



# HIAWATHA INSIGHTS

January 2026

Vol. 210

## THE MAYOR'S YEAR-END WRAP-UP

"It's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for me—and I'm feeling good." As Nina Simone and Michael Bublé sing, there's something powerful about starting fresh. This year, Hiawatha has embodied that spirit. We celebrated our 75th anniversary in June, and KCRG featured our community in their Our Town segment during the week of June 9. It was a milestone year—one of growth, investment, and momentum.

### Infrastructure & City Improvements

We advanced major projects, including continued work on the Boyson Road interchange with Interstate 380. The Edgewood Road extension, from Blairs Ferry to Emmons Street, is now open.

We invested \$400,000 in ADA sidewalk ramp upgrades and completed significant water system improvements:

- Replaced and upsized water mains on Robins Road and Pirie Drive
- Installed new mains on Dawes, Clymer, and Thiher Roads
- Added three new generators at key utility sites to ensure consistent service during outages

### Housing & Development

New homes continue to rise in Heritage Green, D.R. Horton, and other neighborhoods. ARRO Senior Housing opened this year.

The Igram family is developing a 48-unit townhouse project with proposed retail along North Center Point Road, and we're actively in discussions with additional developers about new and exciting projects coming to Hiawatha. Stay tuned!

We also celebrated numerous ribbon cuttings, as businesses expanded, moved, or marked important anniversaries. Our local economy is thriving.

### Parks & Recreation

Our parks saw major upgrades:

- Tucker Park welcomed a new splash pad
- Guthridge Park added pickleball courts, a mini-pitch, LED lighting, and a new parking lot, with plans for a nearby restroom
- Turtle Creek Park expanded with ADA-accessible playgrounds, restrooms, splash pads, and a new bridge connecting the park to nearby housing

We also installed a new Hiawatha Gateway sign visible to southbound I-380 traffic and planted over 144 new trees in parks and rights-of-way.

Food Truck Fridays at the Plaza and our Farmers Market in Guthridge Park continue to grow in popularity—bringing neighbors together week after week.

### Community & Services

Our library launched a free food pantry to support families facing food insecurity. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library continues to flourish, now reaching over 63% of Hiawatha's eligible children ages 0-5.

### Looking Ahead

As mayor, my vision is simple: To build a Hiawatha that is resilient, inclusive, and forward-looking. To our residents: thank you for your ideas, your advocacy, and your trust. To our business owners: thank you for investing in our future. To our city staff, council members, and volunteers: thank you for your tireless dedication to this community. We have accomplished so much—but we are just getting started. The next chapter of Hiawatha's story will be written by all of us, together. Happy New Year!

**Steve Dodson**, Hiawatha Mayor



## MEET HIAWATHA'S NEW COUNCILMEMBER

My name is CJ Flynn, and I am honored to introduce myself as Hiawatha's newest City Council member. I'm grateful for the trust our residents have placed in me, and I'm excited to serve the community.



I grew up in Hiawatha and have lived a majority of my life here. I have always had a deep interest in public policy and public service.

A major part of my life is my small business, Technically Easier, where I work primarily with the 55+ community to make modern technology more understandable and accessible as well as teach classes at Kirkwood. I also enjoy volunteering at Friends of the Library book sales and supporting efforts that promote literacy and community engagement.

Community involvement has always been central to who I am. I am part of a local group that meets monthly at the Hiawatha Community Center for potluck dinners and collects food items for area food pantries. These gatherings remind me how strong our Hiawatha community is when neighbors come together, share what they can, and support one another. I believe our local government reflects that same spirit of cooperation and care.

As your council member, my priorities include ensuring responsible growth, supporting services that benefit families and businesses, and maintaining Hiawatha as an affordable and welcoming place to live. I want all residents to be heard and valued and to work collaboratively on solutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I look forward to meeting more of you and helping build a bright future for Hiawatha.

