**MAY 2022 VOLUME 166** 



While shopping the Hiawatha Garage Sales, stop by the Plaza for a bite to eat from Come 'n' Get It Food Truck and browse our variety of vendors!

# 11AM - 2PM

County Line Catering

Smiley's Soup & Sandwiches

El Kahir Shriners Popcorn Truck

HIAWATHA INSIGHTS

- Chef Green & Co.
- Loosies Food Truck
- Floats & Sodas

- Good Morrow Pizza

Come 'n' Get It Food Truck



- La Reyna Taco Truck
- Rockin' 5K BBQ
- Totally Rolled Ice Cream







#### HIAWATHA PUBLIC LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN

In today's climate of public accountability, continual change, and reduced resources, a community-focused strategic plan is essential for effective library service. The Hiawatha Public Library has completed such a

planning process.
Eunice Riesberg, the Northeast District Consultant for the State Library of Iowa, utilized Strategic Planning for Results by Sandra Nelson, the most up-to-date planning model for public libraries. This model emphasizes involving the community and setting priorities based on local needs. The plan is prepared by the library director and staff and approved by the library board of trustees. The plan is based on structured input from community stakeholders about local needs and priorities.

We recruited people from the community to join a group that discussed a community vision, needs list, and recommended service priorities for the library. The participation of community members, parents, and

library users was especially valuable.

It is important to note that this is a strategic plan rather than a long-term plan. Our committee chose from 18 service responses for the library to focus on in the next three years. The plan includes specific goals, objectives, means of measurement, and the time frame of each objective.

The plan addresses three service responses, but we are not limited to them or to the goals and activities listed. We will continue to offer the same services and programs that you have come to rely on. However, this plan gives us specific direction for the next three years. We will revisit the plan continuously in order to check our progress, refine our expectations, and gauge the success and obstacles we encounter along the way.

The mission of the Hiawatha Public Library is to strengthen the community and improve the quality of

life by:

• Providing resources and programs that foster the creation of young readers

 Serving as a central source of information about programs, services, community agencies and organizations

Welcoming new immigrants and refugees

Stay up-to-date with the complete menu of Hiawatha Public Library summer programming at www.hiawathapubliclibrary.org

#### **GEARING UP FOR SUMMER READING**

Coat yourself in sunscreen and put another log on the fire. It's time to Read Beyond the Beaten Path. Hiawatha Public Library challenges readers of all ages to enroll in our summer reading program. This reading camp runs from June 1 – July 30 and offers more than mosquito bites and poison ivy.

The excitement is contagious at the library as it happily announces the return of an all in-person summer! Yes, reading program registration will still be easily accessed online but all prize redemption will take place face-to-face. Additionally, Youth Services Librarian Alicia Mangin is thrilled to introduce Dexter the Dragon, our summer mascot who asks you to find his hiding place weekly in the Children's Department.

Read Beyond the Beaten Path celebrates nature and the great outdoors. In recognition, Youth Services will offer free complementary programming featuring animals. Iowa raptors, Blank Park Zoo creatures, beautiful butterflies, cold-blooded critters, and giant cockroaches are just a few of our invited friends. Wednesdays at the Plaza, a weekly 11:30 program during June and July at the new outdoor venue Hiawatha Village Center Plaza invites families to bring a sack lunch and enjoy guests, stories, and crafts. The Cedar Valley Rocks & Mineral Society, Hiawatha Fire Department, and Waffles the Mini Horse have already agreed to join us.

You're on Teen Turf on Thursdays from 3:00-4:30. Dedicated to young adults, topics include a Selfie Scavenger Hunt, an Upcycle Workshop, a Pride Party, and Indoor Yard Games.

Adult Programming Librarian Marta Petermann has a plethora of summer crafts and activities planned, as well. On June 14, the African American Museum of Iowa presents Juneteenth and Emancipation, an examination of this holiday's history and how it is celebrated.

In keeping with the summer theme, adults will be privy to a weekly series called Outdoor Fundamentals. In each session, Professor Elizabeth K. Andre of Northland College will help you hone the practical skills you need to set off for the water or the woods. Topics include everything from building a campfire to packing your gear.

