JULY 2023 VOLUME 180



It is with mixed emotions that we will bid farewell to someone who has been at the heart and soul of our beloved library for many years. Our esteemed Library Director, Jeaneal Weeks, will be retiring from their position at the end of July, and we want to take a moment to reflect on their remarkable journey and express our deepest gratitude for their invaluable contributions.

We took some time to speak to Jeaneal about her career, life with the Hiawatha Library and upcoming adventures to follow a well-deserved retirement.

A little bit about Jeaneal Weeks...

Originally, Jeaneal is from Mason City, Iowa and her husband Pat and her have lived in Cedar Rapids for 24 years. She also mentioned Ollie, her current dog in the long list of dogs in her life.

Jeaneal has been a librarian for 31 years, 24 of them at the Hiawatha Public Library. She started the same year as the Metro Library Network was formed. She has a BA from University of Northern Iowa, English Education, MA from Cornell University, African American Studies and Literature, and an MLIS (Master of Library and Information Science).

What inspired you to become a librarian?

"My mom inspired me. She is a voracious reader, and she raised me to be a voracious reader. My "home" library is the Mason City Public Library. I fell into being a librarian because there was a job opening posted in the lobby when I was in between jobs and examining what I want to be when I "grew up." Granted I was in my late 20's."

What drew you to Hiawatha library originally?

"It was the easiest job interview I ever had. I was new to town, and the library director, Rosemary Earl, called me out of the blue. She had heard I was a children's librarian. When I came for an interview, Rosemary and I simply walked around the library talking for 4 hours after which I asked, "Do I get the job?" Little did I know that my first day was the first day of summer reading. Rosemary became my mentor that day."

What has been your most challenging project, and why?

"The expansion/remodel project was incredibly challenging. I learned that people who don't use the library don't know what libraries do. I heard the comment many times that people don't need libraries anymore because we have Google. I learned that the best way to gain support is by telling our story. Telling our library story touches people. They would rather hear what happened in story time than the number of children attending story time."

What is your funniest/best memory at Hiawatha library?

"There are so many! One of the best was when Marta Petermann was wearing a Clifford the Big Red Dog costume at the park, and I gave her a ride back to the library. She dare not take off the costume because that would break some hearts with the realization that Clifford is not real. As a result, I had to stuff Marta in my car, costume and all. She barely fit. Marta is a good sport."

What are your hopes for the library field?

"I am confident that the difficulties librarians face regarding censorship will die down. I take comfort in the fact that none of the criticism of libraries is new. We have been in precarious positions before and will continue to be."

What are your plans for retirement?

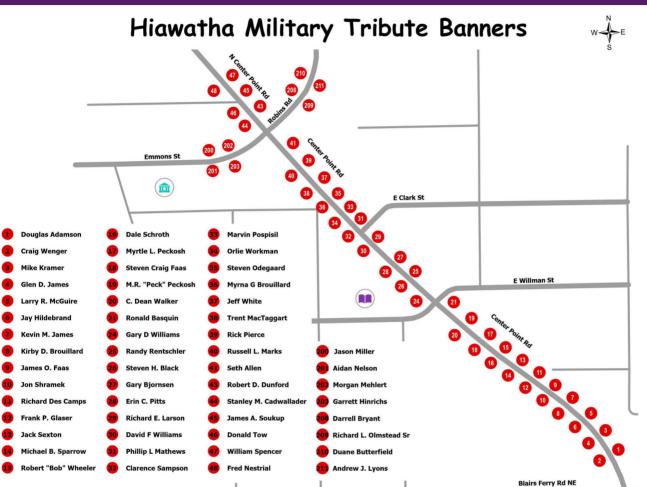
"First I will sleep and play with my dog Ollie. I also plan to stay in the library field through the Government Affairs Committee and the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Iowa Library Association. I plan to volunteer for some of the agencies I have worked with. I'm keeping my options open. You never know what I might come up with."