CONNECT:



CITY OF HIAWATHA, IOWA



HIAWATHA-IOWA.COM

HIAWATHA-IOWA.COM/ALERT-SIGNUP/

# Hiawatha!™

## CITY COUNCIL



**MAYOR**  
**STEVE DODSON**

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**COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**CJ FLYNN**

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## JANUARY MEETING SCHEDULE

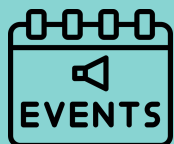
- 07** City Council 5:30 PM
- 13** Parks Commission 5:30 PM
- 13** Library Board 7:00 PM
- 15** History Commission 9:00 AM
- 19** Planning & Zoning 5:30 PM
- 20** Water Board 5:30 PM
- 21** City Council 5:30 PM



As we begin a new year, I want to share my appreciation and optimism with all of you who make Hiawatha such an exceptional place to call home. January always offers a fresh start, but this year I'm especially grateful for the opportunities ahead and proud of the progress we continue to make as a community. Serving on the Hiawatha City Council is a responsibility I value deeply.

What makes it meaningful is the people. Whether it's a quick conversation at the Farmer's Market, a friendly wave while on the trail at Tucker Park, or a resident reaching out with an idea or concern, these interactions remind me why I am committed to this work. You are the heart of Hiawatha, and it's an honor to represent you. One of the qualities that makes Hiawatha truly special is our enduring culture of caring. When the Fire Department launched the community-based ambulance service in 2005, it adopted the motto "Caring for the Community"—a message that continues to reflect who we are today. As our city grows, that spirit remains evident in the way neighbors support one another, volunteers step forward without hesitation, and local businesses invest in our shared future. These everyday acts of kindness form the foundation of trust and connection that keeps our community strong. I also want to recognize the incredible work our city staff and public safety teams do each day. Their dedication often goes unnoticed, but their efforts keep our community safe, our services dependable, and our public spaces welcoming. Seeing their commitment, along with the engagement of residents who take the time to participate, ask questions, and share ideas, reinforces how fortunate we are to live in a place where people truly care about the community's well-being. Looking ahead, my focus is on continuing to listen and make thoughtful, responsible decisions that reflect our shared goals. Whether we're discussing infrastructure needs, planning for future development, or finding ways to support local businesses and families, I remain committed to choosing solutions that balance practicality with compassion. Growth brings opportunities and challenges, and I believe we can navigate both successfully when we work together and stay focused on what's best for our residents. As we move into 2025, I hope we all continue to find moments of connection. Our parks, trails, and community events have a way of bringing people together, but even simple interactions—a greeting from a neighbor, attending a local meeting, or supporting a small business—help strengthen the fabric of our city. I encourage all of us to keep nurturing that sense of community pride and involvement in the coming year. I am truly grateful for the trust you've placed in me. Representing Hiawatha is a privilege, and I am committed to serving our community with honesty, respect, and a focus on long-term well-being. Your feedback and engagement guide the work we do, and I hope you will continue to share your ideas and perspectives with me. From my family to yours, I wish you a healthy, peaceful, and fulfilling new year. Thank you for your support, your kindness, and for helping make Hiawatha a great place to live, work, and play. I look forward to the year ahead and to continuing the work of building an even stronger community—together.

**Rob Archibald**, Hiawatha City Councilmember



**Interested in community events? Find out what's happening in Hiawatha by checking out our city calendars!**

[hiawatha-iowa.com/calendar/](http://hiawatha-iowa.com/calendar/)



City Calendar



Library Calendar

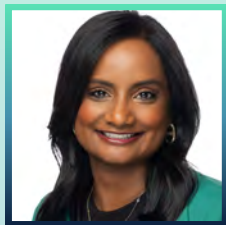
## CITY DIRECTORY

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
City Manager	Dennis Marks	319-393-1515	dmarks@hiawatha-iowa.com
City Clerk	Kari Graber	319-393-1515	kgrabere@hiawatha-iowa.com
Finance Director	Cindy Daack	319-393-1515	cdaack@hiawatha-iowa.com
Parks & Recreation Director	Matt Boggess	319-393-1515	mboggess@hiawatha-iowa.com
Community Development Director	Kesha Billings	319-393-1515	kbillings@hiawatha-iowa.com
City Engineer	Jon Fitch	319-393-1515	jfitch@hiawatha-iowa.com
Public Works Superintendent	Rod Jasa	319-393-6601	rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com
Water Superintendent	Marty Recker	319-393-1515	mrecker@hiawatha-iowa.com
Police Chief	Ben Kamm	319-393-1212	chief@hiawathapolice.com
Fire Chief	Matt Powers	319-393-4180	mcpowers@hiawatha-iowa.com
Library Director	Chris Stoner	319-393-1414	cstoner@hiawatha-iowa.com



# HEDCO WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Hiawatha Economic Development Corporation (HEDCO) is pleased to announce four new additions to its board of directors: Torri Freese, Rob Wenzel, Rod Hassen and Supervisor Sami Scheetz. These accomplished professionals bring diverse expertise and community connections that will strengthen HEDCO's mission to foster economic growth in Hiawatha.



