

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN  
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
SPECIAL WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018**

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

**Present:** Council Members Bob Monetza, Josh Brugger (arrived @ 6:50 p.m.), Dennis Scott, Mike Fritz, and Mayor Geri McCaleb.

**Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** City Manager Patrick McGinnis, City Clerk Linda L. Browand, Assistant to the City Manager Vester Davis, Public Safety Director Jeff Hawke, Public Works Director Derek Gajdos, Finance Director Jim Bonamy, Main Street Director Diane Sheridan, and Public Safety Officer Ryan Enlow.

**1. Columbus Street, Two-Way Traffic Pattern**

- Jeff Hawke, Public Safety Director

Public Safety Director Hawke reviewed his memo and other information on the one-way pairs given in the agenda packet. He noted whatever was decided, the more balanced the streets were, the better.

Mayor McCaleb stated Columbus was two-way from 5<sup>th</sup> Street during the Washington Avenue reconstruction and it seemed to work. It seemed to be more of a benefit to businesses on Columbus to make it two-way.

Council Member Monetza did not think the one-way pairs were necessary. There might be more interest now than in the past for making these streets two-way, even for a portion. He did not see an issue for making Columbus two-way and felt it would be good for traffic circulation for the downtown and developing businesses. He would support looking into this matter again but was looking for broader support.

Council Member Scott liked the idea of making Columbus two-way, especially from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Harbor and was willing to try it. He felt Franklin should stay the way it is and just experiment on Columbus.

Council Member Fritz felt that if the cost to change Columbus was astronomical, he was not in favor. Traffic signals were expensive. The City had other things that needed to be done and maintained. If the City were able to obtain a grant, maybe then the possibility of two-way streets could be looked into. He was most worried about the cost factor.

Council Member Brugger was in favor of Columbus being made two-way from at least 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Harbor. He suggested maybe the two-way could start at 7<sup>th</sup> Street instead.

City Manager McGinnis stated there was not a safety issue, whichever way Council decided to go. City Staff would do whatever Council directed. There had been considerable discussion and public involvement in the past. It was up to Council if they wanted another significant public overview, but it was not necessary. He believed the cost to make the change to Columbus would be fairly minimal. The City would not know if traffic signals would be necessary until the two-way was tried.

2. **Water & Sewer Rate Study**

- Dan Sorek, Prein & Newhof

Mr. Sorek noted he had worked on a long-range outlook for rates. The goals were to fund the capital improvement plan and project out long-term. He looked at a pay-as-you-go scenario and also a bonding scenario. Mr. Sorek reviewed the information presented in the agenda packet.

Mayor McCaleb felt that if changes were made in the ready-to-serve charges it would help with the rate increases. Mr. Sorek responded the study was based on equal increases to the rates and ready-to-serve charges, but that could be changed. Council Member Monetza thought it would make more sense to add more to the ready-to-serve charge.

Council Members were in favor of the pay-as-you-go approach. The City had seen from ten years ago that bonding did not work as well. Money could be borrowed if there was an emergency. The City needed to prioritize what projects needed to be done and then handle any emergencies as they arose.

Due to the time, the next item was moved to the regular council meeting.

2. **Adjournment**

Mayor McCaleb adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

  
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Geri McCaleb, Mayor

  
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Linda L. Browand, City Clerk