

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
THURSDAY DECEMBER 12, 2024**

The Regular Meeting of the Grand Haven City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Bob Monetza in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 519 Washington Ave.

Present: Council Members Mike Fritz, Karen Lowe, Kevin McLaughlin, Mayor Pro-tem Ryan Cummins, and Mayor Bob Monetza.

Absent: None.

Others Present: City Manager Ashley Latsch, City Clerk Maria Boersma, Assistant City Manager Dana Kollwehr, Finance Director Emily Greene, and Public Works Director Derek Gajdos.

PRESENTATIONS

City Manager Ashley Latsch presented on the City of Grand Haven's Year in Review. The presentation highlighted the goals made at last year's Strategic Planning Session and the status of their progress. **Attachment A**

City Manager Latsch presented a high-level overview of the Community Satisfaction and Budget Priority Survey Results.

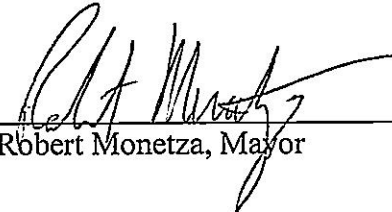
COUNCIL DISCUSSION

City Council members shared their goals for the City in 2025. Key topics that were discussed included creating a concise list of City-owned properties and evaluating if any property could be sold in the future, hiring a consultant to develop a paid-parking RFP (Request for Proposals), a Public Safety Operating Millage, continuing to seek outside funding for Harbor Island and other projects, methods to support affordable housing, and continuing to make additional payments towards the pension liability.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

ADJOURNMENT

After hearing no further business, Mayor Monetza adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.


Robert Monetza, Mayor


Maria Boersma, City Clerk

Attachment A

City of Grand Haven Year in Review

2024 Highlights



Sale of Excess Property
Executed sale of the annex building and have begun evaluating the future of the current Harbor Transit facility upon their move.



Tree Plantings
Department of Public Works planted 107 street trees and 27 trees in parks.



Public Art
Partnered to add public art installations in the City at both the marina and Harbor Island.



MERS Surplus Payments
Created MERS surplus fund and began making \$50,000 per month over-payments to begin to reduce UAL.



Remediation Efforts
Received approval from EGLE to proceed with the Coal Pile Removal project, at a greater cost savings.



Public Safety
Completed a Fire Code update. Purchased Taser 10s and completing training, and outfitted and executed preventative technology system upgrades throughout the City.



Budget Efficiencies
Found efficiency in having IT to better utilize and leverage partnership with Grand Haven Area Public Schools, at a cost savings, and privatized custodial services at an additional cost savings near \$100,000.



Community Energy Plan
Final draft of the Community Energy Plan is complete and coming before Council for adoption.



Chinook Pier
Executed RFP process for Chinook Pier and selected a development partner for the project.



Boardwalk Overhaul
Funded the complete replacement of the boardwalk, effectively fundraising enough to lower the City's contribution and save nearly \$100k in funds for future repairs.



2-Way Conversions
Received approval from the railway to fully convert Franklin and Columbus to 2-way from US-31 to Harbor.



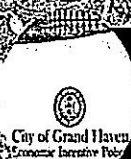
Grant Funding
Leveraged general fund dollars to secure over \$8.1 million in local, state and federal funding for various city projects.



Forest Management
In the current budget year, we incorporated \$75k for invasive species treatment at Muncie's Hollow and an additional \$70k at the Cemetery, treating over 327 trees.



Drone Purchase
Purchased a thermal imaging drone to conduct inspections for invasive species and additional ecological studies.



Incentive Policy
Created Economic Incentive Policy that was evaluated and passed by City Council.



Harbor Island
Future use planning round completed for Harbor Island, executed with grant funding from the State utilizing our current environmental consultant HDR.



Road & Sidewalk Improvements
Improved 2.33 miles of road. Also, repaired and replaced 3,500 sq. ft. of sidewalk and corrected 72 tripping hazards.



Communications
Created a Budget Brief document to summarize budgetary decisions, and implemented a Community Budget Priority Survey.