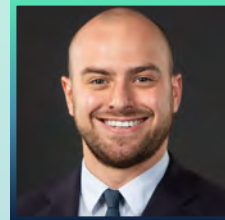
**Torri Freese**  
Alliant Energy



**Rob Wenzel**  
Novak Heating & Air



**Rod Hanssen**  
Premier Staffing



**Sami Sheetz**  
Linn County Supervisor

Torri serves as Key Account Manager II at Alliant Energy in Cedar Rapids. She has 13 years of finance experience from the banking industry most recently AVP, Branch Manager at Dupaco Credit Union. She holds a B.A. in Business Administration and Sales and Marketing, and actively serves on the boards of Freedom Festival and Clayton County Economic Development and Tourism. She is a member of Daybreak Rotary and CBJ's 2025 40 Under 40 list, Leadership for Five Seasons 2025 and Marion Leadership in Action 2024. Torri resides in Cedar Rapids with her family.

Rob is the owner of Novak Heating & Air, which he purchased in 2022 after joining the company in 2009 as a Commercial Estimator/Project Manager. A Clinton, Iowa native, Rob began his HVAC career as a sheet metal apprentice in 2002 and has developed expertise in installation, service, sales, and estimating. He is committed to providing outstanding customer service and optimal comfort solutions for his clients.

Rod serves as Vice President and co-owner of Premier Staffing, headquartered in Hiawatha. With over 25 years of experience at CCB and Premier Staffing, Rod has held various management and executive roles, including HR Manager and Distribution Manager at CCB. Since 2010, he has led Premier Staffing's operations, leveraging his extensive staffing industry expertise to grow the company.

Sami Scheetz was appointed to the Linn County Board of Supervisors in April 2025, representing District 2. He previously served in the Iowa House, passing bipartisan legislation on school meals, workers' rights, and property tax relief. As a Teamsters Local 238 organizer, he fought for higher wages and collective bargaining rights. As Supervisor, Sami focuses on public health, mental health services, infrastructure, and economic development. He holds a Georgetown University degree and lives in Cedar Rapids with his wife, Giovana, and daughter, Sophia.

HEDCO extends its sincere gratitude to four dedicated board members whose terms have recently expired. Their service and commitment have been instrumental in advancing economic development in our community:

- Emily Kaiser - Alliant Energy
- Nic Canfield - CCB Packaging
- Melissa White - Balanced Fitness & Health
- Dr. CJ Kleene - Back in Line Chiropractic & Wellness

We thank them for their leadership, insights, and unwavering dedication to making Hiawatha a thriving place to live and do business.

The 2026 HEDCO executive leadership roles will go to:

- Heidi Sands, Hawkeye Electric - Chair
- Rusty Smith, Farmers State Bank - Vice Chair
- Tyler Wright, Dave Wright Auto Group - Treasurer



## WINTER IS COMING, STAY INFORMED

The City of Hiawatha has snow removal rules in place to help keep our community safe.  
Here is what you need to know before winter weather strikes:

- Make sure sump pumps and downspouts don't drain to sidewalks. The drainage can freeze causing icy buildup and slippery conditions on driveways, sidewalks, and streets.
- Sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after a snowfall event ends. Remember to clear the area around fire hydrants as well.
- When removing snow from your property, do not place it in streets, alleys, driveways, or on sidewalks.
- Commercial Properties - Make sure you have a snow removal plan in place this winter season. If there is not enough room to store pushed snow on the property, you must have a plan for snow removal from the site before snow clearing may take place.

### Snow Ordinance

Hiawatha's snow ordinance helps ensure safe, effective, and rapid snow removal of our streets. You can help! Do not park in the street when:

- The National Weather Service predicts three (3) or more inches of snow within 24 hours OR three (3) or more inches of snow has fallen and your street has not been cleared.
- Vehicles parked in the street during an active snow ordinance will be issued a \$25 ticket. If vehicles are parked on City streets during overnight snow removal operations, they will be towed. When in doubt, move your vehicle off the street.  
Note: The City does not conduct snow removal operations on all city streets for snowfall less than two (2) inches.