Because campfire stories often lead to spooky stories, the Spectre Group returns on June 11 to share their Video Paranormal Presentation of the Villisca Axe Murder House, Farrar Schoolhouse, and

more.



Providing Assistace to Community Homeowners (PATCH) aims to fill a gap in resources following the Derecho storm. The program will provide support, referrals, and financial assistance to low-to-moderate income Linn County homeowners impacted by the storm.

Housing Fund for Linn County and ECICOG will serve as the application manager for homeowners and the collaborative organizations. The program will be available as long as a source of funding is available.

#### **Types of Assistance**

- Construction management support
- Identifying immediate needs
- Identifying contractors
- Scheduling work
- Working with contractors throughout the construction/repair process

#### Financial assistance

- Forgivable loans up to \$15,000
- 5-year forgivable mortgage placed on the property for the loan amount
- Repayment occurs when homeowner receives FEMA, SBA, insurance, or other proceeds
- A portion may be forgiven if the amount received from the above sources does not cover costs
- No credit check required to qualify

#### **Program Requirements**

- Applicant must be the homeowner according to the Cedar Rapids or Linn County Assessor's office
- Home must be:
  - Owner-occupied
  - Primary residence as of 8/10/2020
  - Taxed as real estate
  - Located in Linn County
  - Insured or capable of being insured after work is
- Annual household income must be at or below the following amounts by household size, shown in the table below:

MFI	1-person	2-person	3-person	4-person	5-person	6-person	7-person	8-person
80%	\$50,050	\$57,200	\$64,350	\$71,500	\$77,500	\$82,950	\$88,700	\$94,400

#### Find additional information at www.ecicog.org/patch.html

you are AWESOME & AMAZINGYOU ROCK!

Cooldn't THANK YOU!

### You are greatly appreciated!

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR COMMUNITY!
Hiswatha is better because you're here!
THANK YOU You are incredible

WAY TO GO TEAM! Live Work. PLAY. Hiawatha!





As we celebrate building safety month sponsored by the International Code Council, we would like to recognize the staff of the building department in Hiawatha who work tirelessly with all members of the construction industry, design professionals and property owners to assure our buildings are safe, sanitary and sustainable for our citizens to live, work and play in beautiful Hiawatha.

The department includes:

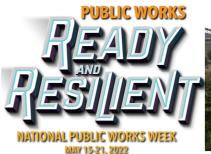
Tiffany Stinson; Permit Technician

Jim Fisher; Asst. Building Official / Inspector

Jerry Youtsey; Code enforcement / Rental Housing

Manager

Patrick Parsley; Building Official





Public works superheroes help keep communities strong by providing an infrastructure of services in transportation, water, wastewater and stormwater treatment, public buildings and spaces, parks and grounds, emergency management and first response, solid waste, and right-of-way management. They are what make our communities great places to live, work and play! Join us in celebrating these superheroes! Thank you Rod Jasa, Kirk Stout, Rob Opfer, Kevin Beckner, and Trent Coberly for always being ready and resilient while serving the Hiawatha Community!





May 1 through 7, 2022 will be the 53rd Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week. Initiated in 1969 by IIMC and endorsed by all of its members throughout the United States, Canada and 15 other countries, the week is a time of celebration and reflection on the importance of the Clerk's office. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation that officially declared Municipal Clerks Week the first full week of May. In 1994 and 1996, President Bill Clinton also signed proclamations confirming Municipal Clerks Week. Thank you to Hiawatha City Clerk, Kari Graber, and Deputy Clerk, Amy Scheer, for all that they do for the City of Hiawatha!





National Emergency
Medical Services Week
brings together local
communities and medical
personnel to honor the
dedication of those who
provide the day-to-day
lifesaving services of
medicine's frontline.Thank
you EMS staff for serving
our community!





During National Police Week, May 11 - 17 and every week, we are incredibly grateful for our brave men & women in uniform who risk their lives every day to keep families in Hiawatha & across the nation safe. To Hiawatha Law Enforcement Officers and Officers across our great nation, thank you for all you do to protect our communities.

