

City of Eaton Rapids

Work Session Meeting

November 25, 2024

The Work Session of the Eaton Rapids City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on November 25, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Call To Order:

Mayor Colestock called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Colestock, Mayor Pro-Tem Steele, Councilpersons Malewski, Nicholas, and Loftus.

Administrative Staff present were City Manager Ridge, City Clerk Webb, Fire Chief McNutt, Public Works/Utilities Director Pierce, Treasurer/Finance Director Allen, Chief Weeks, Detective Snyder, Lieutenant Creger, and Attorney John Fowler.

Public Comments: None

Unfinished and Special Business: None

New Business:

1. Foreclosed Property Code Number 300-034-400-090-00

City Manager Ridge explained the tax foreclose process to Council with the recommendation for the city to decline the transfer of the parcel. Discussion ensued regarding the foreclosed property.

2. Security Cameras G.A.R. Island Park

Chief Weeks presented a proposal for installing additional cameras at the G.A.R. Island Park. Additional cameras in our parks have been an item of discussion in the past because of several vandalism incidents. Chief Weeks provided the camera proposal as an option. Discussion ensued.

3. Budget Amendment

Treasurer/Finance Director Allen proposed a budget amendment of \$10,000 to cover the cost of the new cameras for the G.A.R. Island Park. The funds would move money from the General Fund, Fund Balance and to Capital purchases. Discussion ensued.

4. 2025 Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Dates

Clerk Webb provided the Work Session and Council Meeting Schedule for 2025. Discussion ensued regarding varying times and dates in the schedule.

5. DWSRF Engineering Service C2AE Engineering

City Manager Ridge gave an update on DWSRF Engineering Services with C2AE Engineering. She stated there is additional funding available from EGLE for the DWSRF project and will not know final Grant/Loan Dollars for another two (2) to three (3) weeks. City Manager Ridge will continue to provide updates and will bring back to the council once the funding has been determined. Discussion ensued.

6. Planning Commission Ordinance Proposed Changes Sec 2-105

City Manager Ridge explained the reasoning for the proposed changes to Sec 2-105 Planning Commission Ordinance. Discussion followed.

Board & Committee Reports:

Steele – No Report

Nicholas –

ZBA – Nicholas attended his first ZBA meeting. The ZBA granted a variance to 1401 S. Main St. for a loading dock to be placed in the front of the building and a variance for a decrease in the set back to be able to install the loading dock. Discussion ensued.

Malewski –

Art Council – The meeting was strictly a community painting session for the outside Christmas decorations.

Loftus –

Parks, Rec & Events – Discussion on the following events: Hometown Family Christmas, the ornament class, and recapped the prior events: pumpkin carving, Downtown Trick or Treat, and Community Painting. Loftus provided information on the Park's Master Plan survey responses and discussed a second survey that was sent out to anyone who participated in the first survey for more detailed information.

Oakridge Park – Loftus reported on a few changes to the Oakridge trails, such as a dog cleanup station, and consideration of moving the north trail slightly south to eliminate property line ambiguity. He also reposted on park entrance sign changes and a proposed disc golf course. Loftus indicated the Oakridge Board submitted its five-year Master Plan recommendations to Director Cagle. He also indicated that the Oakridge Board is grateful for the \$500 credit card provided and reported that the budget for lawn care, port-a-john rentals, and posts to mark off the north trail were discussed. Lastly, the December Oakridge Park meeting is canceled.

Mayor Colestock –

DDA – No report

Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA)

Colestock reported that consultant Rob Bacigalupi presented a draft TIF Plan asking for input from the Board. The consultant will send a list of answers to the Board's questions to Lisa Barna, Community and Economic Development Specialist and Lisa will provide to the Board members. An updated draft of the TIF Plan will be discussed at the December meeting.


The possible buyer for the South Industrial Park property will provide a proposal at the December meeting.


Public Comments:

Patrick McNutt, 751 Island Court, Apt F, need more cameras.

Adjournment:

Steele moved and Malewski seconded adjourning the Meeting at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried.


Pamela Colestock, Mayor


Robin Webb, City Clerk