



September 2019

Volume 138

Installation of Rooftop Solar Panels for Public Works, Library to Begin this Fall

In 2017 and every year since, the City of Hiawatha has made sustainability one of its top priorities. The council-created definition of sustainability is, “a community’s ability to meet the environmental, economic, and social equity needs of today without reducing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.”

Sustainability for Hiawatha is a holistic approach to making the community more sustainable. “Hiawatha is a community that values moderate energy conservation and expanded use of renewable energy as a means to save money and protect the environment.”

In order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, reduce utility bills, and reduce the community’s greenhouse gases incrementally, the City has made it a priority to first focus on energy efficiency measures of its own facilities, and then explore opportunities for renewable energy generation. The City considers the following goals when selecting strategies to meet the Sustainable Hiawatha vision:

1. Optimization of City owned facilities and property
2. Reduction of costs for operation of City facilities
3. Increased revenue to the City
4. Improved environmental performance of City facilities

Most recently, the City of Hiawatha solicited proposals from qualified vendors to design and install solar photovoltaic system(s) on the rooftop of each of the above facilities at the location at both the Public Works Building-1410 Robins Road and the Public Library-150 West Willman Street. The City recognizes that solar may not be a feasible opportunity for each facility, however when there is a reasonable business case to be made, based on existing utility usage data and projected ROI then it becomes a viable project.

The city received three bids with Moxie Solar as the most reasonable, responsible and lowest bidder with a purchase price of \$268,616.50. Outright purchase of solar panels verses entering into an investor purchase power agreement provides a faster payback of nine years. The public works facility system’s will be installed this fall. Library to follow upon completion of their expansion and renovation project.



CNR-Boyson Road Closure Begins Sept. 16

The Canadian National Railroad plans to replace the Boyson Road crossing starting Monday September 16. The roadway will close Boyson Road, from Robins Road to Hawkeye Drive, for three days to remove the old crossing and install the new rubberized material. Advanced notice boards will be placed starting the week of September 9, with a detour route established during the road closing. Expect delays during this construction work. A press release will be posted on the Hiawatha website at www.hiawatha-iowa.com.

Contractor Proceeding with 12th Avenue Rehabilitation Project

The City of Hiawatha took bids for the rehabilitation of 12th Avenue on July 11. The firm of LL Pelling, located in North Liberty, was the lowest bidder and was awarded the project. The plans call for a “crack and seat” method of restoration with a new asphalt overlay from Blair’s Ferry Road north to Lyndhurst Drive and the reconstruction of the existing sidewalk ramps at 6 intersections. The contractor plans to start construction September 3. The road will be closed for approximately 10 days as the concrete preparation is completed. A detour established on 10th Avenue and Lyndhurst Drive. As the project progresses, access will be maintained for local traffic only until the final asphalt lift is placed. A schedule will be posted under the Engineering tab at www.hiawatha-iowa.com.

Hiawatha Approves Bid Schedule for Widening of the 18th Avenue/Blair’s Ferry Road Intersection

The City Council approved a bid date for the widening of the 18th Avenue/Blair’s Ferry Road Intersection. The work includes the adding a left turn lane for southbound traffic on 18th Avenue. The long term plan for this intersection will be a joint project with Cedar Rapids to add a new traffic signal and left turn lanes on Blair’s Ferry Road. This widening of 18th Avenue along with the restoration of existing sidewalks/sidewalk ramps along Blair’s Ferry Road will be designed to coordinate with the new proposed traffic signal anticipated to be completed in the next two years. The project has a September 24 bid date the with work to be completed by November 29.

