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Hiawatha Insights

Redistricting/Reprecincting

Beginning January 1, 2012, the City will have four voting precincts. After the federal decennial census, the City Council reviewed its precinct boundaries to see whether the existing boundaries comply with current law. The Council looked at our census block boundaries and population of those boundaries. Based on Iowa Code, each precinct cannot be larger than 3,500 in population and has to be determined by census blocks. Upon that review, we were instructed by the Iowa Secretary of State and the Linn County Auditor's Office that we need to re-precinct into four (4) precincts. Precinct boundaries must be drawn to best serve the convenience of voters while promoting electoral efficiency.

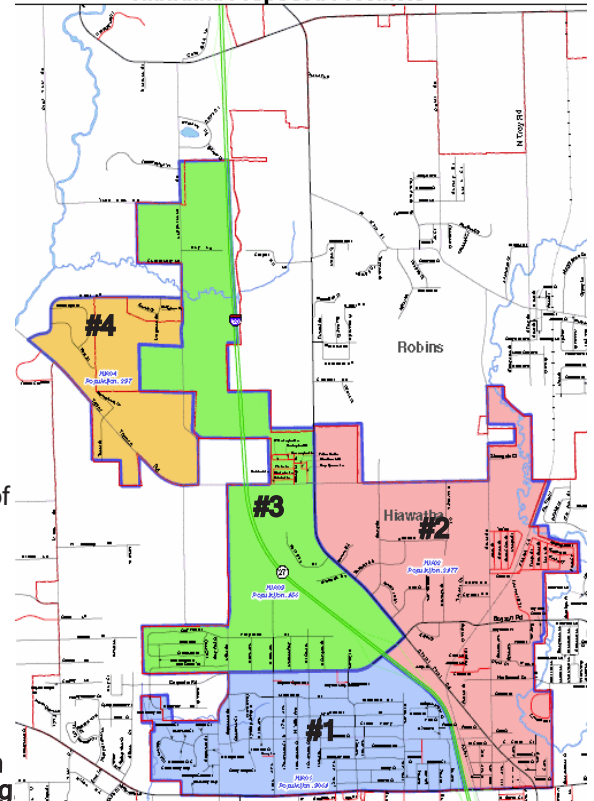
Initially, the discussion was to add a third precinct to meet the Iowa Code requirements, but upon recommendation of the Iowa Secretary of State and the Linn County Auditor's Office, the City Council entered into a City and County agreement which established a fourth precinct composed of both incorporated and unincorporated territory.

The City Council held a public hearing on August 24, 2011 to establish four precincts described as follows:

1. First Precinct. That entire portion of the City located west of Interstate 380 south of Boyson Road to southern City limits.
2. Second Precinct. That entire portion of the city located east of North Center Point Road and north of Boyson Road and that entire portion of the City located south of Boyson Road and east of Interstate 380 to the southern point of City limits.
3. Third Precinct. That entire portion of the City located north of Boyson Road and west of North Center Point Road and south of Tower Terrace Road and that entire portion of the City located north of Tower Terrace Road and west of North Center Point Road and east of Loggerhead Road to the northern City limits and that entire portion of the City located west of Loggerhead Road and north of Canterbury Lane and south of Todd Hills Road and that portion of the City located west of Loggerhead Road and south of Hunt Road and north of Tower Terrace Road in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 19-84-7.
4. Fourth Precinct. That portion of the City located west of Loggerhead Road and south of Hunt Road and north of Tower Terrace Road excluding the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 19-84-7 and that entire portion of Monroe Township Linn County located west of Loggerhead Road and south of Hunt Road and north of Tower Terrace Road and that entire portion of Monroe Township Linn County located south of Tower Terrace Road and east of Milburn Road and west of Miller Road.

The new boundaries become effective for General Election 2012 for terms beginning in January 2013. The County Auditor is responsible for determining the polling locations which have not yet been determined. Polling places must be as centrally located within precinct boundaries as possible. Once those are determined, we will inform you in our City newsletter and through utility billing

Hiawatha Proposed Precincts



Playing For Keeps Fundraiser

Playing For Keeps Fundraiser to benefit Hiawatha's Summer Adventure Camp.

Saturday, October 1, 2011 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Location: Cedar Rapids Toyota-Scion, 1192 Boyson Road, Hiawatha

Would you like to own a football with a personalized autograph from Kirk Ferentz or a Romance Package at the Radisson Milwaukee North Shore including a suite, dinner for two, champagne and breakfast in bed? How about a plane ride over Cedar Rapids? Your answer is Playing for Keeps!!!

Budweiser and Cedar Ridge Vinyards will be in attendance with beer and wine samplings as well as heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by Bata's Catering.

