★ ★ ★ ★ ★ SPECIAL ELECTION 2024 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Election Day: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 Polling Hours: 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Find your polling location: https://bit.ly/election-tool

Deadline to return absentee ballot to Linn County Election Services: Tuesday, March 5 at 8:00 PM

Deadline for winning candidate to be sworn in: Friday, March 22nd



CJ Flynn

Can you provide a brief overview of your background and experience?

I grew up in Hiawatha and graduated from Kennedy High School and Kirkwood Community College. I have worked in tech support since I was a teenager. I am a small business owner with my tech consulting business www.technicallyeasier.com

What motivated you to run for council and what do you hope to achieve if elected?

I want to keep Hiawatha a great place and build on the success that the city has had in the past. I will govern based on the 2036 Comprehensive Plan. If elected I want to keep Hiawatha an affordable, safe community with even more amenities and opportunities for our residents.

What unique perspectives or skills do you have that you believe will benefit the council and the community?

I have lived a majority of my life in Hiawatha, I developed an understanding of the diverse needs within our community. Having grown up in an upper middle-class neighborhood and now I'm living in a working-class neighborhood, I am uniquely positioned to hear the needs of all residents.



Adam Kirkpatrick

Can you provide a brief overview of your background and experience?

As a candidate for Council, I am honored to offer a multifaceted background blending military service, city government experience, and a corporate career focused on aerospace and government contracts. My mission is rooted in a steadfast commitment to serve our community with integrity, innovation, and a tireless dedication to progress. I hold an undergrad degree from Mount Mercy University, and completing my MBA and graduating in May of this year.

What motivated you to run for council and what do you hope to achieve if elected?

My vision is centered on promoting transparency, equity, and prosperity while addressing the pressing environmental challenges we face. I believe in empowering residents to actively participate in shaping the future of our city, ensuring that their voices are heard and valued in decision-making processes.

What unique perspectives or skills do you bring to the table that you believe will benefit the council and the community?

I believe in harnessing unique viewpoints and talents to drive innovation, foster inclusivity, and ensure sustainable growth.

Can you provide a brief overview of your background and experience?



Jill Weigel

I am married with three grown daughters. Our family moved to Hiawatha in 2013, I didn't think it would be a huge change since we had lived so close for the 20+ years before that. Was I wrong! It is definitely unique from Cedar Rapids and such a special place to live! I am currently employed part-time at St Luke's Child Protection Center in Hiawatha as a Forensic Interviewer (7 months). I graduated from all three state schools in lowa, obtaining my BSW from ISU, my MSW from the Uofl and my EdD from the UNI.

What motivated you to run for council and what do you hope to achieve if elected?

I had it in the back of my mind that I would try to be a part of city council at some point in my life. I also recognize that the council role requires time and attention, and I wasn't sure until now that I would have had the time needed for this work. Now that our children are grown and I am working part-time, I have more flexibility and time to devote to this role. I literally watch the neighborhood where I live (Pines at Turtle Creek) change and develop before my eyes. It excites me to think about what is yet to come. There is so much happening in Hiawatha and I want to be a part of it all! I want to ensure that the voices of residents are heard and shared as these developments occur.

What unique perspectives or skills do you have that you believe will benefit the council and the community?

I am collaborative and respectful in my actions with others. I value what each individual brings to a situation and I try to consider things from the perspective of others so that I can truly understand their concerns and needs. I try not to pre-judge or determine how things will go and remain open-minded. I am a strong communicator and think about all stakeholders when making decisions and relaying information. I hope to support the needs of Hiawatha residents and to help communicate and address those needs through the council. I want Hiawatha to be a place that people choose to be, now and in the future.

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX HEARING NOTICE FOR FY25 BUDGET

The State of Iowa legislature approved a change to our property tax system in 2023. One of the requirements from that change is for every property owner to receive a Proposed Property Tax hearing notice required under Code of lowa 24.2A(2) after March 20, 2024. An example of a portion of what the notice will look like has been provided, along with a brief explanation. In this example, the property owner was estimated to pay the city \$807 during FY24 and is budgeted to pay \$639 in FY25, which is a 20.82% decrease. This shows an estimate of the change in budgeted taxes to be paid to the city during FY25 on a home or business with an assessed/actual value of \$100,000 by applying the actual FY24 and budgeted FY25 city total tax rate.