TOWER TERRACE INTERCHANGE



NOW OPEN

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED



Hiawatha has always taken pride in the men and women who have served in our military. The Military Tribute Banner Program allows friends and family members to honor their heroes who are currently serving and those who have served by displaying a full color, double-sided, tribute banner along Center Point Road. These banners will be on display between Memorial Day and Veterans Day in 2023, and then again in 2024. A limited number of banners will be added in 2024. Watch for the flier in the January 2024 edition of the Hiawatha Insights to honor your local hero next year.

MEET the TEAM



Pat Kremer Promoted to Captain Police Department



Sarah Moss Circulation Clerk



Drake Tucker Public Works Technician I Public Works Department



Marriah Talbott-Malone Circulation Clerk Library

COMMODITY WATER RATE SCHEDULE

Hiawatha Water Rate updates took effect July 1, 2023. The Hiawatha Water Board has NOT increased the base water and irrigation rates, however, the commodity rate does increase yearly based on the Commodity Water Rate Schedule. The City Council passed an ordinance in July 2021 to increase the Storm Water charges yearly. See FY2024 breakdown below:

Water Bill Breakdown:	Water	\$9.08
There are no changes to the Minimum	Sewer	\$9.72
Water Rate for the first 1,000 gallons for	Maintenance Program	\$2.25
water. The minimum Storm Sewer charge	Storm Sewer	\$4.75
increased from \$4.50 to \$4.75 for	Urban Tree Fee	\$2.00
residential customers. The minimum	Tax (6% Excise)	\$0.68
residential water bill is now \$28.48.	Total Minimum:	\$28.48

Irrigation Water Breakdown: Minimum Irrigation Rate for the first 1,000 gallons is now \$19.66	Irrigation Maintenance Program Storm Sewer Tax (6% Excise)	\$11.81 \$2.25 \$4.75 \$.85
	Total Minimum:	\$19.66

If you should 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 FIRE DEPARTMENT SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Are you looking for a fun and exciting way to give back to your community?

Do you want to help your friends and neighbors in their time of need?

Do you want to be a part of an organization that is community oriented?

Are you interested in learning about the Fire Department or Ambulance service for a possible career?

Have you ever thought about volunteering for the Fire Department?

If you or someone you know answered yes to any of these questions, then we have an opportunity for you! The Hiawatha Fire Department is currently accepting applications to be considered for the next recruit class this fall. You can find applications at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/job-opportunities/ or in-person at Hiawatha City Hall, 101 Emmons Street. If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Chief Powers at 319-393-4180 or stop by Fire Station I located at 60 10th Ave.

AMNESTY TOTALS

Our Amnesty Pick-up Day event in Hiawatha has gained immense popularity among the residents. Every year, the city's crews diligently collect and dispose of various items placed at the curb during this special week.

Acceptable items for disposal include household appliances, bundled tree branches, and even old tires. The best part is that residents are not charged for this service, but it is limited to items originating from Hiawatha residences.

This year we observed a significant increase in the number of items that did not meet the requirements for our program. The city crews usually manage to clear all the curb-side items within a span of four days. However, this year, it took them a total of nine days to complete the task due to the larger volume of non-qualifying items.

ltem	2022	2023	
Trash/Furniture	64 tons	102 tons	
Tires	1.4 tons	1.7 tons	
Appliances	89	234	
Yard Waste	6.5 tons	7.3 tons	

To facilitate the ongoing success of this immensely popular event without any financial implications, we will strictly adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Hiawatha Insights. We are looking forward to this event in 2024.

FIRE ISO RATING

The Insurance Services office (ISO) completes an analysis and surveys the Fire Department approximately every five years. The analysis and surveys are used to determine a Public Protection Classification for the Fire Department. The Public Protection Classification classifies departments based on nationally recognized standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association and the American



Water Works Association. The three main areas evaluated include, Emergency Communications, the Fire Department and the Water Supply. After the evaluation, ISO assigns a classification rating to the fire department on a 1–10 scale with 1 being the best.

Last fall the Fire Department went through this evaluation and we are pleased to announce that we were able to renew our level 3 rating. According to ISO's 2020 statistics out of the 39,850 departments they evaluated only 5,700 are rated a 3 or higher. Your Fire Department is excited to be in that top tier.

