



October 2019

Volume 139

Contract for Design of the Tower Terrace Road Reconstruction Project Moves Forward

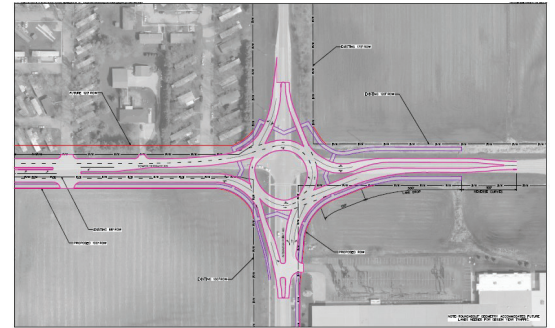
Council approved a design contract with Snyder and Associates of Cedar Rapids for the environmental study/NEPA study/preliminary and final design of the City’s approximately 2000 feet of Tower Terrace Road reconstruction. This project will be completed in conjunction with the new Tower Terrace/I-380 interchange.

The first phase of the design contract was to prepare a traffic study to develop projected opening day traffic volumes for both AM and PM peak hour turning movements with the new Tower Terrace Interchange in operation.

The second projected traffic forecast was to develop 2040, or design year traffic, projections for study, as well. Traffic simulation models were prepared for several scenarios to evaluate average delays, levels of service, and vehicle queuing. Models were prepared for four events:



- Opening year with traffic signal at North Center Point Road
- Opening year with roundabout at North Center Point Road
- Design year with traffic signal at North Center Point Road
- Design year with roundabout at North Center Point Road



Based on these results, the consultant was to prepare a recommendation as to which type of intersection would provide acceptable opening year and design year traffic operations. Although the roundabout alternative is more costly in initial construction, the life-cycle costs for transportation users of the 20-year analysis period, combined with the safety benefits (which provide reduction in vehicle crashes and personal injury), the roundabout option is the recommended alternative saving over 15 million dollars including more than two million in safety benefits.

The consultant made a presentation at a Council work session September 23 and a public open house the evening of Tuesday, September 24. Approximately 25 citizens attended the open house. There were no serious objections raised at either meeting when the findings of the report were presented by the consultant.

The Council will consider approving the plans that include a roundabout intersection at North Center Point Road on October 16. For questions please contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.

Hiawatha Fire Department Wants to Remind Residents to ‘Close Before you Doze’



The Hiawatha Fire Department is reaching out to area residents to promote the “Close Before You Doze” fire safety campaign, an ongoing public outreach initiative aimed at spreading this potentially life-saving message and helping keep family members safe in the event of a fire. In partnership with UL Firefighter Safety Research Institute (FSRI), the fire safety campaign, which is based on research that shows fires are spreading faster than ever before, is designed to raise awareness and ensure that residents are as prepared as possible. Forty years ago, people had an average of 17 minutes to escape a burning home after the activation of a

smoke alarm. Today, they have an average of three (3) minutes or less due to synthetic furnishings, open floor plans and lightweight construction materials that can combine to accelerate the spread of a fire.

“Here at the fire department, we understand that closed doors significantly slow the spread of a fire,” said Deputy Fire Chief Matt Powers, of Hiawatha Fire Department. “As fire prevention professionals, it’s our job to deliver the Close Before You Doze message and make sure our residents adopt this potentially life-saving behavior.”

Fire Chief Mike Nesslage added, “Sleeping with your door closed, along with working smoke detectors and having an exit plan will improve your chances of surviving a catastrophic fire.”

The Close Before You Doze campaign features a website that includes safety tips and resources, fire facts and other campaign related news and information. “Our research clearly shows that closed doors dramatically decrease heat and CO levels, which provide trapped occupants more time for help to arrive,” said Steve Kerber, UL Director of Firefighter Safety Research. “Closing your doors is especially important at night when people are vulnerable and disoriented, with little time to react. It’s such a simple thing to do, and the result can be life versus death.” For more information, visit closeyourdoor.org.



BE’s Coins & More, Kwik Star Celebrate Milestones



BE’s Coins & More, 1210 N. Center Point Road, celebrates 50 years in business.



Kwik Star presented a generous donation to the Hiawatha Police Department at their ribbon-cutting.



Kwik Star, 1880 Blairs Ferry Road, recently opened to the public September 25.