### Stay Informed

If a snow emergency is declared, local media outlets will be informed. This includes, but is not limited to, KGAN (Channel 2), KCRG (Channel 9), and KWWL (Channel 7). The declaration will also be posted on the City Website: [www.hiawatha-iowa.com](http://www.hiawatha-iowa.com).

Scan the QR code to sign up for City Alerts!



# GROW YOUR OWN: NEW HOUSEPLANT PROPAGATION STATION BLOOMS AT THE LIBRARY



Librarian Morgan, the Teen Programming Coordinator for the Hiawatha Public Library, is thrilled to announce the opening of a House Plant Propagation Station located in the Young Adult space at the Hiawatha Public Library.



Inspired by a propagation station at the library in North Liberty, Iowa, and knowing how much joy plants can bring, Librarian Morgan was excited to donate the plants to kick off the "plant library" with the help of Morgan Rosa, teen Library Intern, who has assisted in caring for the plant library. The goal for this project is to nurture a house plant library that in turn can be propagated to disperse plants to patrons of all ages. House plants can be a costly endeavor, and the hope is that the magic of growing and taking care of plants can be shared more freely in this way.

CONNECT:  HIAWATHA PUBLIC LIBRARY

## A FRESH START FOR A NEW YEAR IN OUR PARKS

As we step into a new year, January brings a sense of fresh beginnings, reflection, and possibility. As we peeked through the holiday season, our schedules grew busier and busier, and now we have the chance to reset, refocus, and look ahead to what we can accomplish in the new year.



While the summer months often steal the spotlight, winter and the New Year offer a different kind of view of our parks. Quiet playgrounds and crisp outdoor air invite residents to stay active in new ways. Whether it's a peaceful winter walk, kids playing in the snow, or setting new fitness goals for the year, our parks remain open, accessible, and full of opportunity even in the coldest months.

Beyond physical activity, parks play an important role in supporting mental and emotional wellness—especially during the quieter winter months. Spending time outdoors, staying socially connected, and participating in recreational programs can all help combat seasonal fatigue and stress. Sometimes the most powerful reset comes from something as simple as a walk in the fresh air or having a scheduled activity to look forward to each week.

As we move through January and into the months ahead, we invite you to explore everything Hiawatha Parks & Recreation has to offer. Try a new program, set a goal to visit a new park, plan a gathering at one of our facilities, or simply take time to enjoy the outdoors—no matter the season.

From all of us at Hiawatha Parks & Recreation, we wish you a happy, healthy, and active New Year. We look forward to serving you in 2025 and beyond.

CONNECT:  CITY OF HIAWATHA PARKS AND RECREATION

 HIAWATHA.ACTIVITYREG.COM

## ENGINEERING UPDATES

We are excited to announce that the City Council has approved the construction of four new pickleball courts and a basketball court for Turtle Creek Park.

City staff has completed the topographic survey of the proposed location and will begin the design in-house. The courts are proposed to be in the northeast corner of the open green space, south of the trail. The courts will be designed very similar to the new courts at Guthridge Park. This includes court lighting, fences between the courts and benches.

Construction should begin in late Spring 2026 and be completed in the fall of 2026.





To use the Houseplant Propagation Station, simply sign the sheet with how many plant cuttings you're taking and the date, and place them in a provided plastic bag for transport and pick up the correlating information sheet about your new plant. Want to bring cuttings to share? Take them to the front Circulation desk for processing and give us some information on the plant care needs!



Want to know more? There will be an Introduction to Houseplants for Teens workshop event on January 29th from 4pm to 5pm to introduce the House Plant Propagation Station to teens and allow for them to take a houseplant home. Registration is requested!



HIAWATHAPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

## Using the Plant Library

TAKE A PLANT FROM OUR PLANT PROPAGATION STATION



Keep the space clean, share a new plant!



1

take one of the plants in water, put in plastic bag

2

Log what you took home on the clipboard!

3

Tag us on Instagram as your plant settles into it's new home!!