According to ISO this rating plays an important role in the underwriting process at insurance companies. Most US insurers use the rating as part of their decision making when deciding what policies to write, coverages to offer or prices to charge for personal or commercial property insurance.

K9 GOLF OUTING



On Sunday, August 6th, the Hiawatha Police K9 Unit will be hosting their 11th Annual 4-Person Best Shot Golf Outing at Hunters Ridge Golf Course in Marion to raise funds to support the K9 Program. K9 KAYA and Sergeant Naaktgeboren will be hosting the event, which has already sold out.

Proceeds from this event support of the Hiawatha Police K9 Unit and the purchase and training of future K9 teams.

To make a donation, purchase "Team Kaya" merchandise or for more information about different HIAWATHA
POLICE K9 GOLF
OUTING

SUNDAY, AUG. 6TH, 2023

JUNTERS PIDGE GOLF COURSE
MARION, IOWA

10 TEAM

SES / GOLF CR

MARION, IOWA

LIMIT

4-PERSON
TEAM
SES / GOLF CR

MARION, IOWA

LIMIT

4-PERSON
TOURNAMENT
SPONSORS

Otter Creek Country Store
Cedar Rapids Toyota
Pinnacle Realty
Cancun Mexican Grill
Oscar's Family Restaurant
Dave Wright Nissan Subaru
Darrah's Towing & Recovery

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE
HIAWATHA POLICE K9 UNIT



sponsorship opportunities or the Golf Outing, please contact Sergeant Erik Naaktgeboren at <u>K9ehiawathapolice.com</u>.





Join us on August 11th at 5:30pm in Guthridge Park for a Tiny Tot Triathlon! Bike, Pedal and Slide your way through a miniature triathlon course! All participants will receive a medal and FREE Kona Ice! Ages: 3-10 years old Fee: \$10.00 Sign up today at https://bit.ly/tinytottri



Learn to play the **ukulele!** This class for teens & tweens will teach the basics of ukulele chords, strumming, and melody. You'll come away with several songs under your fingers and the ability to figure out more on your own. Students should come to the first class with their own ukulele - or borrow from our limited supply.

Days: Mon, Wed, & Fri Dates: July 31 - August 11 Time: 5:30 - 6:30 PM Fee: \$120

Register at https://bit.ly/HiawathaUke

TOUCH AUGUST 4 · GUTHRIDGE PARK FREE ADMISSION



Meet Rapunzel! Children ages 3-10 are invited to enjoy a Royal Party, an evening full of crafts and pictures with our special guest, Rapunzel, on July 14th in the Hiawatha Community Center! The fee is \$15/child but parents can accompany children free of charge! Register today at https://bit.ly/3MtkUpF

Stick around after the Royal Party for MOVIES UNDER THE MOON featuring Disney's Tangled for free on the BIG SCREEN outside of the Community Center in Village Center Plaza at 9:00 PM!

101 Emmons Street Hiawatha, IA 52233



VILLAGE CENTER PLAZA FUCk ridaY5

KOUNTRY KORNER 07TH

GOOD MORROW PIZZA TAYLOR CONCESSION

LADYBUG CONCESSIONS

OPAL AND HAZELS PIZZA KEEPIN' UP WITH THE JONES'S THE FREEZE

CASSEROLE KITCHEN COUNTY LINE BBQ & CATERING 21ST

28TH

14TH

STILLWATER HALF CAF

JOIN US FOR LUNCH!