Tax Rate Comparison - Current VS Proposed					
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change		
City Regular Resident	\$807	\$639	-20.82%		
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000	Current Year Certified 2023/2024	Budget Year Proposed 2024/2025	Percent Change		
City Regular Commercial	\$807	\$639	-20.82%		

The amount of taxes you pay annually is affected by the state rollback. Rollback is a percentage set by the state and is applied to the assessed value of a property. In FY24 the rollback was 54.65%, meaning you were taxed on 54.65% of the assessed value. In the current notice year, the state rollback is 46.34%, meaning you are taxed on 46.34% of your property's assessed value. There was a reassessment on all property values last year across the state of lowa. Even though it will look like the tax levy is lower for FY25 than in FY24, a property owner could still see an increase in total property taxes due to the re-assessment in property values.

PET WASTE REMINDER



With the warmer weather and seasonal rain upon us, pet waste can become an issue. Exacerbated smells occur when waste is not properly disposed of creating an unpleasant environment for neighbors and potentially damaging our community aesthetics and reputation.

Being a responsible pet owner means picking up after your pet. The following are tips on how you can properly dispose of your pet's waste:

Flush It: The best way to dispose of pet waste is to flush it down the toilet. Just remember to remove the waste from the bag or litter before putting it in the toilet.

Scoop the Poop: Bag it and put it in the trash. Landfills are designed to safely handle substances such as dog waste and cat litter.

Thank you for keeping Hiawatha beautiful and preserving our valuable water sources. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Community Development Department at 319–393–1515.

FLUSHING WATER LINES



Starting March 25 through May 3, weather permitting, Hiawatha Water Department will be flushing water hydrants.

Although flushing hydrants may appear to waste water, this process is part of a maintenance program necessary to deliver the highest quality water possible to our customers.

As a result of the flushing procedure, residents in the area may experience temporary discoloration of their water. This discoloration consists primarily of harmless deposits and does not affect your safety as the water is still drinkable. If you experience discoloration, clear your pipes in your home by running all water faucets for a minute. We also advise postponing laundry until all internal pipes have been cleared.

This same philosophy of preventive maintenance is one you should use in your own home. Read more about water home maintenance at

FREE BOOKS FOR AGES 0-5





Enroll your child in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library & receive a FREE BOOK every month until their 5th birthday!

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has been available to Hiawatha residents since September 2023, thanks to the generosity of numerous local business owners.

Jennifer Goebel, Nixon Elementary School Principal has been excited to share this opportunity with families. "Bringing books into the home is an excellent way of starting a child on their path to learning and school readiness. This program sends books directly to children ages 0–5 monthly. Families can read together and grow their home libraries through this program. The time spent reading as a family unit will impact each child's emergent reading and book-handling skills, skills that support early reading and school readiness."

Dolly envisioned creating a love of reading and inspiring children to Dream More, Learn More, Care More and Be More. To learn more or register your child, visit https://bit.ly/hi-dpil

MEET the TEAM watha!



Sara Matthews Water Clerk I Water Department



Isaac Harthoorn Fire Medic Fire Department



Lauren Kuethe Circulation Clerk Hiawatha Library



Faith Kozak Circulation Clerk Hiawatha Library

HIAWATHA FIRE WELCOMES NEW VOLUNTEERS

The Hiawatha Fire Department would like to welcome several new volunteer members to the department. Over the past several months we have added ten new volunteers to the department. These new members have started their orientation with their Duty Crews and recently started their Academy where they will be taught



Names from Left to Right: Isaac Gukeisen, Brinkley Wright, McKenna Rosenkild, Brett Herman, Elijah Mallicoat, Jacob Schmitz, Tyler Becker. Not Pictured: Brady Ehlers, Kim DeBow and Lokeswaren Swaminathan

Firefighter 1. The Firefighter 1 curriculum covers the basic skills and knowledge to operate safely on a fireground. After the Academy is complete those who are not already EMT will be taking the EMT course. We are excited for these new members and we are always looking form more. The fire department is planning the next academy to start early this summer. If you are interested in volunteering for the Hiawatha Fire Department, visit https://hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/fire- ambulance/join/ or contact the Fire Station at 319-393-4180.