Plants  
make People  
Happy

## MILITARY AND VETERAN BANNER PROGRAM INFORMATION

The City of Hiawatha is proud to continue our community tradition honoring those who are serving or have served in the United States Armed Forces. Now in its third year, the Military and Veteran Banner Program recognizes past and present military personnel with personalized banners displaying the honoree's name, branch, years of service, and the names of those honoring them.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Honoree is an active-duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- Honoree is a retired or honorably discharged service member who currently lives in Hiawatha, previously lived in Hiawatha, or once lived here and is now deceased.
- Applicant is a current Hiawatha resident or Hiawatha-based business. If this applies, the honoree does not need to have lived in Hiawatha.

### BANNERS

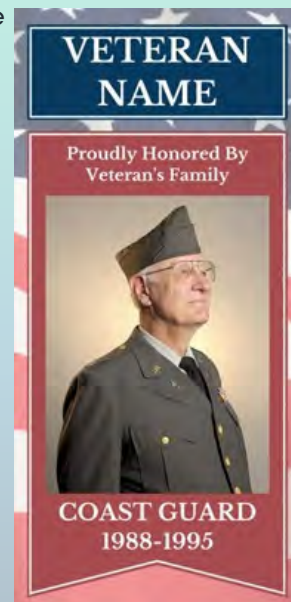
- 30" x 63", double-sided, full color, one honoree per banner.
- Displayed along Center Point Road, Emmons Street, and the new Edgewood Road extension from Memorial Day through Veterans Day in 2026, and again in 2027.
- Limit of 80 new banners for 2026; first-come, first-served. Payment is required to reserve.
- Banners will be returned to the honoree or applicant after the display period. The City is not responsible for loss or damage due to weather, vandalism, or other factors.

### COST & DEADLINE

- \$125 per banner (covers both years).
- Applications due March 6, 2026, or until full.

### TO ORDER

- Access the application can be found under the "News" section at [www.hiawatha-iowa.com](http://www.hiawatha-iowa.com) or the Hiawatha Facebook page.
- Submit the completed application and/or honoree photo in person, by direct mail c/o Jamie Fiedler, or by email. High-resolution photos and applications can be emailed to [jfiedlerehiawatha-iowa.com](mailto:jfiedlerehiawatha-iowa.com), or physical copies can be brought to City Hall to be scanned.



### QUESTIONS?

- Jamie Fiedler, Deputy Clerk - [jfiedlerehiawatha-iowa.com](mailto:jfiedlerehiawatha-iowa.com)
  - Rod Jasa, Public Works Superintendent - [rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com](mailto:rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com)
- Or call 319-393-1515.



CITY OF HIAWATHA, IOWA



HIAWATHA-IOWA.COM

# HIAWATHA POLICE DEPARTMENT WARNS RESIDENTS ABOUT WINTER AND TAX SEASON SCAMS

As the new year begins, the Hiawatha Police Department wants to remind residents to stay alert to scams that often increase in January and February. Scammers frequently target people with schemes related to tax filings, utility bills, and online shopping. "Scammers don't take a holiday, and they know people are busy with winter routines and preparing their taxes," said Investigator Mehlert. "Taking a moment to verify information can prevent a lot of unnecessary headaches and financial loss."

Common scams this time of year include:

- IRS or tax-related calls or emails: The IRS will never demand payment over the phone or threaten immediate arrest.
- Utility scams: Fraudsters may claim your power or water will be shut off unless you pay immediately. Always verify directly with your utility provider.
- Online marketplace scams: People selling or buying items online can fall victim to fake listings or fraudulent payment requests.

Residents are encouraged to:

- Never give personal information or payment over the phone or email without verifying the source.
- Monitor bank and credit card statements closely for unusual charges.
- Call the police if you think there is a possibility of a scam or suspicious activity.

Investigator Mehlert added, "Scammers rely on panic and confusion. Slow down, verify, and ask questions. If something feels off, don't hesitate to call the police, we're here to help protect you and your family." The Hiawatha Police Department is committed to keeping the community informed and safe. Anyone who encounters a suspicious call, email, or message is encouraged to contact the department immediately.



## WHY YOU SHOULD NEVER PUSH SNOW ACROSS/ONTO THE STREET



When winter storms hit, clearing driveways and parking lots becomes a routine task for homeowners and business owners alike. However, the common practice of pushing or blowing snow across the street can create more problems than many realize. Keeping snow on your own property is not only courteous but also safer and more efficient.