## **AMNESTY COLLECTION**

May 9, 2022 - 7:00 AM

Please have items placed at your curb before 7:00 AM



#### **ALLOWED:**

- Broken glass placed in a plastic bucket or other suitable container. Windows and doors with broken glass will not be collected.
- Small items placed in trash cans or plastic bags. Mark trash cans with a red "X" if they are to be discarded
- Large items other than doors or furniture, nothing longer than 4' will be collected. Please cut railroad ties, plastic, lumber, carpet and drywall in no larger than 4' lengths and tie in bundles. No large demolition project debris. Please remove nails, screws and all hardware from lumber, trim pieces, drywall, etc.
- Metal and appliances need to be placed curbside separate from other items as they will be collected by a different crew.



#### **NOT ALLOWED:**

- Waste oil & solvents
- Batteries
- Deposit beverage containers
- Pressurized tanks
- Cans with undried paint
- Cardboard
- Florescent bulbs
- TV's and Computer monitors

To learn more about how to properly dispose of these items please contact Linn County Solid Waste Agency at 319-377-5290





# WATER DEPARTMENT PROPOSED COMMODITY WATER RATE SCHEDULE

Hiawatha Water rates are based on a minimum fee for the first 1,000 gallons of water. The base rate for all water meter will not be increasing at this time. The proposed change is for the commodity water rate which affects each 1,000 gallons of water thereafter the first 1,000 gallons.

Due to capital improvements and inflationary costs of operations and maintenance; the Hiawatha Water Board of Trustees is proposing to continue with the current 7% commodity rate schedule that has been in place since 2014. The current rate schedule reflects a 4% increase for capital improvements and 3% increase for inflationary cost of operations.

This proposed schedule has been based upon the completion of a rate study completed by Piper Sandler that looks at our overall projection of future expenses and projects. The Water Board will set the Public Hearing for the Commodity Rate Schedule at the May 17th Water Board meeting with the public hearing and passing of the resolution at the June 21st meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Water Department during the hours of 7:30-4:00 Monday thru Friday at 319-393-5556.

#### HIAWATHA WATER QUALITY REPORT AVAILABLE

Hiawatha's Yearly Water Quality Report (or Consumer Confidence Report) will no longer be mailed out to our Hiawatha residents. The report is now available online. To access the CCR Report go to the Hiawatha City Website (www.hiawatha-iowa.com) and select Water under Departments. On the Water page, scroll down select Consumer Confidence. This link will take you to the Iowa Rural Water Association Website where you can "View CCR Report". You will be able to view reports from 2011 thru 2021.

#### FOREVER CHEMICALS, (PFAS) INFORMATION

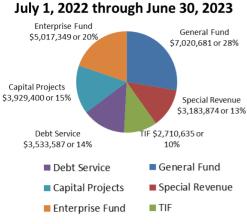
Lately there has been a lot of discussion and news to listen to about per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (commonly referred to as PFAS or forever chemicals). These chemicals were used in such products as non-stick coatings, carpet, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food, chrome plating, and some firefighting foams.

Recently the lower Department of Natural Resources

Recently the Iowa Department of Natural Resources tested a water sample from Water Treatment Plant Well #6 in Hiawatha. The results returned showed that this well is not influenced by these "forever chemicals".

Additional testing for the Hiawatha Water Department is required by Environmental Protection Agency to test the water at other Hiawatha Water Treatment Plants. Those tests will be conducted in the near future. Once the results of the tests are delivered, The Hiawatha Water Department will provide our citizens with that information.

# FISCAL YEAR '23 BUDGET OVERVIEW At the March 16, 2022 Regular Council Total Budgeted expenses \$25,395,526 Meeting, the Hiawatha City Council



Meeting, the Hiawatha City Council adopted the budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2023 that will begin July 1, 2022. Discussions began last fall with department managers and council members by setting priorities and goals for the upcoming year and have demonstrated responsible budgetary decisions and our accountability to the Hiawatha residents.

The City of Hiawatha elected officials have weighed the needs and benefits of projects and services against their associated costs. Some of the projects included in the FY23 budget are Water, Sewer, and Storm Sewer improvements, updates in Parks and

Recreation, Library, Fire and Ambulance and Police Departments.

Taking into consideration the council's goal of maintaining the tax levy rate, the city was able to levy for Employee Benefits and Debt Service.

