

**City Council Meeting
September 25, 2023**

A regular Eaton Rapids City Council meeting was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on September 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Call To Order:

Mayor Colestock called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Roll call for the members of City Council:

Name	Present
Mayor Pam Colestock	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem William Steele	Yes
Susan Politza	Yes
Stacee Robison	Yes
Ken Nicholas	Yes

Pledge of Allegiance:

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation:

Pastor Mark Michalcewicz with Grace Baptist Church gave the invocation.

Approval of the Agenda:

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele moved, Councilperson Politza seconded, and the motion PASSED to approve the meeting agenda.

Approval of the minutes from the September 11, 2023, City Council Work Session Meeting:

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele moved, Councilperson Politza seconded, and the motion PASSED to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2023 City Council Work Session meeting.

Approval of the minutes from September 11, 2023, City Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele moved, Councilperson Politza seconded, and the motion PASSED to approve the corrected minutes from the September 11, 2023 City Council meeting.

Approval of check disbursements totaling \$534,290.57:

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele moved, Councilperson Politza seconded, and the motion PASSED to approve the check disbursements totaling \$534,290.57.

Citizen Comments and Questions:

Luke Schunk, 819 Jackson Street, came to the City Council meeting to thank Mayor Colestock and Building and Zoning Official Hummel for their quick response to his family's issue. By October 1st, the noise issue will be resolved.

Unfinished and Special Business:

Teen Center: Dave Ballard introduced the new Director of the Teen Center, Grace Fannin. Grace provided an update on what the Teen Center is providing the community. Grants provide the opportunity to keep teens engaged and learning over the Summer.

The Teen Center was awarded a \$3,000,000 Michigan Enhancement Grant to build a new facility across from the high school. They recently selected an architect through an RFP process and look forward to breaking ground next year.

The average number of students per day is 24, up from 12 per day last year. Since September 1st, the average number of students per day is 38. The highest day count was 56 students. In comparison, last Spring, the high day count was 62 students. The new Teen Center will be designed to anticipate student numbers of 80 per day with a high day count of 120. The first day the Teen Center was open in March 2018, 18 students were present.

The Talent Show was a great success. The event raised over \$30,000.

The Teen Center received an After School Time Grant from the Michigan Department of Education for Programming through the Summer months. They recently completed the grant paperwork for the 2024 grant year.

City Council commended the Teen Center staff and volunteers on their exceptional work.

Items of Business: None

Citizen Comments and Questions: None

Reports:

a. Fire Chief: none

b. Police Chief:

The Police Department staffing issues continue with the departure of Officer Southward. Her last day with the City is October 5th.

New Cadet Caleb Green will begin on October 11th. He will attend the Academy with a projected graduation date of March 2024. By June 2024, he should have completed his field training.

Chief Weeks is in conversation with the Police Union about part-time officers helping where needed.

The Police Department will host Community Mental Health.

Chief Weeks applied for a grant through the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards for Officer Platte's academy expense.

c. City Manager

Enterprise Vehicle Leasing Program: The delivery date of the ordered trucks may be delayed because of the strike. We are looking at a January date.

MERS Conference: Parks and Rec Director Cagle and Brooke Perkins will attend the MERS Conference in Detroit on September 28th and 29th.

The windows on the second floor of City Hall will be cleaned by September 29th.

Robin Webb, the new city Clerk, will start on Monday, October 2nd.

Building and Zoning Official Hummel will be out of the office from October 2nd through October 6th and October 11th through October 13th.

The Financial Audit is underway.

The Eaton Rapids Arts Council is hosting a scarecrow building workshop on Saturday, September 30th at City Hall from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Scarecrow Contest runs from October 1st through October 31st. Judging will take place on the Eaton Rapids Arts Council Facebook Page. Photos of the entries will be uploaded to the Arts Council's Facebook page on Friday, October 6th. Voting will be open from October 6th through October 27th at noon.

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) wastewater project will begin in October. Funding for the project comes from \$2.1 million from the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and a \$2.1 million bond.

The City did not meet the funding level for this year's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund grant. Eight municipalities were ranked higher than Eaton Rapids. Our application will automatically be resubmitted next year.

d. Council Members

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele reminded everyone that the City of Eaton Rapids Water Department will be flushing hydrants on Oct 3rd, 4th, and 5th.

Homecoming is Friday, October 6th.

The 3rd Annual Grand River Color Tour Triathlon will be held on Saturday, October 7th.

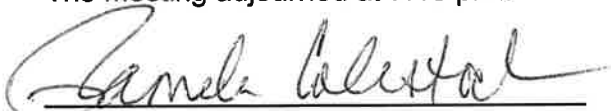
There are openings on the Planning Commission, the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA), and the Property Tax Board of Review.

e. Mayor: No report

Adjournment:

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele moved, Councilperson Robison seconded, the motion PASSED to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Pamela Colestock, Mayor



Yvonne Ridge, Interim City Clerk