Kwik Star presented a generous donation to the Hiawatha Public Library at their ribbon-cutting.

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.

The Sidewalks of Hiawatha

The following is the second in a series of articles regarding sidewalks in Hiawatha. Because Hiawatha views sidewalks as an important asset to our community, the Council has taken action directing staff to enhance our sidewalk maintenance program.

This series of articles is intended to raise the awareness of our sidewalks and the value they hold in our community in order to encourage and promote sidewalk maintenance and sidewalk usage. In the early years of Hiawatha, sidewalks were not required as the original streets were developed. The streets and avenues from C Avenue to 9th Avenue from Blairs Ferry Road to Emmons Street contain very few sidewalks except for areas of reconstruction. Cities were beginning to deal with the issue of sidewalks. In "Information Report #95" published by the American Society of Planning Officials in February of 1957, sidewalk designs and regulations were based on associating safety, housing density and street use intensity. The conclusion of the report is somewhat prophetic.³



In mass produced subdivisions — the dominant form of city-building — sidewalks are an adjunct of a mode of life. The trends that make sidewalks desirable or necessary now show no signs of declining in the future. Consequently, city and urban county governments can expect to cope with the problem of seeing that sidewalks are installed. Report #95 studied standards across the US and found them to be quite similar. Research showed the busier the street or the denser the residence, the wider the sidewalk. Most cities required a minimum sidewalk 4 feet in width in suburban type settings. This standard is reflected in later subdivisions of Hiawatha mandating sidewalk installations 4' in width and 4" in thickness.

In 1998, the City of Hiawatha passed a "Sidewalk Assessment Policy" to address residential areas of the city without sidewalks.⁴ The records indicate this program facilitated sidewalk installations along Center Point Road, Blairs Ferry Road, Boyson Road and various other smaller street sections. The City has not assessed for sidewalk installations recently, though there are still streets remaining without sidewalks. Since the advent of Metro Standards in the 1990's, Hiawatha and the neighboring jurisdictions have required sidewalks along all new streets.

The Council retained the option to "Defer" sidewalks where it was reasonable to expect little or no use. The deferred-sidewalk streets are located in industrial and commercial areas or where the street design includes ditches as with Tower Terrace, Edgewood Road, and portions of Robins Road. Sidewalks continue to be required in all new developments along all new streets and are being filled in conjunction with our street reconstructions and by the Council's alternative to mandate sidewalks to address ADA issues, provide public safety for children on school routes, connect residential areas to the trail system, provide access for all citizens to public transportation stops, and provide continuity in our sidewalk and trail system.

Regarding maintenance of public sidewalks, State Code 364.12 allows a city to require adjacent landowners to maintain the public sidewalk. The maintenance includes keeping the sidewalk clear of obstructions such as snow and ice along with making repairs when the sidewalk is defective.

The Hiawatha nuisance ordinance; Chapter 50, further defines a "defective" sidewalk and considers it a nuisance. The nuisance chapter details the process for abating the hazard as for other nuisances. This is the only process currently used to address maintenance issues for Hiawatha sidewalks.

³<https://www.planning.org/pas/reports/report95.htm>

⁴Resolution Approving and Adopting Hiawatha Sidewalk Assessment Policy # 98-132

October Calendar

- 02 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 08 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 08 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 09 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 14 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 14 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 15 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 16 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 23 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 25 Teal Trunk or Treat, 4:30 PM
- 27 Fall Festival 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- 28 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM

November Calendar

- 02 Fire Dept. Chili Supper
11:00 AM - 7:00 PM
- 06 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 13 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 11 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 11 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 12 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 12 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 19 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 20 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 25 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 27 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 28 City Offices Closed
- 29 City Offices Closed

Flashing Beacon Installed on Boyson

The Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon(RRFB) system has been installed on Boyson Road at the median crosswalk in the 1700 block. This system will be very similar to the system that has been installed on Boyson Road where the Cedar Valley Trail crosses. Pedestrians wanting to walk to Clark Park can cross at the median and then take the sidewalk to the park. The RRFB has a push-button to activate the flashing beacons. When the button is pushed, pedestrians can look both ways, then proceed across Boyson Road. For questions contact Hiawatha Public Works at 393-6601.