Plans Move Forward for Railroad Quiet Zone Construction

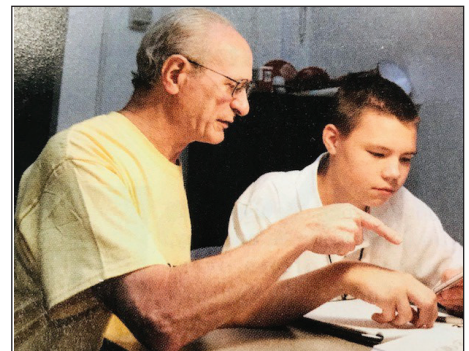
Anderson Bogert Engineers, from Cedar Rapids, has completed the Notice of Intent for a Quiet Zone on the current railroad crossings at Blair’s Ferry Road, Emmons Street, and North Center Point Road. The City must work with the Canadian National Railroad and the Federal Railroad Authority to add the necessary safety improvements at each crossing to meet current standards for a quiet zone. This will allow the railroad to eliminate the warning horns as a train approaches the crossing. With the application submitted, we hope to receive approval by this fall to start the final design plans. The goal is to have the construction completed by late 2020. Any questions please contact the City Engineer at jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com.

BE’s Coins & More - 50 Year Celebration

Have you ever wondered what an old coin might be worth and where to find an expert dealer who will pay a fair price for it? Collectors and heirs who have inherited vintage money, as well as the general public, can find Brian Fanton, with BE’s Coins & More, just around the corner.

Fanton, a collector and professional numismatist, recently celebrated his 50th Year in Business. Fanton is a recognized member of the American Numismatic Association, as well as an honoree of the Outstanding District Delegate, Adult Advisor of the Year, a recipient of the Presidential Award, the Outstanding Club Representative Award, and the Anna G Wilde Jr. Award for Excellence.

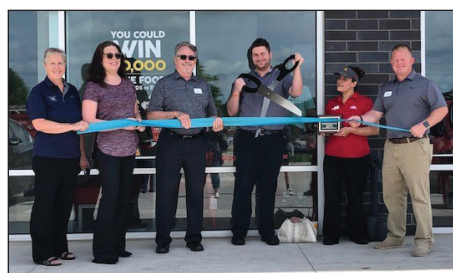
Located at 1210 North Center Point Road, you will find one of the most enthusiastic and organized collectors in the world. With more than 50 years of experience in identifying the value of old and rare coins, Fanton shares his numismatic expertise by leading summer seminar classes and teaching courses at ANA conventions all around the world. As a cheerleader for young numismatist, Fanton encourages their involvement and provides a hands-on approach to the history of coins and the treasure that may await.



Hiawatha Businesses Celebrated During Ribbon-Cutting Ceremonies



Eagle Technology Management
805 Tower Terrace Road



Taco John’s
1940 Blair’s Ferry Road



Sylvan Learning Center
1854 Boyson Road
Celebrates 40 Years

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.

Hiawatha Police Officers Raise Funds for Department, Community

The Hiawatha Police Department took part in a fundraiser for the Special Olympics of Iowa at the Hiawatha Culver's July 16. In spite of the rainy weather, your generous donations, combined with donations from Culver's, totaled \$985 with 100% of the money going to support the Special Olympics of Iowa. A big "thank you" to all who supported this honorable fundraiser.



The Hiawatha Police K9 Unit hosted the 7th Annual K9 Golf Outing at Hunter's Ridge Golf Course August 4. Proceeds from golf tournament provides the ongoing financial support and future growth of the Hiawatha Police K9 Unit.

Special thanks to our tournament sponsors: That One Cupcake Place, Dave Wright Nissan/Subaru, Cedar Rapids Toyota, Darrah's Towing, Oscar's Family Restaurant, Otter Creek Country Store, Pinnacle Realty and Cancun Mexican Grill. In conjunction with the fundraiser, that One Cupcake Place held a special fundraiser July 29, during which they sold several specially-flavored cupcakes and donated the proceeds to the K9 Unit. An estimated 350 cupcakes were sold. Flavors included "RESO Chow," "COP-puccino," "Off-Duty," and "The Po Po."

For more information about the Hiawatha PD K9 Golf Outing or the K9 Unit, please contact us at K9@hiawathapolice.com or follow us on Facebook at "Hiawatha Police K9 Unit."

Hiawatha Fire Department Chili Supper
Save the Date - November 2

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 the 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.

Hiawatha Fire Dept. Raises Funds for MD

Members of the Hiawatha Fire Department along with the Muscular Dystrophy Association, will kick off the firefighters' annual Fill the Boot fund raising campaign to benefit children and adults affected by muscle disease. Members of the Hiawatha Fire Department will fan out around Hiawatha with boots in hand for this year's drive.

