

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, JULY 19, 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, Finance Director Jim Bonamy, City Planner Kristin Keery, Neighborhood Development Coordinator Char Seise, Public Works Director Bill Hunter, Facilities Manager Dan Vivian, and Special Projects Manager Julie Beaton.

**1. Housing Division Presentation
- Char Seise, Neighborhood Development Coordinator**

Ms. Seise reported on the Housing Division programs since Council set goals regarding housing in 2006. Programs provided included pre-purchase home buyer education, foreclosure prevention services, and home purchase rehabilitation.

Council's goals were to create affordable housing opportunities for City of Grand Haven residents, create programs and services to improve quality of life, and be self-sustaining, using no taxpayer funds for the programs. The Housing Division met those goals by:

- Mastering the foreclosure prevention process
- Achieving program sustainability
- Maximizing available, free resources through grants, AmeriCorp program, and internships
- Being recognized by MSHDA as a highly competent housing service provider

Ms. Seise reviewed what steps needed to be taken to continue these services and what was needed to do those steps.

Council thanked Ms. Seise for her work in making these services available. These programs were good for the City and its citizens.

Council believed that the Housing Division should prepare a business plan and present it to them for approval. Council should also receive the proposed mission statement that should include, first and foremost, Council's original goals.

2. Financial Software Discussion
- Jim Bonamy, Finance Director

Finance Director Bonamy reviewed the information in the agenda packet and requested that Council allow the Finance Department and other staff to review New World and BS&A financial and accounting software systems. A recommendation would be sought by March 2011 with implementation to begin July 2011, if the budget allowed.

3. Deer Management Update
- Sam Janson, Assistant to the City Manager

Assistant to the City Manager Janson provided and reviewed with Council an update on deer management efforts, funding for herd reduction, harvested deer, deer-related traffic accidents, deer damage complaints, and deer survey options.

Council also reviewed three proposed ordinances proving for hunting on select private parcels in the City limits.

Council Member Nieuwenhuis asked if there was a plan to forward a recommendation to Council in September for action to be taken in the 2010 hunting season. The deer problem still had not been handled. People had stopped calling because they knew the City was researching the situation before taking any action. He was disappointed that the City had stopped being aggressive toward this public nuisance.

This discussion and the discussion regarding the request for services during Coast Guard Festival were continued at the following council meeting.

4. Adjournment

After hearing no further business, Mayor Bergman adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.



Roger A. Bergman, Mayor



Linda L. Niotis, City Clerk