

Hiawatha Acquiring Property for New Water Plant

(KNZA)--The city of Hiawatha has begun the process of acquiring property for the construction of a new water treatment plant north of town.

Following an executive session Monday evening, the City Commission voted to proceed with an option for the purchase of a tract of land from the Koenig Trust. The mayor and city clerk were authorized to sign the option for \$1,000.

The commission also approved a resolution starting condemnation proceedings on the old locker plant property, which adjoins the Koenig tract.

City Attorney Don Cashman said City Administrator Mike Nichols has been trying to negotiate an option to purchase the 6 ½ acres to no avail for the treatment plant.

Cashman said approval of the resolution is the first step in the eminent domain process. He said the next step will be approval of an ordinance authorizing him to file a petition in District Court.

The city is looking at construction a water treatment plant to address the ongoing problem of high nitrate levels in its water supply system.

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