Watch for the Firefighters at intersections the weekends of September 6-8 and 27-29. Funds raised through the 2019 Hiawatha Fill the Boot event will help support MDA's programs of worldwide research, specialized health care services and day-to-day support - which includes sending children, affected by muscular dystrophy and related diseases, to a weeklong, barrier-free MDA summer camp at Camp Courageous in Monticello. Last year, Hiawatha Firefighters raised \$16,113 for MDA. Since 2011, Hiawatha Firefighters have raised more than \$100,182 for MDA.



September Calendar

- 04 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 09 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 09 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM
- 10 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 10 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 11 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 17 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 18 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 23 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 25 Council meeting airs
6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON)
7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

October Calendar

- 02 City Council Meeting 5:30 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 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 15 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 16 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 21 Water Board 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
- 28 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM

The last Hiawatha Farmers Market will be held Sunday, Oct. 27, 10 AM-1 PM, in Guthridge Park, as part of the Fall Festival.



**JUST A REMINDER TO PLEASE
COMPLETE OUR SURVEY**
HELP US TO SERVE YOU BETTER

A survey was sent to over 900 randomly selected residents at the end of August regarding city office hours. Please return the prepaid postcard by October 1. Thank you for taking the time to complete this important survey, so we can better serve you!

Sidewalks: A Valued Community Asset

Because Hiawatha views sidewalks as an important asset to our community, the Council has taken action to direct 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 promote a walkable and livable community.

Since February 2019 city staff has received over 450 complaints from the general public through the City website and over the phone. Of these complaints, approximately 25% indicated an issue with a sidewalk. The complaints included snow, ice, water on the sidewalk and various trip hazards. This complaint activity is an indicator of the important role sidewalks maintain and the level of use.

The Comprehensive Plan 2036 vision statement and the goals and strategies for Transportation and for Quality of Life clearly indicate a strong value is attached to the pedestrian and biking facilities. The first goal in our Comprehensive Plan; T-1 is to ensure that all areas of the community are accessible by a network of sidewalk and trails. The specific strategies to accomplish this goal include addressing sidewalks in our street repairs program, phasing sidewalks in areas which currently have no sidewalks, installing sidewalks in all new subdivisions, creating a network to connect citizens with proposed Village centers and actively enforcing our ordinances requiring the maintenance of existing sidewalks. The Comprehensive Plan also recognized the recreational and quality of life aspects of a sidewalk/trail network. One of the Quality of Life goals in the plan includes a goal to “Protect and enhance park, trail and recreation opportunities for Hiawatha’s residents and visitors.” To achieve this goal the strategic plan includes developing safe crossings at Center Point Road and the further development of Hiawatha’s portion of the regional trail system.

On a broader level, many communities are focusing attention on their sidewalk systems in order to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to provide a green sustainable means of transportation and to enhance a stronger sense of community. The advantages of a maintained sidewalk system and walkable communities are further described in a 2013 study from the City of New York; “Active Design: Shaping the Sidewalk Experience.”

“... Investing in sidewalks, when combined with other initiatives, has been associated with boosts in the local economy, financial savings from transportation-related costs, and increases in the overall quality and value of homes and businesses. Given the connections between increased physical activity and the prevention and control of epidemic chronic diseases (as well as decreased depression, prevention of falls, and better cognitive function in older adults), there are also huge future savings expected in healthcare costs.”

Given the bulk of materials surrounding sidewalks and walkable communities, it is very evident sidewalks remain a highly desirable asset within Hiawatha and across the country.



¹<https://www.hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/community-development/planning-zoning/>

²https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/planning/download/pdf/plans-studies/active-design-sidewalk/active_design.pdf

Hiawatha Designated as a Home Base Iowa Community

Hiawatha is designated as a Home Base Iowa community (HBI). HBI is a program that connects veterans with available resources in the community that are specifically for veterans, such as discounts on permits and free printing at the library. HBI links Iowa businesses with veterans to help find a job, as well as connections at Iowa colleges that are Certified Higher Academic Military Partners (CHAMPs). For more information, go to www.homebaseiowa.gov.