The fundraiser will consist of live and silent auctions.

Musical Entertainment by Nassor Cooper.

Tickets are on sale for \$10.00 at City Hall, 101 Emmons Street, Hiawatha, Iowa.

These are just a few of the exciting items available for auction on October 1st! Other items include overnight stays from Cat Fish Bend Casino (Pzazz! and Fun City in Burlington), overnight package from Riverside Casino, Jumer's Casino, and The Isle Casino! Kings Pointe Resort in Storm Lake provided a lakeview room with four waterpark passes.

Budweiser golf bag, tickets to the Blank Park Zoo, Iowa Children's Museum, Old Creamery Theatre, Iowa Cubs, The Science Station, The Playstation, Penguins Comedy Club, Iowa Barnstormers and lots of other area attractions. We will also have gift cards and certificates from places such as Sheels, The Longbranch Hotel, Texas Road House, Panera and many, many more!

"The heart of any community is the child who grows up there with visions to better it"...The City of Hiawatha takes great pride in its summer recreation programs which are designed to keep children physically fit while encouraging them to make our community a better place.

Please join us in our efforts to keep offering affordable, structured and creative play opportunities for all children in Hiawatha's Adventure Camp. Our goal is to keep improving these programs with new activities and opportunities for the children involved, and preserve their continued success in the future.



Hiawatha Community Center Country Steppers and Book Club

Retirees: Come join the fun!

The Country Steppers are looking for retired seniors to join their line dance group for fitness, fun and friends! This group meets Monday and Friday in the Hiawatha Community Center from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. You can join for exercise or for those with some dance experience, you can perform with the group at events throughout the community! Contact Diane at 213-4434.



Book Talk

Beat the heat, and come join us on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 10:30 a.m. to get started on our new book club/talk. We will get together to share a book that we have read or are currently reading with the group. You can also stay and enjoy lunch following Book Talk for a suggested \$3.00.

Please RSVP at 393-9348 by Noon on Friday if you wish to stay for lunch.

Recommended books will be featured in the Witwer Warbler.

Location: Hiawatha Community Center, 101 Emmons Street, Hiawatha, Iowa.



Linn County Reappraisals of City of Hiawatha Properties

Linn County Assessor, Julie Kester, is announcing that work for the County wide reappraisal project, which includes door to door inspections of all properties, will be starting in mid-September for the City of Hiawatha.

Vanguard Appraisal, Inc., in conjunction with the Linn County Assessor's office will be conducting this project. Vanguard representatives will have a photo ID and an introduction letter signed by the Assessor. Letters will be mailed to the property owners prior to the data collectors visit to their property.

Data collectors will make interior and exterior inspections of all properties, compiling information to be used to estimate fair market value of each property. No estimate of value will be given at the time of inspection. The reappraisal purpose is to equalize property value. Periodic inspections and reappraisals of properties are necessary because all properties do not increase or decrease in value at the same rate.

The data collectors vary their working hours in an attempt to find owners and renters at home. Three attempts will be made, to find someone at home, including one attempt after normal working hours.

Property owners are asked to cooperate by allowing a complete inspection of their property and providing accurate information in order for a fair and equitable assessment for each property. Denial of access to the property, or providing inaccurate information does not release the company representatives from placing a value on the property. In this case, the representative will place an estimated value on the property that may or may not be a fair reflection of the property's actual value.

The reappraisal project is scheduled for completion in January 2013. A notice of final value estimates will be mailed to each property owner after January, 2013. The new assessments will be effective for January 1, 2013, taxes payable in fiscal 2014-2015.

The Hiawatha Police Department will be made aware of the areas where data collectors are working. The Police will also have a listing of all data collectors and license plate numbers involved in the project.

If any property owner has questions regarding the reappraisal project, they are urged to contact the Linn County Assessor's office at (319) 892-5220.

Hiawatha Police - Drunk Driving and GTSB

Despite controversy over how high the State of Iowa sets the cost of traffic fines, they exist to deter dangerous driving behavior. The fines associated with dangerous driving behavior increase with the threat posed to the public. A conviction for first offense OWI in Iowa carries a two days to one year jail, and revocation of your privilege to operate a motor vehicle for a period of 180 days to one year. In addition to these penalties, a person also faces increased insurance rates, probation, cost of legal fees, and community service to name a few. Second convictions are aggravated misdemeanors and third convictions are class D felonies in Iowa and the penalties worsen with each new conviction. The penalties are stiffer if property is damaged or if someone were injured.

Aside from the penalties associated with an OWI conviction, please put your safety and the safety of others first by driving sober or making arrangements for a sober driver. Please remember, impairment begins with the first drink.

