

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN  
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
SPECIAL WORK SESSION  
TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2010**

The Special Work Session of the Grand Haven City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Roger A. Bergman in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

**Present:** Council Members Bob Monetza, Edward Nieuwenhuis, Dennis Scott, Michael Fritz, and Mayor Roger A. Bergman.

**Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** City Manager Patrick McGinnis, City Clerk Linda L. Niotis, Assistant to the City Manager Sam Janson, Public Works Director Bill Hunter, City Planner Kristin Keery, Community Affairs Manager Sandy Katt, Facilities Manager Dan Vivian, and Public Safety Officer Eric Berends.

**1. Water System Reliability Study 2010 – Bill Hunter, Public Works Director**

City Manager McGinnis stated that the City was required to report on water system reliability every five years pursuant to the Clean Water Act.

Public Works Director Hunter reviewed the materials in the agenda packet. The purpose of the study was to give 25-year projections and show needed improvements. A list had been compiled and added up to approximately \$3,000,000 in today's dollars. Improvements were to address dead-ends, undersized mains, and fire flow deficiencies in the system.

The study would be available for public review on the City's website.

**2. Waterfront Analysis Discussion – Kristin Keery, City Planner**

City Planner Keery reported that the 2007 amended zoning ordinance included a provision for rear yard setback for properties with water frontage using an averaging formula. She was not aware of any waterfront communities that used averaging. She believed that the overall averaging of the district was more important. She would also like to see decks removed from the calculations. She asked for Council direction on whether to have the Planning Commission review this section of the zoning ordinance.

Council Member Monetza stated that averages did not relate to individual properties. This proposed amendment would be more sensitive to the properties immediately adjacent to the property with a proposed change. He was in favor of having the Planning Commission review this ordinance.

Council Member Scott was in favor of a Planning Commission review.

Council Members Fritz and Nieuwenhuis liked the current averaging system but agreed that decks should not be included.

Mayor Bergman was in favor of sending this ordinance to the Planning Commission to have them review averaging, the deck issue, and City Planner Keery's opinions.

### **3. Coast Guard Festival Request for Services**

City Manager McGinnis stated that the Coast Guard Festival was not able to have a representative present at this meeting. The requests were not presented to the City until June 26, so this was the first council meeting to discuss them. There were not any surprises on their requests.

Council Member Fritz commented that every year the City has asked the festival to come sooner with their requests, but it does not happen. City Manager McGinnis replied that if there were ever any specific requests that Council was not comfortable with, the festival would have to be told that the request in question would not be approved. The festival was hung up earlier this year with the carnival location, but he would try everything possible to get the Coast Guard Festival to come to Council earlier next year.

Council Member Nieuwenhuis said he was disappointed that the request took so long to come to the City. He suggested that a deadline be set.

### **4. Reports by City Council**

Council Member Fritz said he noticed in the contract that was approved at the last council meeting that the contractor performing pavement marking would not be paid for 180 days. He asked if there was some way to change the pay scale. Council Member Scott agreed. City Manager McGinnis noted that the requirement had been included in all of the RFP's. The reasoning for the delay in payment is to be sure that the paint is of quality and that it holds up. The payment time could be moved up, but all of the bidders were aware of the time frame. Public Works Director Hunter was comfortable with releasing payment after 90 days. Council Member Scott suggested that 15 percent of the payment be held until the 180 days. Council Member Fritz said he received many complaints regarding problems with traffic control on the Fourth of July. City Manager McGinnis responded that the complaints had been reported to the Department of

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Public Safety, but he had not yet received a response. City Staff would determine if adjustments could be made. Council Member Nieuwenhuis said he had received positive comments regarding traffic on the fourth.

Council Member Scott had no report.

Council member Nieuwenhuis questioned the location of the next Parks and Recreation Board Meeting. City Manager McGinnis clarified that it would be held at City Hall. Council Member Nieuwenhuis noted that there was a large hole on the boardwalk near Snug Harbor. City Manager McGinnis replied that this area had been repaired a number of times. The belief is that something is undermining the area. Divers would assess the area to determine the cause and a replacement plan would be drawn up. Council Member Nieuwenhuis said it was a "whale" of a weekend and heard from many people how great Grand Haven was.

Council Member Monetza attended the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission Policy Committee meeting at which they approved the unified work plan for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the next year and looked at the transportation improvement plan for 2011-2014.

Mayor Bergman said he had noticed and notified the Manager's Office regarding political signs placed in the parkways around town. He wanted to remind the public that signs are not allowed on public property and must be placed on private property. He also noticed that motorcycles' kickstands on Washington Avenue were sinking into the asphalt. He requested that motorcycles be moved or have something placed under the kickstands. He attended the Fourth of July fireworks and commended the Department of Public Safety with their work with attendees and traffic. He visited East Grand River Park, and it was great to see what was done. It was worth the wait.

**5. Adjournment**

After hearing no further business, Mayor Bergman adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

  
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Roger A. Bergman, Mayor

  
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Linda L. Niotis, City Clerk