

Commission tables support letter for sports facility

**(KNZA)--The Hiawatha City Commission voted Monday evening to table for two weeks consideration of the approval of a letter of intent to lease land at Noble Park for a proposed indoor sports facility.**

**Mayor Bill Collins asked that the matter be tabled until after the proposal is presented to the Hiawatha School Board at their April 12 meeting.**

**The estimated around \$300,000 indoor facility is the first of a three-phase project proposed at Noble Park by the Hiawatha Baseball and Softball Club. It would also include a new softball field and upgrades to Paul Rockey Field.**

**The group says the letter of intent will allow them to begin fund-raising efforts.**

**In other business, the 2020 audit report for the city of Hiawatha was presented by Karen Linn, managing director of the Topeka CPA firm BT & Co.**

**Linn gave the city “ an unmodified opinion”, which is the best opinion the city can receive.**

**City Administrator Mike Nichols credited the work of City Clerk Tish Sims for the positive audit report.**

**Mayor Collins signed a proclamation that proclaims this as “John McLendon, Jr., Week” in Hiawatha.**

**The basketball legend and civil rights pioneer was born in Hiawatha on April 5, 1915.**

**The proclamation was read by McLendon's cousin, Vicki Combs.**

**It encourages all citizens to follow the many examples set by Coach McLendon both on and off the basketball court.**