

THE CITY OF Eaton Rapids MICHIGAN

To City of Eaton Rapids Utility Customer,

For the past year City Council has been discussing with city administration the necessary upgrades and improvements that are needed to both the city’s water and sewer systems. Both infrastructures are aging and are at a point where major work is needed in order to keep them safe and sustainable. As with everything, costs for materials, labor, testing, and chemicals go up and over the years we have not been prudent at raising the water and sewer rates to cover for those increases however, each utility (water, sewer and electric) must be self-sufficient to cover costs associated with repairs, and upgrades. The current funds available in both the water and wastewater utility do not meet the needs to pay for these upgrades so we will be taking out bonds to cover the costs.

Effective July 1, 2023, there will be a 9% increase in both the water and sewer rates, reflective in your August, 2023 utility bill. We’ve gone too long without making significant upgrades and improvements and we simply cannot keep kicking the can down the road, or as my dad used to say, “use duct tape and bailing twine”.

No elected official wants to raise rates, trust me, this was a very long and thoughtful discussion by City Council. We also don’t want to be in a situation in a few years where larger increases will be necessary because we didn’t act when we should have. The most important aspect is making sure our water and wastewater systems are safe for all of you.

On a positive note, electric rates will remain the same at this time. In addition, the Utility Fund – Extra Voted Millage rate will be decreasing from 4.6679 to 3.25 Mills effective July Tax Bills, 2023. I am happy to answer any questions you may have, and as always, we welcome you to attend a council meeting. We meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays at both 5pm and 7pm.

Mayor Pam Colestock

CITY OF EATON RAPIDS
4TH OF JULY
CELEBRATION

PARADE
MAIN STREET
11:00AM

FIREWORKS
HOWE MEMORIAL PARK
10:15PM

MORE INFORMATION

Music & Movies in the Park – July 2023



TOP GUN MAVERICK
Monday, July 3 | At Dark
Martin Hansen Amphitheater



MINIONS THE RISE OF GRU
Friday, July 21 | At Dark
G.A.R. Island Park

Music in the Park | G.A.R. Island Park | 6-8PM

- 7/5/23 – School of Recreational Ukology
- 7/12/23 – Parted Waters
- 7/19/23 – Thick N Thin
- 7/26/23 – Acoustic Liberty



Charlie's Corner

Hi! My name is Charlie, and I live at City Hall. Some of you may have met me before when you have come into the office to conduct business. If we have not yet met, stop in and say "Hi"!

Interesting Fact: Unlike humans, cats cannot sweat to cool off. Instead, during hot weather, a cat will groom themselves to cool down. Their saliva evaporates off of their fur, cooling them down just like evaporating sweat cools the human body.



UPCOMING

MEETINGS

Monday, July 3, 2023 7:00PM
Planning Commission Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Monday, July 10, 2023 5:00PM
City Council Work Session
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Monday, July 10, 2023 7:00PM
City Council Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Tuesday, July 11, 2023 6:00PM
Arts Council Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Tuesday, July 11, 2023 7:00PM
Parks & Recreation Subcommittee Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Wednesday, July 12, 2023 7:00PM
Zoning Board of Appeals
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Friday, July 14, 2023 7:00AM
DDA Board Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 7:00PM
Parks, Recreation & Events Board Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Friday, July 21, 2023 7:15AM
L DFA Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Monday, July 24, 2023 5:00PM
City Council Work Session
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Monday, July 24, 2023 7:00PM
City Council Meeting
City of Eaton Rapids, City Hall
200 S Main St.

Remove Invasive Species:

Did you know that invasive species are the second biggest threat to biodiversity after habitat loss?

Unchecked growth of invasive plants can degrade the ability of ecosystems to function, cause significant damage to land and structures, and be costly and difficult to remove when established. For these reasons, it's often best to remove invasive species before they become well-established, when they can often be removed by pulling or digging, and to avoid purchasing plant ornamentals known for being invasive.



Invasive plant species commonly found in Michigan include garlic mustard, dame's rocket, multiflora rose, barberry, buckthorn, autumn olive, and purple loosestrife.

Learn more at: <https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/id-report/plants>

Summer Tax Bill Information

Bills will be sent out on July 3, 2023 and the due date for summer taxes is Friday, September 1, 2023 by 4:00PM. Penalties and interest will be added to all bills not received on time. Drop Box payments after 4:00PM on 9/1/2023 will **NOT** be considered on time and penalties and interest will be added. Postmark dates are not accepted as on time payments.



Ordinance Reminder – Sec. 11-39. Curbside Placement Time Limit

Garbage, solid waste, and rubbish shall be placed at the curbside no earlier than 6:00PM on the day before collection and shall not be left out beyond sunset on the established collection day, and the solid waste containers shall be stored on the house side of the sidewalk. Where there are no sidewalks, it shall be stored twenty (20) feet from the edge of the road or against the face of the house, whichever is less. (Ord. No. 1983-16, 8-22-83; Ord. No. 2015-20, 10-12-15)



On June 20, 2023, Genny Allen was hired as the Treasurer/Finance Director for the City of Eaton Rapids!

Genny has over 28 years of experience in accounting, administration, and human resources. In previous positions, she created and implemented processes and procedures to streamline accounting functions, developed and implemented budgets, worked with auditors, and developed a strong rapport with internal and external customers. Welcome to the Team, Genny!



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Eaton Rapids
MICHIGAN

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