Council Member Recognized by Iowa League of Cities



Hiawatha Council Member Steven Dodson has been awarded the Certified Elected Municipal Official (CEMO) designation in 2019. The designation was established by the Iowa League of Cities as a way to recognize elected officials who commit to continuing their professional development while in office.

“Those achieving the CEMO designation spend many hours, often on weekends and evenings, attending workshops and conferences on a wide variety of municipal government topics,” said Alan Kemp, Executive director of the Iowa League of Cities. “This is a significant commitment to local government, and I commend these individuals for their dedication to become more effective municipal officials.”

The recognition program allows attendees to build towards the CEMO designation while receiving meaningful, informative and useful information on topics that expand the elected official’s knowledge and capabilities. Participation in the program is 100 percent voluntary. The CEMO designations were awarded at the Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference & Exhibit in Dubuque on September 27.

‘Smoke Detector Battery Up’ Event to be Held Oct. 26

The Hiawatha Fire Department, in conjunction with the Grant Wood Chapter of the American Red Cross, will be holding its annual “Smoke Detector Battery Up” event on the morning of Saturday, October 26. Firefighters and Red Cross volunteers will reach out across Hiawatha to change smoke detector batteries. The program, which started several years ago, is designed to help the elderly, and others who need assistance, change their smoke detector batteries. Smoke detector batteries should be replaced yearly, unless they are specially designated 10-year batteries. Smoke Detectors should be replaced every 10 years. Having a working smoke detector, an exit plan that includes two ways out of every room, and sleeping with your doors closed, should be used together to help you stay safe in the event of a fire. To set up an appointment for volunteers to visit your home, call the Hiawatha Fire Department at (319) 393-4180 between 8 AM and 5 PM Monday through Friday, or visit getasmokealarm.org.



OCTOBER 27, 2019

FALL FESTIVAL

10AM- 1PM
GUTHRIDGE PARK

PERFORMANCE BY PRESTIGE DANCE STUDIO
COSTUME CONTEST BY HI-CREW KIWANIS
TRICKS AND TREATS
TRACKLESS TRAIN

Join us for a
TaleGate Party!
Saturday, November 9, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

- ➔ Come to the Hiawatha Public Library parking lot for a library-style "TaleGate"!
- ➔ Enjoy stories, snacks, Giant Jenga, and Elephant & Piggie Bags!
- ➔ Dress up in your favorite book character "jersey"! (A t-shirt or even costume!)
- ➔ We will provide water and tailgate-style snacks, but please feel free to BYOBeverages, as well as comfortable outdoor seating and/or blankets and warm clothes (if it's chilly)!

Tales begin at each "TaleGate" station at 10:30, 10:50 and 11:10.

Halloween Reminder

The City of Hiawatha does not designate a specific date or time for trick or treating.

Please be aware and watch for children who are not always aware of their surroundings due to the excitement of this holiday.

Parents-Please be certain that your children are wearing reflective clothing and carrying flashlights for their safety.

Governor's STEM Council Awards Hiawatha Public Library

Caregivers, do you remember the first time your child saw their shadow? It was a magnificent moment of awe and wonder. Hiawatha Public Library now has the tools to fully explore that moment over and over again. For the second year in a row, Hiawatha Public Library is a STEM Scale-Up Program recipient. The Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council selects award-winners from hundreds of applicants and the Library is excited to introduce Light & Shadow, a collection of small and large screens, light sources, light boards and materials to interact with light and shadow valued at \$3,140. Preschoolers and kids K-2 are not too young to increase their conception of shadows. Youth Services Librarian Alicia Mangin said the materials and continuing education that make up the Light & Shadow Award will heighten awareness of shadows and their relationship with objects.



"It will emphasize the role that light plays, teach successful manipulation of shadows through spatial relations, and easily convey that shadows do not exist in the absence of light. We have all the tools to present these concepts in a fun way." Mangin introduced Light & Shadow to the community last month, but invites everyone to return on Friday, November 1, at 10:30 AM for More Fun with Light & Shadow. The program will feature related stories and many opportunities to play with the new toys that comprise this amazing award.

Snowbirds and Vacationers

Snowbirds and vacationers should contact the Police Department to complete a house check form providing contact information while you are away. The house check form is available on the city website at www.hiawatha-iowa.com, or at the police department during normal business hours. With this free service, you can feel secure knowing your residence is being checked while you are away.

