

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2010**

The Special Work Session of the Grand Haven City Council was called to order at 7:00 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, and MSDDA Director Dana Kollwehr.

1. Presentation – Riverview Shops
- Sam Janson, Assistant to the City Manager

Assistant to the City Manager Sam Janson reviewed the information presented in the agenda packet and the planned capital investments for that property.

Council Members Monetza, Nieuwenhuis, Scott, and Fritz felt this issue had already been discussed with the previous council. The remodel of the bathrooms was necessary for the area and beneficial to the general population. The deck was also beneficial to the general population. Council was not in favor of pursuing one tenant and could not see anyone investing in a building that was not open year-round. The shops should not be abandoned and decisions for improvements each year needed to be done.

Mayor Bergman said he was in the minority on this issue but would support Council's decision. The appearance of the deck needed to be addressed and the ramps in that area needed to be made ADA compliant. He agreed that the building was an important asset of the waterfront and should not only be maintained but also have a good appearance.

City Manager McGinnis reported that the project to make the ramps ADA compliant would be coming to Council in a few weeks. The intent of the presentation at this work session was to be sure that all of Council was aware of the building's potential if it were kept seasonal as opposed to looking at a different business model. The current situation would cause the City to continue to subsidize.

Mayor Bergman stressed the fact that no one on Council felt that this area would ever generate enough revenue to pay for the investment.

(This year's scheduled capital improvements include a new ramp/walk at the northeast end, new guardrail/handrail and Harbor Drive steps, new identification signs, and removal of the existing canopy.)

2. Report by City Manager

Washington Street Project

The Main Street DDA was extremely sensitive to what happened last fall when the street was closed for the entire winter. It was seen as a dramatic failure of the City.

The contract with Jackson Merkey requires that they be completely done by December 1. Due to shutdown of asphalt plants around Thanksgiving and not knowing what the weather will be, the goal would be to be completed by the first two weeks of November. The scheduled re-start date of Contract 1 (infrastructure) was August 23. Special Projects Manager Shingledecker, the contractor, and the city engineer calculated the number of weeks it would take to complete the project and realized that they exceeded the allowable window. If the contractor's crews worked on Saturdays, they would gain at least one week. If extra crews were brought in, another week would be gained. Even with these changes, they were still a week short. Council could authorize the contractor to start the week of August 16, but this would interfere with the third block merchant's participation in the sidewalk sales. The City needed to do whatever possible in order for the project to be completed before winter.

Council agreed on the early start date, extra crews, and work on Saturdays.

3. Adjournment

After hearing no further business, Mayor Bergman adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.



Roger A. Bergman, Mayor



Linda L. Niotis, City Clerk