

**General:**

**1. What qualifications/experience do you feel you possess that will enable you to fulfill the responsibilities of the elected office you are seeking?**

I have 24 years of working experience in sustainable business, occupational health, and environmental compliance. I have successfully changed my employer's purchasing of utilities at sites outside of Grand Haven, including electric and natural gas, to more efficient and more sustainable, sources. I track my company's carbon emissions and I am currently working on a plan for carbon neutrality. I routinely work with energy consultants and know how to effectively marry their expertise and access to data to stakeholders' needs. I have experience in a variety of clean air and clean water compliance work, including permitting for storm water, wastewater and VOC emissions. I consider environmental compliance one of the most important functions of any business. I am well versed in budgeting and strategic planning activities. I am also the current Corporate Compliance Officer at Shape, overseeing compliance and business ethics.

I have a strong sense of civic pride and currently serve as a member of the Grand Haven City Planning Commission.

**2. Have you ever run for political office before? If yes, please explain.**

No. However because of the current challenges with the BLP, I feel compelled to ask the voters to consider my expertise in energy an incredible asset for our community.

**3. If elected, what would be your top priorities and why?**

- A cost-effective, electrical energy distribution company is important for Grand Haven. The BLP needs to be concerned about cost, but also the dramatic changes taking place in renewable energy supply and energy storage systems.
- **HEALTH AND SAFETY:** The health and safety of our community is, and always will be, a **top priority for me**. The contamination on harbor island is very concerning and must be addressed. The BLP must develop a comprehensive plan to determine what the issues truly are, and, with our Federal, State, County and local partners develop a long term, cost-effective plan to resolve the challenges. My background as a planner in environmental matters will be invaluable. Transparency in this process is essential!
- **AFFORDABLE ENERGY:** Grand Haven's residential, commercial and industrial electrical rates are higher than other neighboring towns with municipal power companies, such as Holland and Zeeland. As a BLP Trustee, I will work hard to make our electrical rates, and "the bottom line of our bills" more cost-competitive.
- **RENEWABLE ENERGY:** The BLP is to be commended for their effort to expand the renewable energy in their portfolio. This effort must be increased. Coupled with cost-effective storage systems renewable energy must be expanded for the utility. Renewable energy conserves valuable natural resources, reduces carbon emissions, and is desirable whenever possible. Affordability and rate impacts have historically been concerns with renewable energy. Increasingly, renewable options (including energy storage systems) are becoming much more economical. I will push for an increase in the efforts of the BLP to considerably expand our renewable portfolio beyond our state's requirements.

**4. Please provide information regarding your knowledge of municipal power.**

Grand Haven BLP serves over 14,000 customers in Grand Haven, Ferrysburg and Robinson and Spring Lake Townships. For the last 17 years, I have been working with a local manufacturer (the BLP's largest industrial customer) to assess their electric usage, drive efficiency, and reduce cost.

I have worked with other power suppliers, including municipal and commercial utilities, in securing the best prices for my employer. I understand the issues from both the supply and the purchaser side.

**5. What are your top three priorities for the Board of Light & Power for the next 6 years?**

- **AFFORDABLE ENERGY:** We need to make our rates more competitive. This may mean stopping the development of the proposed Harbor Island complex.
- **HEALTH AND SAFETY:** Harbor-island contamination will likely take many years to resolve. My decision making as a BLP Trustee will always put the health and safety of the community as a top priority.
- **THE FUTURE OF ENERGY:** Working with the other BLP board members to develop strategies that adapt to evolving energy demands and technologies.

**6. Reliability and competitive rates are critical to not only manufacturers but to all customers of the BLP. If elected, how will you work with the board to insure both are a priority.**

As Trustee, I will fully support the established BLP mission: "to meet our community's expectations for **RELIABLE ELECTRIC SERVICE** that **RETURNS VALUE TO OUR CUSTOMERS**, and ensures the **ECONOMIC** and **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY** of the utility".

I will take the time to understand all possible impacts when making any decisions including: reliability, rate impacts, environmental impacts, etc. I will work to make the decisions of our utility more transparent to its customers. We need increased interaction between the customers and the policy setters at the BLP Board.