard to the Native American proverb, we have borrowed too much and he wants his children to have a world similar to what he had. Clean air, water, and access to oceans and travel and to see the world. He does fear what this world will look like in 20-30 years. They control a little square called Linn County and his dad used to say that his father

would ask him what did he do today to make this sliver of the universe they call home a better place and it starts with things like this.

Supervisor Harris stated that he wishes to acknowledge Linn County's leadership already for initiatives for soil and land conservation, storm water management and leadership in policies in solar energy (recent joint initiative with city of Cedar Rapids). The Public Health Dept. is the only Health Dept. in the state that measures air pollutants. The county's Community Service Building is LEED Silver; Public Service Center is LEED Gold and the new Public Health Building LEED Platinum. Linn County will continue the practice of respecting and conserving natural resources and he will in solidarity support this resolution. He did want to make note that this resolution surrounded by such fanfare when just a week ago they spent less than 3 minutes discussing in a board meeting how they were going to spend $24 million on a new Public Health building.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to adopt Resolution 2017-7-107
A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND APPROVING LINN COUNTY'S REGISTRATION IN THE "WE ARE STILL IN" COALITION.
WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement is a landmark model of international cooperation marking the deepest global commitment to combat the threat of climate change; and,
WHEREAS, the stated goals to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement, which aims at strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, are:

(a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2° above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5° above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;

(b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and

(c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development; and,

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the important role of all levels of government in combating the threat of climate change; and,
WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges that climate change is a common concern of all humankind and believes an effective and progressive global response is necessary to address the threat of climate change; and,
WHEREAS, the Board believes President Trump's decision, announced on June 1, 2017, to withdraw the United States of America from the Paris Agreement undermines global efforts to combat climate change; and,
WHEREAS, the Board believes the United States should be, and has historically been, a leader in environmental sustainability as demonstrated, in part, by the actions of President Theodore Roosevelt in establishing national parks, by the actions of President Nixon in establishing the Environmental Protection Agency and passing the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Air Act, by the actions of President Reagan and President George HW Bush in establishing and implementing the Montreal Protocol on Ozone-Depleting Substances and the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, and by the actions of President Obama in strengthening fuel economy standards and joining the Paris Agreement; and,
WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that humankind may be affected not only by climate change, but also by the impacts of measures taken in response to it; and,
WHEREAS, Linn County has demonstrated a commitment to sustainability and environmental protection through efforts such as including high energy efficiency standards in construction projects and including the promotion of personal health and environmental protection in the Linn County Strategic Plan; and,
WHEREAS, in the absence of a presidential commitment to the Paris Agreement, approximately 2,000 mayors, governors, college and university leaders and business leaders have declared ongoing support for efforts to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement, in part by registering with the "We Are Still In" Coalition; and,
WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the economic opportunities created by energy efficiency jobs, wind energy jobs, solar energy jobs and other clean energy jobs of today and the future and intends to support attracting these high quality jobs to Linn County; and
WHEREAS, the Board emphatically supports the objectives of the Paris Agreement.
NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED the Linn County Board of Supervisors commits to honoring the objectives of the Paris Agreement and to the principles of energy efficiency, energy conservation and sustainability.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board authorizes the Chair to register Linn County with the We Are Still In effort in support of combating the threat of climate change.

Discussion: Pramod Dwivedi, Public Health Dir., stated that he is proud of the Board and commended them for taking the lead where as a nation they have floundered. He stated that this is the single most issue endangering human kind. Two years ago the Linn County Board of Health organized a conversation on this issue and how it affects public health. It seems to him that Linn County is far ahead of the curve as a county. He stated that he can provide information to the Board but they are doing the heavy lifting and ultimately it is up to the Board to make this into policy. Evidence is clear and the writing is on the wall. Dwivedi provided a slide presentation of the impact of climate change on human health. He is proud of the Board for showing tremendous leadership and sending a profound message.

Aime Wichtendahl, Hiawatha Councilmember, wanted to publicly voice her support for the Board's initiative. She stated that they have seen climate change in Linn County as there have been terrible flood events. Climate change isn't just the temperature going up, it's a disruption of terrestrial weather events. In order to avoid future disasters, they need to take action now and not later.