GTSB Report

Our semi-annual seatbelt compliance survey was completed in August. The results were 91% of front seat occupants were wearing their seatbelts.

This is down from our record compliance rate of 98.3% in March of this year.

Please remember to buckle up for your safety!



Hiawatha Police - Locking Windows and Doors

A reminder of how an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Please be certain to lock your doors and windows on homes, garages, and vehicles. Criminals often commit crimes simply due to the ease of opening an unlocked door rather than risk detection by forcing their way in. Many crimes can also be deterred simply by concealing your valuables below a seat or in your trunk when using our City parks and riding trails.



Please call the Police Department at 393-1212 if you see anyone acting suspiciously in your neighborhood or around vehicles.

Typically, we hear from victims of these types of crimes that they thought they heard a strange noise or saw someone acting suspicious in their neighborhood. Unfortunately, we learn this hours or days after it has occurred. Officers are patrolling the City 24 hours a day, so don't hesitate to call the Police Department when this is happening.



Council Action

August 3, 2011

- Ordinance 711 - Approving the rezoning of property located at 1550 Hawkeye Drive from I-2 (General Industrial District) to C-4 (Central Service District) requested by TCC Investments, LLC.**
- Resolution 11-175 - Approving amending Community Center Rental Agreement and Audio Visual Rental Agreement and corresponding documents increasing cancellation fees to \$50, changing cancellation time requirements to 72 hours of rental time during business week and increasing audio visual rental fee to \$40.**
- Resolution 11-176 - Authorizing Parks & Recreation Director to complete necessary documents to express our community's interest to be considered as an overnight RAGBRAI "Host Town" in 2012.**
- Resolution 11-177 - Authorizing ImOn Communications, LLC., right of way permission to bury fiber optics cable via directional boring at starting and ending locations within the City of Hiawatha as shown in submitted maps with conditions being met as outlined by Hall and Hall Engineers and the Hiawatha Water Department.**
- Resolution 11-178 - Approving Final Plat for Tower Commerce Center Second Addition.**
- Resolution 11-179 - Approving revised Preliminary Plat for Pines at Turtle Creek subject to conditions from Hall and Hall Engineers and the Hiawatha Water Department.**
- Resolution 11-180 - Authorizing the release of the Development Agreement for Pines at Turtle Creek Second Addition.**
- Resolution 11-181 - Approving "At Your Own Risk" Building Permit for parking lot addition to existing building at 1055 Longfellow Drive as requested by Longfellow Square, L.C.**
- Resolution 11-182 - Awarding contract for Stamy Road from north of Kacena Road to Tower Terrace Road Pavement Extension Project to Ricklefs Excavating Ltd., of Anamosa, Iowa in an amount of \$654,292.38, including incentives.**
- Resolution 11-188 - Approving amending the Procurement Card Program Procedures to make updates to coincide with current administrative processes.**
- Resolution 11-189 - Authorizing the purchase of property at 55 Boyson Road and directs Mayor to sign residential purchase agreement and City agrees to pay awards and damages of \$93,700.00 and Sheriff's costs and awards in amount of \$1,417.64 resulting in total purchase price of \$95,117.64 with closing date of August 30, 2011.**

August 17, 2011

- Ordinance 712 - Approving amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinance Chapter 165 Unified Development Code §165.24:3C (1) Adult Entertainment Establishment regulations Minimum Separation Requirements adding any Residential or Agriculture Zoning District.**
- Ordinance 713 - Approving amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinance Chapter 51 Junk & Junk Vehicles §51.01 (3) (F) Unlicensed removing language for vehicles not legally placed in storage with the County Treasurer.**
- Resolution 11-190 - Approving Agreement between the Linn County, Iowa Temporary County Redistricting Commission & the Hiawatha, Iowa City Council to combine township and city election precincts and direct the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Agreement.**
- Resolution 11-191 - Authorizing the Fire Chief to proceed with design work for a fire training facility / satellite fire station located at 700 Robins Road in an amount not to exceed \$4,000 with Solum Lang Architects of Cedar Rapids using funding in the Capital Projects Fund.**
- Resolution 11-192 - Supporting the Hiawatha Fire Department in raising funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) 2011 on August 26 - 28 and September 2 - 4.**
- Resolution 11-193 - Amending 2010 Employee Policy Manual Section III Minimum Call Back adding employee eligibility for minimum two-hour call back while on paid leave or excused unpaid leave.**
- Resolution 11-194 - Approving the FY2011 Street Finance Report.**

Hiawatha Project Updates

The Stamy Road Pavement Extension located between Tower Terrace Road and the end of the existing concrete on Kacena Road to the south will construct 1300 feet of concrete street with curb and gutter, water main and sanitary sewer. The road is closed and sanitary sewer is now being installed. Pavement and utilities are scheduled to be completed in November with final seeding in Spring 2012.