Water Department Note

Don't forget to contact the Water Department at (319) 393-5556 to hold your bills, forward your bills, or turn off the water while you are away.

- When you plan to be out of town for an extended period of time, it's a good idea to have someone check on your house to be sure you don't have any water running.
- To avoid a running toilet, it's a good idea to turn the water control valve to your toilet off.
- Check your water heater for a "vacation mode" setting or turn to a lower setting.
- Please take caution as the Water Department is not responsible for any home devices that may require water at all times.

Park Restrooms Close for Season

Park restrooms will begin to close October 14 starting at Tucker Park (Yellow & Blue Pavilion) and Guthridge Park (Green Pavilion). The remaining restrooms will be closed by November 1. There will be port-o-potties located at Clark and Guthridge Park November 1 through April 1.

Fire Dept. Chili Supper

Members of the Hiawatha Fire Department are often out saving lives. We ask you to "Save the Date" for our annual Chili Supper. This



year's supper will be held Saturday, November 2 from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Hiawatha Fire Station, located at 10th Avenue and Emmons Street. See you then!

Hiawatha History Commission

Firefighters help where they are needed

The Hiawatha Fire Department is comprised mostly of volunteers, who are passionate about helping others, even the four-legged variety. This Gazette photo from July 4, 1984, shows Bob Brewer assisting firefighter, Wayne Lewis, as they work to provide oxygen to one of two cats who were caught inside a house when it caught fire.

October is Fire Prevention Month. The Hiawatha History Commission encourages every Hiawatha resident and business to check their detectors to ensure they are in working order.



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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 10/12/2019**

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Chris Stoner Joins Library Staff

Chris Stoner grew up in Mount Vernon, Iowa, graduated from Coe College, and now lives in Marion with his wife, two toddlers, and two cats. While serving as a stay-at-home dad, Chris used his son's nap times to earn his Master of Library and Information Science degree online through the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Chris enjoys running, reading, and video games. Whenever possible he likes to travel to new places with his family and then eat all of the food in those new places.



Yard Cleanup Dates

October 28 – Leaves, Yard Waste and Brush Pick Up
November 11 – Leaves Only Pick Up
November 25 – Leaves Only Pick Up

Leaves and yard waste must be in paper bags and placed curbside by 7:00 A.M. No branches larger than 12" in diameter and no pick up of tree demolition. Contact tree removal service for disposal.



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 x522	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** or visit www.hiawatha-iowa.com.

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



MAYOR
Bill Bennett
 mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com



COUNCIL MEMBER
Denny Norton
 dnorton@hiawatha-iowa.com



COUNCIL MEMBER
Dick Olson
 dolson@hiawatha-iowa.com



COUNCIL MEMBER
Aime Wichtendahl
 aimew@hiawatha-iowa.com



COUNCIL MEMBER
Rob Archibald
 rarchibald@hiawatha-iowa.com



COUNCIL MEMBER
Steve Dodson
 sdodson@hiawatha-iowa.com

Meet the Four Candidates Running for City Office

Vote November 5, 2019

Mayor Incumbent: Bill Bennett

Family: Spouse Tracy and two children

Bill has lived in Hiawatha for 45 years. He also owns and operates a second generation small business that has been operating in Hiawatha for 45 years.

Campaign Pledge: “To lead city government to be more financially efficient. To encourage the continued growth of Hiawatha, while protecting personal property rights. To encourage citizen involvement in city government.”

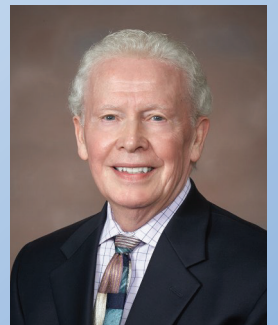


Council Incumbent: Dick Olson

President and Owner: Personal Safety Corporation headquartered in Hiawatha

Family: Wife Rita, two sons, and four grandchildren

During his 16 year City Council tenure Dick has assisted in bringing the Police Department’s personnel and equipment up to full strength by initiating the department’s first Five Year Plan, provided critical northern Hiawatha expansion opportunities by successfully negotiating an annexation boundary agreement with Robins’ mayor, reduced potentially life saving EMS response times up to 40% by leading the introduction of Hiawatha’s first ambulance service, was a co-founder of the Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO), gained Council support for a 575 Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Program offering a 5 year 75% tax rebate for new developments to minimize the number of rebate years and provide the City with a 25% tax revenue return over the course of each 5 year TIF agreement, advocated for and gained Council support for two consecutive years of \$.21 property tax levy decreases, was a strong advocate and on fundraising leadership committee for doubling the library size and recommended an employee insurance plan change from a Carrier Insured Plan to a Partially Self-Insured Plan saving the City \$100,000 annually in insurance premiums at no cost and no change in benefits for all City employees.



