

Plans for Hiawatha street sales tax project advance

(KNZA)--Plans for the Hiawatha street sales tax project move forward.

The City Commission this week voted to solicit bids for the project, which will include improvements to various city streets.

If everything falls into place, the goal is to open bids on June 12th and award the project on June 18th.

The Commission also approved a resolution of intent to issue \$6 million in bonds for the project, which will be paid off with the proceeds from a half-cent sales tax approved by Hiawatha voters in 2016.

City Administrator Mike Nichols says the resolution must be published twice in the local newspaper, and then is subject to a 30-day protest period.

The city will be required to utilize private interim financing until the project is complete.

In addition, the Commission approved an amendment to the contract with the project engineer, BG Consultants.

Nichols says the amendment adds bidding and limited construction services at a cost of \$30,000.