The tax rate will stay the same as FY22 at \$14.75 per \$1,000 of assessed taxable valuation for Fiscal Year 2023. Based on a residential property valued at \$100,000, the city portion of your property taxes would be approximately \$798.71, which estimates to a \$34.98 reduction, or up to 4%, compared to Fiscal Year 2022 property taxes. The city's tax levy is a very important part of the residential property-tax equation. A property owners' tax bill is determined when Linn County Assessor values a property and the state sets a "rollback", or what percentage of the value of property is subject to tax. The property value is then multiplied by the levies of the other jurisdictions with taxing authorities, such as the State of Iowa, Linn County, Local School Districts and Community Colleges. The City of Hiawatha receives approximately 40% of the total taxes you pay to Linn County Treasurer.

FY23 City of Hiawatha Budget Highlights:

- City levy rate maintained at \$14.75 per \$1,000 of taxable value
- Impact to residential property owner: City property tax decrease of 4.20% (based on \$100,000 assessed property value)
- Impact to commercial property owner: City property tax decrease of 0.01% (based on \$100,000 assessed property value)
- Hiawatha receives 40% of total property taxes paid to Linn County Treasurer
- Achieved a General Fund ending balance of 42% of the fiscal year expenses



Former Hiawatha History Commission members, Jim and Edie Wheeler, shown playing waterball, a popular firefighter competition played at conventions and special events. Edie was proud to serve as the Chairperson on the History Commission until she passed in September of 2016. In March of 2022, Jim also passed. Together they owned a print shop between Emmons and Fisher Street in 1970. With the help of another gentleman, they printed the first Hiawatha newspaper called "Hiawatha Happenings".



Please Join Us & Get Certified in CPR& First Aid Training

THURSDAY, MAY 19 8:00AM - 12:00PM

8:00AM - 12:00PM HIAWATHA COMMUNITY CENTER

Register at www.Hiawatha-lowa.com



#### VOLUME 166

#### May Calendar

01 Hiawatha Farmers Market 10:00 AM

04 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM

05 Free Pulse Fitness 6:00 PM

07 City-Wide Garage Sales

07 Craft & Vendor Market 9:00 AM

09 Amnesty Collection

09 History Commission 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

17 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM

18 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM

23 Planning & Zoning Meeting 5:30 PM

30 City Hall Closed for Holiday

#### June Calendar

01 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM

03 Food Truck Friday 11:00 - 2:00 PM

09 Free Pound Fitness 6:00 PM

10 Food Truck Friday 11:00 - 2:00 PM

13 History Commission Meeting 1:30 PM

13 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 PM

14 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM

14 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM

15 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM

17 Food Truck Friday 11:00 - 2:00 PM

21 Hiawatha Business Summit 8:00 AM

24 Food Truck Friday 11:00 - 2:00 PM

25 Hi-Yoga

27 Planning & Zoning Meeting 5:30 PM

#### Watch pre-recorded Council Meetings

Mediacom Channel 4 Thursdays 7:00 PM ImOn Channel 4 Wednesdays 6:00 PM DELIVER BY MONDAY, 05/02/2022

# Postal Customer Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

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

#### **ECRWSS**



Hiawatha Soccer May 6
Rec United Soccer May 6
First Aid & CPR Class May 13
Blastball June 11
NFL Flag Football July 29

Register today at www.higwatha-jowa.com





#### CITY DIRECTORY

CITT DIRECTORY			
TITLE	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
City Manager	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	kwilladsenehiawatha-iowa.com
Community Development Director	Patrick Parsley	319-393-1515 x229	pparsley@hiawatha-iowa.com
City Engineer	Jon Fitch	319-393-1515 x528	jfitchehiawatha-iowa.com
Public Works Superintendent	Rod Jasa	319-393-6601	rjasaehiawatha-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	Matt Powers	319-393-4180	mkpowers@hiawatha-iowa.com
Library Director	Jeaneal Weeks	319-393-1414	weeksjehiawatha-iowa.com
For more information about Cit	y of Hiawatha and i	ts services, call 319–393–15	515 <b>or visit</b> 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

JERRY MOHWINKLE

imohwinkle@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

Sign up for Hiawatha text and e-mail alerts today!



#### **Hiawatha Council Action**

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained online www.hiawatha-iowa.com/goverment/city-council-documents/ or by request to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall at 319-393-1515