First, pushing snow across or into the street creates significant safety hazards. Snow piles left on roadways can freeze, creating slick patches that increase the risk of accidents for drivers and pedestrians. High piles along the opposite curb also obstruct visibility, making it harder for motorists to see oncoming traffic, children playing, or people walking their dogs.

Second, this practice interferes with Public Works snow-removal efforts. When city plows come through, the extra snow pushed into the street becomes an obstacle and forces plow drivers to slow down or make additional passes. Snow placed in the right-of-way also reduces the available storage space for plowed snow, which can result in larger piles ending up in other driveways. This slows the plowing process and increases operational costs for the city.

Third, Hiawatha Ordinance 135.12 clearly prohibits placing snow onto streets or alleys. Violations may result in fines, and residents may be held liable if displaced snow contributes to an accident. Keeping snow on your own property helps ensure the safety of everyone in the community and keeps you in compliance with local regulations.

Finally, pushing snow across the street can contribute to storm-drain blockages. When the snow melts, it can clog drains, which may cause localized flooding and create icy conditions that pose additional hazards for drivers and pedestrians.

Below is the full text of Hiawatha Ordinance 135.12, which outlines these rules in detail:

### 135.12 DUMPING OF SNOW.

*It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow. (Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2])*

**Thank you**  
From the Hiawatha  
Fire Department

**The Hiawatha Fire Fighters Association would like to thank everyone that attended the chili supper!**

**We want to extend an additional thank you to all of our sponsors for this event.**

**We appreciate your continued support!**





# REAL-WORLD TRAINING PREPARES HIAWATHA FIREFIGHTERS TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GAZETTE



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GAZETTE



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GAZETTE

Recently, The Hiawatha Fire Department conducted live fire training in an acquired residential structure, offering a valuable learning opportunity for the department members. Several neighboring departments including our automatic aid partner Monroe Township Fire Department participated in the training that took place just west of Hiawatha in rural Linn County. The opportunity to conduct training involving live fire in an actual residential structure is invaluable. It allows our members to practice: advancing hose lines, search and rescue techniques, ventilation operations and fire suppression tactics. This training was especially important to fifteen new members The Fire department recently added. For these newer members the ability to take what they have been learning in their Firefighter 1 class and put it to use in a controlled real-life setting is invaluable. Reading and watching online clips about fire behavior is one thing but nothing compares to the ability to feel the heat, see the smoke and learn how a fire moves in an actual structure during a training house burn. We greatly appreciate Russ and Patty Hines for donating the house and completing all the necessary testing on the structure to allow us to train in it. This type of hands-on experience is critical to preparing our members for real emergencies.

## ALL RENTALS NOW REQUIRE REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION



Effective January 1, 2026 all non-owner-occupied dwelling units are required to be enrolled in Hiawatha's rental program and have required inspection for minimum life, safety, and health standards. Prior to the amendment to Chapter 163 (Hiawatha's Housing Code) short term rentals (less than 30 days) were not required to be enrolled in the rental program.

## DON'T FORGET YOUR WATER HEATER!

Like any major appliance in your home, your water heater needs regular care to keep it running efficiently, safely, and for as long as possible. One of the simplest and most important maintenance steps is draining or cleaning your water heater.

Over time, minerals like calcium and magnesium naturally found in water settle at the bottom of your water heater tank. This buildup can cause reduced efficiency leading to higher utility bills or less hot water.

Although tankless water heaters don't have the tank to collect sediment, tankless water heaters do require descaling on a regular basis as well to remove minerals from the heating elements.

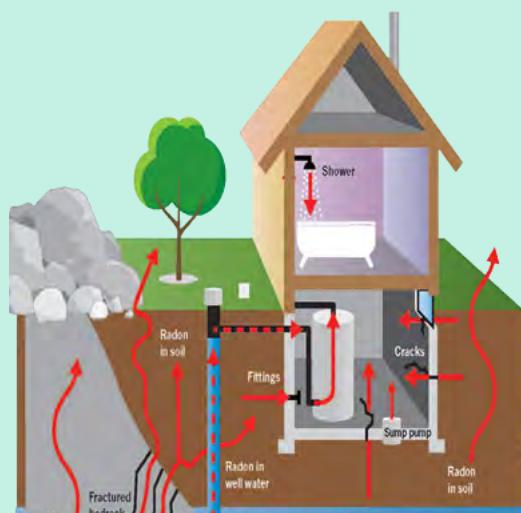
Experts generally recommend draining or flushing your water heater once a year. If you live in an area with hard water, you may need to do it every six months to keep buildup under control.