July Calendar

02 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

02 New Horizons Band Concert 12:00 PM

04 City Hall Closed for Holiday

04 Municipal Band Concert 7:30 PM

09 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

13 Free Pound Fitness 6:00 PM

14 Movie under the Moon 9:00 PM

16 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

23 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

30 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

August Calendar

04 Touch a Truck 4:00 PM

04 Music in the Park 6:00 PM

04 Fireworks 9:00 PM

06 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

06 K9 Golf Outing 1:00 PM

10 Free Pound Fitness 6:00 PM

11 Tiny Tot Triathlon 5:00 PM

11 Music in the Park 6:00 PM

13 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

18 Music in the Park 6:00 PM

19 HiBRAI 8:00 AM

20 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

25 Music in the Park 6:00 PM

27 Farmers Market 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Hiawatha Parks and Rec is partnering with Jumping Fitness to bring FREE classes to Hiawatha this August! Jumping Fitness is an exhilarating, low-impact cardio training program that combines the thrill of fast and slow jumps, dynamic sprints, powerful elements, and balancing exercises. With energetic music and carefully choreographed movements, Jumping Fitness transforms exercise into an enjoyable and effective experience for everyone! Saturdays in the Brown Pavilion at Guthridge Park. Limited spots available! Sign up today at https://bit.ly/freejumpingfitness

STAY UP TO DATE WITH PROJECTS AND DETOURS AT WWW.HIAWATHA-IOWA.COM UNDER THE "NEWS" SECTION

2023 Street Improvements Project - The city recently contracted with LL Pelling to work on street improvements at Nixon Drive, Rainbow Blvd and 3rd Ave/Marion St. Nixon Drive entails removal and replacement of sidewalk and curb and gutter, as well as an asphalt overlay from Northwood Drive up to Nixon Elementary. This site will also include a new sidewalk crossing on Northwood Drive to the south side of the roadway. Rainbow Blvd includes new ADA ramps at 13th St as well as a new asphalt overlay from 12th Ave to 14th Ave. 3rd Ave work includes new curb and gutter from Marion St south to the dead end as well an asphalt overlay. Finally, a new asphalt overlay will be placed on Marion St from 3rd Ave to 4th Ave. All work is scheduled to be completed by August 11, 2023.

Crack and Joint Sealing - The city recently contracted with Asphalt Repair Services to provide crack and joint sealing on asphalt pavements as well as resealing parking lots at Guthridge, Tucker and Clark parks. This project includes joint sealing on city park trails as well as a pavement sealer. Work is expected to start in July with all work scheduled to be completed by September 2023.

Edgewood Road Extension Study - The city recently entered into a contract with Anderson-Bogert Engineers as well as the City of Cedar Rapids to update the Edgewood Road Extension Study that was last visited in 2008. In 2008, a roadway alignment with options was presented in a final report. After 15 years, it was determined that we needed to update the study to reflect new development along the corridor including the construction of the Tower Terrace Rd Interchange on 1380. This updated study will help both cities with budgeting over the next 10–15 years. The study will look at updated traffic counts, roadway design, intersection options and cost opinions. By reviewing Cedar Rapids and Hiawatha land use maps, and what has been constructed over 15 years, the consultant will provide an implementation plan complete with updated cost opinions. This will allow Hiawatha to move forward with filling in the gap between Pecks Landing and Litchfield Drive as well as reconstruction of Edgewood Road north to Progress Drive. City staff welcomes public input on Tuesday, July 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Community Room, 101 Emmons Street. This will be an open house format to allow questions and feedback.

GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY: SIDEWALKS

This is a reminder our City believes in maintaining a safe environment for our citizens and visitors through a good neighbor policy of sidewalk maintenance.

City Ordinance 136 deals with the construction and maintenance of all sidewalks in Hiawatha. This section of the code describes who is responsible for maintaining sidewalks, the standards for maintenance and the process for assuring the sidewalks are maintained.

A property owner is responsible for maintaining the sidewalk adjacent to their property (Sect. 136.04). This responsibility includes the removal of snow and ice and the maintenance of the sidewalk itself. Code Section 136.02 defines the "Defective Sidewalk" issues which must be corrected.

- Vertical separations equal to one (1) inch or more.
- Horizontal separations equal to one (1) inch or more.
- Holes four (4) inches in diameter and missing full depth parts of sidewalk.
- Excessive spalling and cracking
- Excessive dips and bumps in the sidewalk.

The Community Development Department addresses defective sidewalks through complaints received concerning unsafe sidewalks and through our sidewalk maintenance program. Our department verifies the violation and sends notice to property owners regarding unsafe sidewalks requesting them to be corrected.