Dick is running for his 5th four year City Council term because he firmly believes the best is yet to come for Hiawatha’s current and future stakeholders. He has been a strong advocate for the development of a vibrant Village Center for nearly 20 years to provide much needed new housing, dining and entertainment options while increasing Hiawatha’s residential and commercial property tax revenue. He believes this initiative can be completed in the next four years. Dick will be advocating for the relocation of the Hiawatha Fire Station to a new, more optimal location on the east side of 380. The current HFD location has a 66% four-minute response time effectiveness reach within Hiawatha. The relocation will result in an 88% four-minute response time effectiveness reach or an increase of 33%. The HFD relocation is a critical public safety initiative. He is currently advancing the creation of a Property Tax Relief Fund with the goal of decreasing the property tax levy a minimum of \$.25 annually over the next four years. Dick is also currently spearheading the creation of a new Hiawatha Investment Program to optimize the interest revenue on City funds. The interest revenue will be considered as a component of the Property Tax Relief Fund. He looks forward to the next four years partnering with the Mayor, Council Members and City staff to make Hiawatha the Creative Corridor’s premier place to live, work, locate a business and experience.

Civic Experience: Hiawatha City Council Member - 16 years; Planning & Zoning Member - 1 year; Board of Adjustments Chair - 1 year.

More Candidates on the Other Side

Meet the Four Candidates Running for City Office

Vote November 5, 2019

Council Incumbent: Aime J. Wichtendahl

Employer: US Cellular

Family: Steven (Son)

Aime has been a resident of Hiawatha since 2007. She graduated Mount Mercy in 2005 with a BA in journalism and political science and has worked in the fields of finance and retirement, web design, and communications.

Civic Experience:

- Hiawatha City Council: 2016 - Present
- Mayor Pro Tem: 2018 - Present
- Robins Road Steering Committee
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Hiawatha 2036 Comprehensive Plan
- Linn County Minimum Wage Working Group

Campaign Pledge: “My pledge is to build on our success these last four years. We've been able to lower the property tax rate from \$15.41 to \$14.99 - and I'd would work to continue to lower that rate and maintain culture of fiscal responsibility. Additionally, I will work to see the completion of the Village Center and develop and expand our selection of housing units.”



Council Candidate: Gerald (Jerry) D. Mohwinkle

Employer: Rapids Reproductions, Former President, Present Partner

Family: Mary White (partner), sons, Scott, Brad, Nick & Ben, 10 grandchildren

Jerry and his late wife Pamela, moved to Hiawatha in 1975 purchasing a house on the west edge of town with a cornfield in our backyard. Twenty years later we built a house further west in Hiawatha, which at the time was last house on Wolf Creek Trail. We have truly experienced the expansion of Hiawatha.

Civic Experience:

- Foundation II: Volunteer
- Hiawatha Kids League: Coach, Board Member and Commissioner
- Kennedy High School Booster Club: Vice President
- Cedar Rapids Sunrise Rotary: Board Member
- Co-Chairman of the annual Make-A-Wish Iowa “Wish Upon a Par” fundraiser
- Miracles in Motion: Board Member and active volunteer (Therapeutic Equestrian Horse Center for children with physical and cognitive issues, as well as provide services to Veterans)
- Hiawatha Public Library: Board Member and member of the Hiawatha Library Expansion Steering Committee

Campaign Pledge: “I am a registered Independent voter and have never voted a straight ticket the ballot box. I seek decision making for the greater good. I wish to continue the advancement of the City of Hiawatha for all residents.”



City Election November 5, 2019

Polls Open: November 5, 2019
7:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Hiawatha Polling Locations

Hiawatha 01 Hope Church. 150 9th Ave.
Hiawatha 02 City Hall, 101 Emmons St.

More Candidates on the Other Side