Kevin Bates, member of Iowa 350.org, commended the Board for considering this resolution to support the Paris Agreement. Climate change is the biggest challenge and as a father, he is deeply concerned about how climate change affects his generation as well as his children's generation. They have a moral obligation to act on their children's behalf and he applauds the Board for working to fix this. He supports and challenges them to develop a detailed action plan as to how Linn County can reduce gas emissions. He asked that they use their positon to influence cities and businesses to also develop plans for transitioning to 100% renewable energy.

Libby Slappey and Cheryl Valenta, members of Iowa 350.org, stated that they believe mass mobilization makes change. Members of Iowa 350.org are in an advocacy mode but today they recognized a positive effort and presented the 2017 Sunny Award to the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Walker stated that they would do their best to maintain all of their efforts in the direction of climate sustainability.

Kay Fisk, Mt. Vernon, thanked the Board and reminisced about being raised on a farm. Ditches were full of milkweed and wild rose. Her father and other farmers could drink directly from the two creeks on the farm (spring fed) and bean fields were "walked" to remove weeds (did not spray chemicals). It will never be quite the same but they can try to keep it from getting worse. She is proud to talk about Linn County as she can say my county is taking care of things. She is glad this is happening with all five Supervisors as they are leaving a legacy.

VOTE: All Aye.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Harris to approve Employment Change Roster (Payroll Authorizations) as follows:

COUNTY ATTORNEY		
Prosecutor III	Jordan Schier	Step increase/contract 07/01/17 $3,715.92/biweekly - $4,108.13/biweekly
Civil Attorney	Lisa Epp	5.29% Across the Board/contract Eff Dte: 07/01/17 $3,901.71/biweekly – $4,108.13/biweekly
Civil Attorney	Robert Hruska	5.29% Across the Board/contract 07/01/17 $3,901.71/biweekly – $4,108.13/biweekly
RISK MANAGEMENT		
Safety Technician	Robert Lampe	Step increase/contract 07/28/17 57D $24.25 – 57E $25.58
SHERIFF'S OFFICE		
Deputy Sheriff	Nicholas Hamilton	Bid award to Civil 07/16/17 D-7 $32.85 – D-7 $32.85
COMMUNITY SERVICES		
Clerk Typist	Juliane Pauly	Payroll code change 06/24/17
Intake Tech	Maryann Pudar	Payroll code change 06/24/17
Social Worker	Corinna Araujo	Payroll code change 06/24/17
Social Worker	Nancy Cleary	Payroll code change 06/24/17
Substitute Child Care Wrkr	Kenya Jackson	Payroll code change 06/24/17
Intake & Communication	Kristen Peyton	New employee – PT 07/17/17 36A $21.91 30 hrs/week
Clerk Typist	Natasha Schrage	Step inc/contract 08/08/17
JUVENILE DETENTION		
Tracker	Mandela Amuda	Termination/resignation 07/26/17
VETERAN AFFAIRS		
Commissioner	Jeffrey Tronvold	New employee 07/01/17 $50.00/monthly meeting Replaces Karla Elm
Commissioner	Karla Elm	Termination/term expired 07/01/17

K Downs

From: Aime Wichtendahl
Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 9:42 PM
To: K Downs; Bill Bennett
Subject: Ideas for Paris Climate Resolution

Hi Bill and Kim,

Here are the various ideas for a resolution regarding support for the Paris Climate Change Resolution. I've written this in language as a resolution might appear. These are preliminary ideas - please feel free to discuss any concerns on the language or topics and rewrite as needed for efficiency and clarity.

WHEREAS, The United States has announced it's intentions to leave the Paris Climate Change Change Agreement.

WHEREAS, Climate Change is a real phenomenon that is exacerbated by human activities.

WHEREAS, Climate changes causes increases in extreme weather events including flooding and droughts.

RECOGNIZING, The flooding of the Cedar River in 1993, 2008, and 2016 resulted in devestating property losses, disruption of business activity and personal trauma.

RECOGNIZING, that the increasing cost of disaster recovery will be borne by the taxpayers

And RECOGNIZING, That the City of Hiawatha has a legacy of environmental protection

BE IT RESOLVED by The Hiawatha City Council to join the association of Mayors, Cities, and Counties known as 'We are Still in'. That we will work to develop smart, cost effective solutions to help mitigate the effects of climate change and promote a clean environment for our citizens and that we will work with our elected officials in Des Moines and Washington to recognize the importance of the United States to remain in the Paris Climate Agreement.

Aime