2019 Fiscal Year End Recap

June 30, 2019 marked the end of the Fiscal Year of 2019 for the City of Hiawatha. Overall, we expended 72.63% of our approved budget amount, which came to be \$6,124,402 less than estimated. The revenues received were at 88% of what was estimated, which is \$2,745,779 less budgeted amount. All department managers did another great job holding their expenses to the budgeted amount or below this past year. The general fund which consists of Police, Fire, Ambulance, Community Development, Library, Park and Recreation, Policy and Administration, City Hall, Engineering, and Building/Grounds/Maintenance departments expended \$486,451 less than what was anticipated for the year, which amounted to 90.11% of the approved budget. The local option sales and service tax (LOSST) received in Fiscal Year 2019 totaled of \$907,746. With the additional revenue, we made improvements throughout the city including sewer improvements, pavement improvements on Robins Road, Emmons Street, and Guthridge Park improvements for a total of \$1,135,490 invested in our city with LOSST funds.



Hiawatha Parks and Recreation - Splashpads

Guthridge and Tucker Park Splash Pads are now closed. They will be turned back on Memorial Day Weekend 2020! Thank you for a great season!

SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY EVENTS HAPPENING IN HIAWATHA

Saturday, September 14

Hello Fall Craft and Vendor Market 9am-4pm
Featuring over 30 handmade and direct sale vendors!
1200 North Center Point Road

Saturday, September 21th
Unite@Night

Unlocking answers for a cure!
Guthridge Park - Brown Pavilion
<http://give.classy.org/cedar Rapids19>

Saturday, September 21th
UNITE for Bleeding Disorder Walk/5K
Clark Park- Teal Pavilion
t.savage@hemophiliaoflowa.org

Saturday, September 28th
El Kahir Shrine Walk/5k
Tower Terrace Rd, Hiawatha
<http://elkahir.org/>

Hiawatha Public Library More Than Books

“Check out” these resources:

- Wi-Fi hotspots for those without Internet service.
- Book Bags-Canvas book bags that you may check out, just like books.
- Bike locks to keep your bike safe while you use the library.
- Phone charging cables for use in the library.
- Children’s non-fiction books to keep by scanning a QR code.



The Hiawatha Public Library website is also a great resource for online readers and music lovers, too! Use Overdrive and Cloud Library to find ebooks to check out, and Freegal for your favorite music. Access Brainfuse to help with career assistance, live job coaching, Veteran support, college support, and self- assessment tools.

These resources and more can be found at www.hiawathapubliclibrary.org/services--resources.html.

Hiawatha History Commission

Hiawatha Farmers Market

The Hiawatha Farmers Market was created in 2007 by Fred Johnson. The Hiawatha business owner also created Noelridge Farmers Market around the same time. Johnson operated the Hiawatha Garden Center, Bait & Tackle and owned a construction company, as well as a real estate business.

The Hiawatha Farmers Market is held every Sunday, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M., in the 10th Ave. Guthridge Park parking lot. The market runs from the end of April to the end of October. According to Johnson, the market’s busiest time is from sweet corn harvest to the start of the new school year.



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

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09/14/2019

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Rachel Greene Joins Hiawatha Public Library

Hiawatha Public Library welcomes Laguna Beach, CA native Rachel Greene to the staff. Greene has called Cedar Rapids her home since 2004. She graduated with a B.A. in Ethics and Public Policy from University of Iowa in 2016. Greene has engaged in political activism and is passionate about working with the community. Greene is an avid reader and her favorite book is *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac. In addition, she enjoys discovering new music on Spotify, attending concerts and learning about different cultures. She can be found hanging out with her tortie cats, Bucky and Luna, and her mini Australian Shepherd, Lola.



Kevin Neef Appointed to P & Z Board

The Hiawatha Planning and Zoning Commission would like to welcome their newest member, Kevin Neef. Kevin will serve a term ending December 31, 2022. Welcome Kevin!



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** 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