

**STUDY SESSION**

The HBPW Board of Directors met  
**May 20, 2024**  
at 4:00 p.m.  
625 Hastings Ave.  
Holland, Michigan

**Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** PJ Thompson, Carolyn Maalouf, Paul Lilly, City Council Liaison Scott Corbin, and Ex Officio Member Keith Van Beek

**Members Absent:** Brian Lynn, Kyle Engbers, Dave Couch

**Staff Present:** Ted Siler, Janet Lemson, Joel Davenport, Becky Lehman, Chuck Warren, Nate Johnson, Alex Craigmile, Andrew Reynolds, Julie DeCook

24.208 **Communications From the Audience**

Three people from Holland came to speak and to investigate the possibility of extending the street melted sidewalk on College Avenue further south and east to include the Eastcore & Montello Park neighborhoods. They spoke in support of extending the zone of streetmelted sidewalks: Lori Appledorn of the 360° Eastcore & Montello Park neighborhood, Jill Verstag, the President of Evergreen Commons, and Emily Prince Weerda of Heartbeat of Holland. All were interested in finding more information on the cost of these extensions and the likelihood that they might be involved in the support or potential fund raising of this work during the City's road work scheduled in 2025. They had nothing but positive comments on this important link to neighborhoods that weren't directly in the downtown Holland area.

24.209 **Financial Update – April 2024**

*For information only*

**STUDY TOPICS**

24.210 **Water Conservation and Demand Management Program Tactical Action Results**

In FY 2022, staff completed a tactical action to investigate strategies to reduce peak water demand in the summer months in order to preserve existing capacity and defer capital investments in plant expansion. In FY 2024, a tactical action team was formed to review those strategies and operationalize programs and rates to further the goals of efficient water use in our system. The team will review the TA outcomes and timelines for implementation.

*For information only. No Board action required.*

24.211 **Residential Demand Response Program Analysis**

With expected load growth and electric capacity currently at a premium in Michigan, HBPW continues to evaluate opportunities to reduce our peak demand. As a part of the TA, staff explored many demand response options, including a Direct Load Control (DLC) smart thermostat approach to reduce our peak demand.

*For information only. No Board action required.*

*\* Red italics indicate information or discussion added during the meeting and/or action taken.*

24.212 **Public Distributed Generation Tactical Action Results**

HBPW has a distributed generation (DG) program that allows customers to build renewable energy generation on their own properties. However, the electric utility has yet to build any renewable energy generation projects itself other than those projects it has invested in outside of our service territory.

The TA team set out to investigate the costs and benefits of DG projects that could be located within our service territory and be visible to our customers. We termed such projects “public distributed generation.” It is generally assumed that local small-scale projects are more expensive on a per-kW or per-kWh basis than utility-scale renewable projects that HBPW has historically pursued. In light of new funding streams and new regulatory requirements, the team attempted to determine what those true cost differences would be in 2024 and also considered the qualitative benefits of building such a project here in Holland.

The findings of this TA will also be shared with the consultant recently selected to complete HBPW's latest integrated resource plan (IRP) so public distributed generation can be considered in the evaluation of possible generation resources.

*For information only. No Board action required.*

24.213 **HBPW Utility Service Director Comments**

- Our next meeting is June 10, a regular meeting

24.214 **Board Comments**

- Lilly asked for clarification on the M-Power donation on customer HBPW bills
- Van Beek recently had a heat/air conditioning heat pump installed and is having very positive feelings about having made this investment and its overall efficiency.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board Meeting of May 20, 2024, adjourned at *5:59 p.m.*

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Janet Lemson, Secretary to the Board