NEW POLICE K-9 AGILITY COURSE



Last fall, Hiawatha Police K-9 Unit added a new agility and obstacle course for supplemental training. The supplies to build the course were purchased through the fundraising profits from the K-9 Golf Tournament which is held annually in August at Hunters Ridge Golf Course. Sergeant

Naaktgeboren was able to design and construct the obstacles to fit the needs of training a Police Service Canine. The obstacles are designed to help K-9 KAYA maintain a high level of physical fitness, have confidence to work independently, build trust with her handler, and become familiar with obstacles that she may encounter in real life deployments. The course includes jumps of various heights representing different types of fences used at homes, a vertical wall, a balance beam, a wall with a window opening, a ladder, and a pipe/culvert for crawling through. K-9 KAYA has really enjoyed this new course that is available for our ongoing training. The course is located in the fenced enclosure around the Hiawatha Water Department water tower facility on Boyson Rd at N. 20th Ave. The K-9 Unit would like to thank the Water Department for providing a safe and secure space for training.

Additional information about the Hiawatha Police K-9 Unit, as well as a short video showing most of the obstacles, can be found on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/hiawathapolicek9unit

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO



KEVIN BECKNER TECHNICIAN II PUBLIC WORKS -20 YEARS-



DEB TOBIAS COLLECTION DEVELOPER HIAWATHA LIBRARY -15 YEARS-



JEFF WHITE TECHNICIAN I PUBLIC WORKS

-5 YEARS-



AMBYR SEVERSON RECREATION COORDINATOR PARKS & RECREATION -10 YEARS-



Show off your Hiawatha knowledge!

Where is this Grandmother Oak located? Why is this tree called "Grandmother"?

Answer to February's Mystery:

February's Mystery showed horses on Robins Road in a parade celebrating Hiawatha's Third of a Century Birthday in 1983.

We need your help!

How should the City of Hiawatha celebrate their 75th anniversary?

Call Marilyn James at 319-721-7077 with your answers!

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

Blairs Ferry Road Sidewalk from North Center Point Road to Sammi Drive

The City of Hiawatha has been working with the City of Cedar Rapids on the design of ADA compliant sidewalks on both the north and south sides of Blairs Ferry Road. The sidewalks are designed to be 6-feet wide with new ADA accessible curb ramps the entire distance. Cedar Rapids is leading the design process as Hiawatha only has roughly 2 blocks of sidewalk on the north side of Blairs Ferry Road from North Center Point Road to Scott's Family Restaurant. The project is expected to bid in April 2024 with construction starting in May 2024. We expect to receive a detailed schedule from the contractor in late April.

Blairs Ferry Road Bridge Overlay at I-380

The lowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) will be completing a bridge overlay project in the summer of 2024. This work will entail new traffic signals, modifying the southbound off ramp to create a left/thru lane as well as a right turn lane, constructing new ADA pedestrian routing on the north side of the roadway and the overlay on the bridge itself. Traffic flows will be interrupted as the work will need to be done in phases while maintaining one lane of traffic in each direction. The work is scheduled to begin as early as May 2024 or as late as July 29, 2024. Once work has begun, the bridge work itself will take up to nine (9) weeks to complete. The overall project including southbound offramp work, ADA accessible sidewalks and new traffic signals will take up to fourteen (14) weeks.

Interstate 380 and Boyson Road Interchange

The lowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) has been working on the plans of the new interchange at Boyson Road. This project will include a diverging diamond layout very similar to the Tower Terrace Road interchange. The final plans will be wrapping in the next few months before the project is bid in August 2024. At this time, the project is set to begin in the fall of 2024 and be completed by the fall of 2026. Traffic impacts will be minimal in 2024 as construction will begin on the new bridge that will be north of the existing bridge. In 2025, we expect to see closures on existing on and off ramps due to the required grading and paving. We expect to see continuous traffic on Boyson Road in 2025 and 2026 except for a closure for approximately 3-4 weeks each year for tie-over connections for the new bridges.

Boyson Road from Hawkeye Drive to Robins Road

The City has begun working with the design consultant for roadway improvements on Boyson Road between Hawkeye Drive and Robins Road. The consultant will be looking at two options for the roadway layout in the preliminary design: 1) 2-lane roadway section with a roundabout at the intersection of Boyson Court; 2) 3- lane roadway section with a center turn lane. After the preliminary design, the city will hold a public open house to receive feedback on the two options. The design work is expected to take 18-24 months, with construction expected to begin in the spring of 2026.

