

## **City of Eaton Rapids Work Session Meeting**

**December 09, 2024**

The Work Session of the Eaton Rapids City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on December 09, 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, Parks, Recreation and Events Director Cagle, Treasurer/Finance Director Allen, Police Chief Weeks, Community and Economic Specialist Barna, Building/Zoning Official Hummel, and City Attorney Harkness.

**Public Comments:** None

### **Unfinished and Special Business:**

#### **DWSRF Engineering Service, C2AE Engineering**

City Manager Ridge announced a change in the scope of the DWSRF project. This adjustment is due to the city obtaining additional funding sources from EGLE. Further details regarding the project's new direction will be shared at the upcoming meeting.

### **New Business:**

#### **1. Credit Card Policy**

Treasurer/Finance Director Allen reintroduced the proposed Credit Card Policy for discussion. Chief Weeks offered feedback, confirming the policy aligns with the Police Department's compliance standards. Mayor Pro Tem Steele suggested amendments to the resolution and discussion continued among the council.

#### **2. Eaton Rapids Area Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2025-2029**

Parks, Recreation, and Events Director Cagle presented the 2025-2029 Eaton Rapids Area Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He outlined the next steps in the submission and approval process. Following the presentation, a discussion ensued.

#### **3. Ordinance Amendment – Chapter 19 proposed change, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Grounds/Article II, Sidewalks Division 1 – Generally Section 19-25, Owners to clear snow and ice: removal cost**

Building/Zoning Official Hummel introduced the proposed amendments to Chapter 19, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Grounds/Article II, Sidewalks Division 1 – Generally Section 19-25, Owner to clear snow and ice: removal cost, specifically focusing on Sidewalk snow and ice removal. Discussion ensued.

#### **4. Ordinance Amendment – Chapter 2 proposed change, Administration/Article VII – municipal Civil Infractions/Section 2-132 – Civil Penalties**

Building/Zoning Official Hummel presented the proposed amendments to Chapter 2 – Administration/Article VII – Municipal Civil Infractions/Section 2-132 – Civil Penalties, specifically focusing on adding a Civil Infraction Penalty to the snow and ice removal. Discussion ensued.

**Board & Committee Reports:**

**Steele –  
Planning Commission –**

Bylaws require a schedule of meeting for the next year  
Change to the Bylaws were made to comply with Ordinance 2024-04  
Revisions to the Subdivision Control Ordinance of the City, which was last updated 46 years ago were discussed.  
There were lengthy discussions on all topics. Building/Zoning Official Hummel made the consensus agreeable updates to the working documents.

**Nicholas – No Report**

**Malewski – No Report**

**Loftus – No Report**

**Mayor Colestock –**

**DDA – No report**

**General Updates –**

Bill DeFrance reappointment to Downtown Development Authority.  
Larry Wicker reappointment to the Planning Commission.  
One Planning Commissioner member does not want to be reappointed.  
One Local Development Finance Authority member is resigning as of 12/31/2024.

**Public Comments:**

Patrick McNutt, 751 Island Court, appreciates the sidewalks being cleaned off as he travels them daily.

**Department Comments:**

**Chief Weeks -**

Chief Weeks announced Jim Riley’s resignation as chaplain for the Eaton Rapids Police Department. Weeks expressed his concerns about new House Bills 4127 & 4128 that were signed by Governor Whitmer regarding limiting firearms in voting locations. Weeks said our city being small and our polling place being at the Police department building, this bill could cause some issues with day-to-day operation of the police department during election time.

The department identified a stolen car license plate on the FLOCK cameras.

The department responded to a call near the Jackson County border as we were the nearest officers in the vicinity. Weeks said we should be thinking of these scenarios in the future with the failure of the County’s Tax Limitation Proposal.

Chief Weeks expressed his thanks to the First Baptist Church for fixing a Thanksgiving meal for the Police Department.

**City Manager Ridge –**

City Manager Ridge thanked everyone for the successful Hometown Christmas Event.  
Ridge and Treasurer/Finance Director Allen spent most of the day going over the Draft copy of the Audit. Ridge is anticipating the audit to filed within the next week.


Ridge is working with Eaton County on a recycling solution for the City.

Ridge thanked everyone who worked and participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Wine Walk. The event was a great success.

**Adjournment:**

Steele moved and Malewski seconded adjourning the Meeting at 6:03 p.m. Motion carried.

  
Pamela Colestock, Mayor

  
Robin Webb, City Clerk