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Plans for New Hiawatha Business Discussed

(KNZA)-A Hiawatha resident wants to open a new indoor recreation venue for kids.

Louis Scates, owner of S & S Construction, appeared before the Hiawatha City Commission Monday evening to discuss his plans to build a facility that would contain bouncy houses.

Scates is looking at purchasing two lots east of the new Best Western Plus Hotel for construction of the facility. The lots are owned by the Hiawatha Foundation for Economic Development.

Scates says concessions would be available and he plans to rent out the inflatables for parties at homes.

Mayor Crosby Gernon said he talked with the city's bond counsel, and the project would qualify for industrial revenue bonds. The commission is expected to approve a resolution of intent to issue the IRB's at their next meeting. Gernon said issuance of the bonds doesn't obligate the city financially.

Scates said the business would employ about 10 people.

The closest such facility is in St. Joseph.

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