PROGRESSION OF FIRE STATION NO. 2









On Saturday, January 27th, the Fire Department hosted over 60 EMS professionals from across eastern lowa for their annual EMS Saturday. This is an annual educational event where EMS professionals can get continual education hours for recertification of their EMS license. Class topics included: Respiratory Emergencies and Treatment, Identification and Treatment of Different Types of Shock, Caring for the Aging Population, Burnout and Moral Injuries, Pediatric Airway Emergencies and Head Injury Management. The classes were taught by area Doctors, Nurses, and Paramedics. These classes help to improve our First Responder's clinical knowledge and skills so that they can continue to provide the best pre-hospital medical care to the community.



MARCH 2 10:30AM Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday with Cat in the Hat stories & crafts!



MARCH 11 6:30PM Share a story with a fourlegged friend!



MARCH 12 10:00AM Play giant versions of classic board games!



MARCH 15 1PM OR 2PM Meet snakes. bearded dragons, and geckos!



The Mission of the Hiawatha Public Library is to strengthen the community and improve 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 and welcoming new immigrants and refugees

150 W Willman Street • 319-393-1414 • www.HiawathaPublicLibrary.org



EGG my







All proceeds benefit Friends of Hiawatha Parks & Recreation Foundation

Build the perfect board with Chef Allie Lanham, owner of The Hangry Lady! Learn how to put together a fantastic charcuterie board using perfect salami roses, diy spreads or jams, delicious cheeses, and handmade sweets! LEPRECHAUN COOKIE **DECORATING CLASS**

SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH

9AM • GUTHRIDGE PARK

STOP BY THE (21TABLE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE!

SPONSORED BYCENTURY 21. Signature Real Estate

Friday, March 22nd • 5:00pm

EARN TO BUILD A

CHARCUTERIE BOARD

Hiawatha Community Center
Pre-register at https://bit.ly/hangry9322

Thursday, March 14th · 5:00 - 6:30pm Hiawatha Community Center • \$55 Pre-register at https://bit.ly/3-14-24

Everything prepped and provided! 6 cookies, 4 icing colors, sprinkles, and a box - we just need YOU!

Hiawatha Native Tree Right-of-Way Enrichment Program

City of Hiawatha, in partnership The Monarch Research Project, is excited to offer the Hiawatha Native Tree Right-of-Way (ROW) Enrichment Program for Hiawatha residents. The primary goal of this initiative is to provide residents and landowners subject to ROW easements, with native Iowan trees to replace the canopy lost during the 2020 derecho, and to establish new growth in areas that were previously vacant.

Registration opens on March 2nd and closes on March 27th at 5:00pm.

You can register at:

bit.ly/HiawathaPlantingForward2024 or scan the QR Code

Trees will be available the second week of April. Staff will send out notification.



Have questions? Contact Rod Jasa at rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com

The program is open to Hiawatha property owners who have suitable space for tree plantings in the Right-of-Way (ROW) easement adjacent to their property.



VOLUME 188

March Calendar

02 Read Across America Day 10:30 AM 04 Preschool Storytime 10:00 AM

06 Mahjong 2:00 PM

07 Friendship Craft Club 6:00 PM

07 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM

07 Mystery Book Club 2:00 PM

07 Pound Fitness 6:00 PM

09 Caregivers Support Group 1:00 PM

11 Music & Movement 10:00 AM

11 Crafts for Kids: Spring Fun 1:00 PM

11 Scrabble Club 5:30 PM

11 Paws to Read 6:30 PM

12 Big Fun 10:00 AM

13 Expressive Arts 10:00 AM

13 Edible Crafts for Tweens 1:30 PM

13 Mahjong 2:00 PM

13 Friendship Craft Club 6:00 PM

14 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM

14 Cookie Decorating Class 5:00 PM

15 319 Reptiles 1:00 PM or 2:00 PM

18 Preschool Story Time 10:00 AM

18 Caring For Your Baby 6:30 PM

19 Tuesday Tales 10:00 AM

20 Doodlebugs 10:30 AM

20 Mahjong 2:00 PM

20 Friendship Craft Club 6:00 PM

21 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM

21 Comic Book Club 7:00 PM

22 Build a Charcuterie Board 5:00 PM

25 Preschool Story Time 10:00 AM

26 Tuesday Tales 10:00 AM

27 Mahjong 2:00 PM

27 Friendship Craft Club 6:00 PM

28 Scrabble Club 1:00 PM

29 City Hall & Library Closed

30 Easter Egg Hunt 9:00 AM

30 Comic Book Giveaway 10:00 AM

31 City Hall & Library Closed

For additional information visit www.Hiawatha-lowa.com/calendar

SAVE THE DATE



GLEANUPEVE

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024

WATCH FOR DETAILS IN APRIL **EDITION OF HIAWATHA INSIGHTS** **DELIVER BY** FRIDAY, 03/01/2024

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 https://bit.ly/Hi-docs or by request to the City Clerk at City Hall at 319-393-1515.

