

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN  
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL/BOARD OF LIGHT AND POWER  
519 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

The Special Joint Meeting of the Grand Haven City Council and Board of Light and Power was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Bob Monetza in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 519 Washington Ave, Grand Haven, Michigan.

**Council Present:** Council Members Mike Fritz, Karen Lowe, and Mayor Bob Monetza.

**BLP Present:** Board of Light and Power Members Todd Crum, Andrea Hendrick, Kurt Knoth, Mike Welling, and Chairperson Mike Westbrook.

**Absent:** Council Member Kevin McLaughlin.

**Others Present:** City Manager Ashley Latsch, General Manager Rob Shelley, and City Clerk Maria Boersma.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Council Member **Fritz** moved, seconded by Council Member **Lowe** to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

**This motion carried unanimously.**

**CALL TO THE AUDIENCE**

**Jim Hagen, 400 Lake:** Commented on the original version of the current charter in regards to the Board of Light and Power and the Snow Melt Agreement.

**Mike Weavers, 637 Lake:** Commented on the Snow Melt Agreement.

**ORGANIZATION UPDATES**

City Manager Ashley Latsch presented an update on current City priorities and ongoing/upcoming city projects. Manager Latsch also updated everyone on upcoming property developments in the City.

General Manager Rob Shelley presented an update on the Board of Light and Power priorities and projects. A portion of the presentation also discussed different programs residents within the

service area can take advantage of to help reduce energy costs and footprint. General Manager Shelley also presented on a power outage that covered the entire GHBLP service area for about 1 hour from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. on September 9. The outage occurred due to an error at a northern substation, while simultaneously a southern substation was turned off due to scheduled maintenance.

### HARBOR ISLAND DISCUSSION

Public Works Direct Derek Gajdos presented an update on the coal yard. The process to clean up the remaining coal piles took longer than expected due to the PFAS intermingled with the piles. After working with EGLE and HDR, the city has been able to go out to bid for area waste management facilities to accept the material from the coal piles. Approvals will be brought forward to the BLP and City Council in the upcoming months. Updates on the entirety of the Harbor Island remediation project can be found at [renewharborisland.org](http://renewharborisland.org)

General Manager Shelley presented on the process for upcoming work regarding Harbor Island. The current process between the City and BLP is the City has been the main coordinator with HDR and applicable invoices are then sent to the BLP. The BLP earlier in 2024 passed a resolution stating the BLP will not be paying for new projects related to Harbor Island until there is an official agreement between the City and the BLP regarding remediation. The Harbor Island site has proven to be an incredibly complicated remediation site without a clear process forward between what the City is responsible for and what the BLP is responsible for. These two things together have created issues with staff in regards to moving forward on remediation. Staff is asking the two public bodies for a way to move forward to work together and create a more streamlined process and partnership on Harbor Island. General Manager Shelley is asking for upcoming Task Orders to be approved by the respective bodies task by task rather than the project as a whole to help clarify the financial responsibilities of each body. The direction of both public bodies is to direct the General Manager, City Manager, and Public Works Director to work together to establish a process to move forward with Harbor Island that will then be brought back to both public bodies for review and eventual approval.

### SNOWMWLET DISCUSSION

General Manager Shelley introduced the topic and gave a brief history of where both bodies are at in regards to an agreement made on the downtown snow melt system. Staff is asking the two public bodies for guidance on how to proceed. The guidance is the City Council will answer the Board of Light and Power resolution from February 29, 2024.

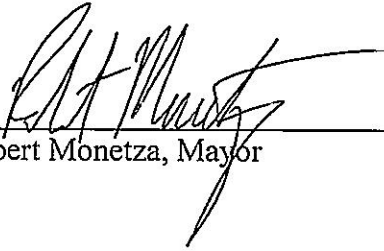
### CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

**Jim Hagen, 400 Lake:** Commented on the Snowmelt Agreement.

**Mike Weavers, 637 Lake:** Commented on the Snowmelt Agreement, and Harbor Island remediation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

After hearing no further business, Mayor Monetza adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.



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Robert Monetza, Mayor



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Maria Boersma, City Clerk