Some homeowners feel comfortable flushing the tank themselves, while others prefer to call a licensed plumber. Either option works as long as the process is done safely.

If you're unsure or your heater hasn't been cleaned in many years, a professional inspection is a good idea. They can also check for leaks, corrosion, and thermostat issues.



## NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH



January is National Radon Action Month and as we find ourselves spending more and more time indoors on these cold winter days, take a moment to think about how your indoor air quality can impact your health.

Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, radioactive gas that is produced from the decay of naturally occurring uranium in the soil. Risk occurs when this gas enters buildings and the decay products are breathed in. These decay products can damage the lungs and cause lung cancer. Everyone is at risk for developing lung cancer from exposure to radon gas.

Radon can be found anywhere. Outdoor levels are usually very low, but indoor levels can be very high. It doesn't matter where you live, how old your home is, or what type of foundation it has—the only way to know the level of radon gas in a home is to perform a test. Testing is easy and inexpensive to perform. It is suggested to test every 2 years or after renovating your home. The only way to know if your home has elevated radon concentrations is to test. Short-term tests can be done in 2-90 days, and long-term tests can be done in 90 days-1 year.

To find out more about radon and testing recommendations, please visit <https://hhs.iowa.gov/radiological-health/radon>

DELIVER BY  
THURSDAY,  
01/01/2026

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
HIAWATHA, IOWA 52233

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Hiawatha, IA  
Permit No. 33

ECRWSS

## HIAWATHA CITY COUNCIL ACTION

### RESOLUTION #

DECEMBER 3, 2025

- #25-258 Final Pay Estimate #1 for 2025 Sidewalk Maintenance Program
- #25-259 FY2025 Auditor's Report
- #25-260 FY2025 C SKFRF Examination Report
- #25-261 Setting PH for FY2026 - 2030 CIP
- #25-262 28E Agreement with City of Cedar Rapids for Blairs Ferry Road Traffic Signals
- Ordinance #1018** Amending Hiawatha Code of Ordinances Chapter 63 Speed Regulations §63.05 Special Speed Zones (3) Special 35 MPH Speed Zones

DECEMBER 17, 2025

### RESOLUTION #

- #25-263 Approval of FY2026 - 2030 CIP
- #25-264 PSA with Shive Hattery for Ushers Ferry Creek Restoration
- #25-265 Setting PH for Proposal DA with Servpro of Cedar Rapids
- #25-266 Temporary Construction Easement - CEC
- #25-267 Identifying ROW for Boyson Road Reconstruction Project
- #25-268 Corridor MPO for Regional Transportation Funds
- #25-269 Authorizing Official Newspaper
- #25-270 Appointment of two PD Chaplains
- #25-271 Authorizing Certification to County Treasurer for Collection of Delinquent Funds
- #25-272 Authorizing Library to purchase a Charlie Cart, Garden Beds, Exterior Seating & Garden Storage

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be  
obtained online or by request to the City Clerk's Office at  
City Hall at  
319-393-1515 x526



<https://www.hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/>



## COFFEE TALK WITH MAYOR DODSON

It's time to talk. Do you have ideas, solutions or thoughts about the City of Hiawatha? Mayor Dodson wants to hear from you!  
Join him at Roasters Coffee House in Hiawatha!

JANUARY 8  
FEBRUARY 12  
MARCH 12  
7:00 - 9:00 AM



## HIAWATHA HISTORY COMMISSION

Do you like history? Would you be interested in helping preserve Hiawatha's History?

The Hiawatha History Commission would love for you to join them!

Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thursday of the month at  
9:00 AM.

## CELEBRATING FREE BOOKS FOR KIDS 0-5!



Since Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program began in the Hiawatha area, **299 children** have registered for free & 76 have graduated!



Sign your 0 - 5 year-old up today, FOR FREE, at  
[www.hiawathapubliclibrary.org/imagination-library](http://www.hiawathapubliclibrary.org/imagination-library)