Loggerhead Road north of Tower Terrace Road and Tower Terrace Road between the Interstate and North Center Point Road seal coat projects are complete. Approximately 1.5 miles of seal coat was installed in less than a week.

North Center Point Road Pavement Reconstruction between Ketelsen Drive and Mitchell Drive is nearly complete. The next phase of this project will reconstruct North Center Point Road between Mitchell Drive and Stamy Road. This is anticipated to start in the first half of September. A marked detour route will direct traffic around the road closure. All of North Center Point Road is anticipated to be open to traffic in late October.

The Thiher Drive Storm Sewer Extension is complete. This project installed storm sewer from the north end of Thiher Drive to Boyson Road. Thiher Drive intersections with Clymer and Daws Road were also reconstructed with this project, including improved pedestrian sidewalk ramps. Future project will extend storm sewer from Thiher Drive to Daws and Clymer Roads.





SEPTEMBER 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	5	6	7 Council 7pm	8	9 Kids Movie Night 6:30 pm Movie: TBA	10
11 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	12 History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	13 Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	14 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	15 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	16	17
18 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	19	20 Library Celebration 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Water 6:30 p.m.	21 Council 7pm	22	23	24
25 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	26 P&Z 6p.m.	27	28 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	29 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	30	



OCTOBER 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Playing For Keeps Fund- raiser
2 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	3	4	5 Council 7pm	6	7	8
9 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	10 History 1:30 p.m. Board of Adj. 7p.m.	11 Parks 6:30 p.m. Library 7p.m.	12 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	13 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	14 Kids Movie Night 6:30 pm Movie: TBA	15
16 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	17	18 Water 6:30 p.m.	19 Council 7pm	20	21	22
23 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	24	25	26 Council Airs 7p.m. Channel 18	27 Council Airs 10a.m. Channel 18	28	29
30 Farmer's Market 11 am - 2 pm Guthridge Park	31 P&Z 6p.m.					

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DELIVER BY:
SATURDAY,
9/10/2011

Watch Your Speed Along North Center Point Road

As construction of North Center Point Road winds down and is completed, the speed limit along the major through street of Hiawatha has been reduced from 40 to 35 miles per hour.

The City Council passed Ordinance #710 on July 20, 2011, amending Chapter 63 Speed Regulations §63.12(3) and §63.16(1), implementing a 35 MPH Speed Zone for North Center Point Road as follows:

63.12 SPECIAL 35 MPH SPEED ZONES. A speed in excess of thirty-five (35) miles per hour is unlawful on any of the following designated streets or parts thereof.

(Deleting) 3. North Center Point Road from Emmons Street to 300 feet north of Kacena Road;

(Inserting) 3. North Center Point Road from Emmons Street to the north City limits;

63.16 SPECIAL 40 MPH SPEED ZONES. A speed in excess of forty (40) miles per hour is unlawful on any of the following designated streets or parts thereof.

(Deleting) 1. North Center Point Road from 300 feet north of Kacena Road to the north City Limits.

Hiawatha Library Turns 50!

We're turning 50.....

...but we certainly don't look a day over 30!

The Hiawatha Public Library is turning 50 this year! Can you believe it?! In honor of this momentous occasion, we are taking some time to celebrate (read: party hardy) with an open house on **Tuesday, September 20th from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.** Of course there will be cake (did you really think we'd plan a party without food), as well as some fun giveaways (which shall remain a secret until a later undisclosed date).

Don't miss this celebration!



I-380 Fall Collection Event

Collecting litter is a tough job and the City of Cedar Rapids Solid Waste & Recycling and the City of Hiawatha could use your help picking up litter along I-380 on Saturday, October 22, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

In our efforts to keep our interstate right-of-way beautiful, we are partnering with the Iowa Department of Transportation, who will provide us with safety training, trash bags, and a safety vest. Sam's Club is providing free drinks and pizza. Your help will aid in the continued success of the event toward being the cleanest interstate through Linn County.

Our Spring event was a huge success with 58 volunteers participating; many volunteers take pride in helping keep our roadways clean and attractive for our own community and for those passing by.

If you are interested in participating in the Fall Litter Collection, contact Gary Rogers Jr. at 393-1515 ext. 526 or e-mail at cityadmin@hiawatha-iowa.com or Vince Snyder, Cedar Rapids Solid Waste at 286-5897.

