

New Hiawatha City Administrator Sworn In

(KNZA)--New Hiawatha City Administrator Mike Nichols was sworn into office at the beginning of Monday evening's City Commission meeting.

City Clerk Vivian Constable administered the oath of office to Nichols who began work last week. Nichols comes to Hiawatha from Camdenton, Missouri where he had served as assistant city administrator and economic development director since August 2009. The commission last month approved a one year contract with Nichols.

In other business, Mayor Crosby Gernon recognized longtime city employee Tony Mendez on his retirement after 23 ½ years of service with the city. Gernon presented Mendez with a plaque and thanked him for his service to the city.

And the commission authorized the mayor and city clerk to sign the first of four easements needed for the Hiawatha Fitness and School Trail project.

Engineer Brian Kingsley with BG Consultants says plans are to put the project out for bid early next year, with construction taking place in the summer after school is out. The city has been awarded grants totaling more than \$1.2 million from the Federal Highway Administration and Kansas Department of Transportation to help fund the project.

Many Signals Communications