For defective sidewalks the City works with the owner to develop appropriate time frames for corrections. The City will assist property owners repairing unsafe sidewalks through our permitting and inspection processes. However, if the owner fails to replace the unsafe sidewalk the City has authority to repair the sidewalk and to assess the owner for the costs associated with the correction.

The details of the on-going sidewalk maintenance program can be accessed through the city web site. https://www.hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/public-works/sidewalk/ We are currently addressing the second quadrant and notices for correction have been sent. Corrections are overdue so the City will be seeking bids from a contractor to correct the violations. The responsible citizens will be assessed and for the work and administrative fees.

Preventive maintenance eliminates the need for additional city involvement. More importantly, it keeps our city safe. We encourage all property owners to maintain safe sidewalks as part of being a good neighbor in Hiawatha.



Thanks to the community for coming to Hiawatha's 73rd Birthday Party at Food Truck Fridays on June 9th.

Everyone enjoyed spinning the wheel for the many, MANY prizes from our amazing Hiawatha businesses!

Today's events are history of tomorrow. Help place current events into Hiawatha's History by joining the History Commission. For more information about joining the Hiawatha History Commission, contact Kari Graber, City Clerk at kgraber@hiawatha-iowa.com or call 319-393-1515 x526.

DELIVER BY SATURDAY, 07/01/2023

Postal Customer Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

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

ECRWSS

HIAWATHA COUNCIL ACTION

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained online 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 x526

May 17, 2023

Resolution #23-099 - #23-100

General Obligation Capital Loan Notes

Resolution #23-101 - #23-102

LOSST Revenue Bonds

Resolution #23-103

Interfund Transfer of Sums FY2024

Resolution #23-104

2023 Crack and Joint Sealing Project

Resolution #23-105

Mower Purchase

Resolution #23-106

Shade Panel Purchase

Resolution #23-107

AirFX Soccer Field Use Agreement

June 7, 2023

Proclamation

Pride Month

Resolution #23-108 - #23-109

Sewer Waiver

Resolution #23-110

Pakar Management LLC

Resolution #23-111

Memorandum of Understanding with City of Cedar Rapids, City of Marion and Cedar Rapids Metro Economic

Alliance

Resolution #23-112

Lifeline Type III Ambulance purchase

Resolution #23-113

Fire Station No. 1 Dorm Remodel Final

Retainage

Resolution #23-114

Indian Creek/Dry Creek Sanitary Sewer

Project Final Payment

Resolution #23-115 - #23-116

Hiawatha North First Addition

Resolution #23-117

Hiawatha Public Safety Building

Resolution #23-118

Meadowbrook Estates Addition

Resolution #23-119 - #23-120

Public Works Vehicle

Replacement

Resolution #23-121

Wage and Salary Schedule

FY23-24

July Meeting Calendar

05 City Council 5:30 PM

10 History Commission 1:30 PM

10 Board of Adjustment 5:30 PM

11 Parks Commission 5:30 PM

11 Library Board 7:00 PM

18 Water Board 5:30 PM

19 City Council 5:30 PM

24 Planning and Zoning 5:30 PM



EMAIL ADDRESS TITLE **NAME PHONE** City Manager Dennis Marks 319-393-1515 x523 dmarks@hiawatha-iowa.com City Clerk Kari Graber kgraberehiawatha-iowa.com 319-393-1515 x526 Finance Director Cindy Kudrna 319-393-1515 x522 ckudrna@hiawatha-iowa.com Parks & Recreation Director kwilladsenehiawatha-iowa.com Kelly Willadsen 319-393-1515 x251 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 rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com Rod Jasa 319-393-6601 Water Superintendent 319-393-1515 x232 mreckerehiawatha-iowa.com Marty Recker Police Chief chiefehiawathapolice.com Ben Kamm 319-393-1212 Fire Chief mkpowers@hiawatha-iowa.com Matt Powers 319-393-4180 Library Director weeksjehiawatha-iowa.com Jeaneal Weeks 319-393-1414 For more information about 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.



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