January 17, 2024 Resolution #24-006 Hotel Feasibility Study

February 7, 2024 Resolution #24-007 Sewer Waiver

Resolution #24-008 Amend No. 19 Urban

Renewal Plan

Resolution #24-010

2024 Street Improvements

Resolution #24-012

Resolution #24-009 Heritage Green 13th Addition

Cold Storage Facility Project

Resolution #24-011

Project

Interfund Transfer of Sums

maion mooning caronaar			
06	City Council	5:30 PM	
11	History Commission	1:30 PM	
11	Board of Adjustment	5:30 PM	
12	Parks Commission	5:30 PM	
12	Library Board	7:00 PM	
19	Water Board	5:30 PM	
20	City Council	5:30 PM	
25	Planning and Zoning	5:30 PM	

March Meetina Calendar

Supporting Business Success



McGrath Family of Dealerships will be expanding its business located at the corner of Boyson and North Center Point Roads in Hiawatha. The company will break ground on a new Hyundai facility this spring on existing land McGrath already owns at the Hiawatha site. The completion date is set for fall of 2025.

Jim Buresh Construction has moved its headquarters to a newly constructed building on Miller Road. The construction company has consolidated offices and warehouses, once located in Cedar Rapids, to the new Hiawatha facility. Jim Buresh Construction specializes in new home construction and remodeling and employs 15 people at their new site.

Stillwater Coffee Company has recently reopened under new management. The coffee shop, located off North Center Point Road in Hiawatha, is now managed by Marissa Anton and serves breakfast and lunch in an open concept shop.

"We are pleased to see this kind of growth from large and small businesses in Hiawatha. The economy is picking up and we're here to support that in any way we can," said Liz Mathis, HEDCO Coordinator. The former GoDaddy building, located at 1 Parsons Drive in Hiawatha, has been sold to local developers. Formal plans for redevelopment have not been released.

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS		
City Manager	Dennis Marks	319-393-1515 x523	dmarks@hiawatha-iowa.com		
City Clerk	Kari Graber	319-393-1515 x526	kgraberehiawatha-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	rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com		
Water Superintendent	Marty Recker	319-393-1515 x232	mreckerehiawatha-iowa.com		
Police Chief	Ben Kamm	319-393-1212	chief@hiawathapolice.com		
Fire Chief	Matt Powers	319-393-4180	mkpowers@hiawatha-iowa.com		
Library Director	Chris Stoner	319-393-1414	cstonerehiawatha-iowa.com		
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.



MAYOR STEVE DODSON mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com



COUNCIL MEMBER BEN FIEDLER bfiedler@hiawatha-iowa.com



COUNCIL MEMBER ROB ARCHIBALD rarchibald@hiawatha-iowa.com





COUNCIL MEMBER JEFF CATER jcater@hiawatha-iowa.com



American Legion Post 735



Hiawatha, Iowa

Avenue of Flags 2024

For \$40 a year, the American Legion will place a 3' x 5' American flag in front of your home on five National holidays:

Memorial Day Flag Day

Labor Day **Veterans Day**

Independence Day

Post 735 supports the following community activities:

Flag essay for 5th grade at Hiawatha. Nixon, and Viola Gibson

American Legion Scholarship

Legion Baseball

Hiawatha Kids League

Hiawatha Fun Days

Cemetery flags: Shiloh, Monroe & Buffalo



IF YOU WERE PART OF THE PROGRAM LAST YEAR, PLEASE USE THIS FORM AS Hiawatha, Iowa 52233 YOUR RENEWAL NOTICE

American Legion volunteers put up the flags and retrieve them. A receptacle is installed near the curb in front of each home. Post 735 is responsible for the replacement of any flag that is soiled, damaged or stolen.

Mail your completed form and check by May 1, 2024 to:

American Legion Post 735 207 Robins Rd.

Call 319-393-2377 for questions.

Detach and return with payment					
	Enclosed is our check for payable to "An 1st flag is \$40; additional flags at the same add				
Name					
Do you ha\	/e underground sprinklers? Yes No	Circle one below:			
Do vou have underground pet fence? Yes No		NEW or RENEWAL			