

**City Council Meeting
January 26, 2026**

A regular Eaton Rapids City Council meeting was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on January 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Call To Order:

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

Roll Call:

Mayor Colestock, Mayor Pro-Tem Steele, Councilmembers Malewski, Loftus, and Nicholas were present.

Invocation:

Pastor Mark Michalcewicz provided the invocation.

Approval of the Agenda:

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving January 26, 2026, Council meeting agenda, as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the January 12, 2026, Closed Session Minutes, under MCL 15.268 (e) of the Open Meetings Act:

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving the January 12, 2026, Closed Session meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of January 12, 2026, City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes:

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, approving January 12, 2026, City Council Work Session meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of January 12, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes:

Steele moved, and Loftus seconded, approving January 12, 2026, City Council meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Expenditures totaling \$519,991.95

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving expenditures of the City of Eaton Rapids, totaling \$519,991.95. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment: None

Unfinished and Special Business: None

New Business:

Adopt Resolution 2026-06 to approve the agreement with C2AE Engineering for Professional Services for Design and Bidding for East Knight Street and South Center Street

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-06 to approve the agreement with C2AE Engineering for Professional Services for Design and Bidding for East Knight Street and South Center Street.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: 5 – Steele, Malewski, Nicholas, Loftus, and Mayor Colestock

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

To Approve the Special Event Application for Eaton Rapids Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28, 2026

Steele moved, Loftus seconded to approve the Special Event Application for Eaton Rapids Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28, 2026.

To Approve the Special Event Application for Island City SpringFest on Saturday, June 6, 2026

Steele moved, Malewski seconded to approve the Special Event Application for Island City SpringFest on Saturday, June 6, 2026.

To Approve the Special Event Application for the City of Eaton Rapids 250th Anniversary Independence Day Celebration from Wednesday, July 1, through Saturday, July 4, 2026

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, to approve the Special Event Application for the City of Eaton Rapids 250th Anniversary Independence Day Celebration from Wednesday, July 1, through Saturday, July 4, 2026.

To Approve the Special Event Application for the 6th Annual Grand River Color Tour Triathlon on Saturday, October 3, 2026

Steele moved, Loftus seconded to approve the Special Event Application for the 6th Annual Grand River Color Tour Triathlon on Saturday, October 3, 2026.

To Approve the Special Event Application for Downtown Trick or Treat on Saturday, October 24, 2026

Steele moved, Malewski seconded to approve the Special Event Application for Downtown Trick or Treat on Saturday, October 24, 2026.

To Approve the Special Event Application for the Downtown Development Authority Community Market on Saturdays, June 6, through September 26, 2026, except July 4, 2026

Steele moved, Loftus seconded to approve the Special Event Application for the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Community Market on Saturdays, June 6, through September 26, 2026, except July 4, 2026.

Public Comments: None

Reports:

City Manager – She attended the MML Executive Conference last week. It was a great conference and very informative. Also, the Citizens Academy starts Thursday, January 29th, from -6-8 pm for 8 consecutive weeks.

Council Members:

Malewski – Councilmember Malewski attended the Material Management meeting, learning many things about recycling. Aluminum is back on the shelf in 60 days. The key to recycling is education. There will be short programs for kids. Possibly using the recycling program at our summer camps. I will be writing a letter of support for grants for security and expansion. The Art Council discussed many upcoming events and is also writing grants for a timekeeper for the

triathlon and supplies for the Northwestern Art room. DDA has leftover façade grant money and would like to work with the Art Council on a mural project. The cookie decorating class was very successful, so they decided to do another one for Valentine's Day on February 10th. There was a Civil War train display added to the G.A.R. museum with the Steamer Boat display. Antique rifles, muskets, and shotguns were possibly donated last weekend. The museum is putting a hold on the commemorative bricks it has been selling for the island. She is glad to see all of the events for 2026 and appreciates all that Corey does to make them happen and all the hours involved. Also, kudos to Robin, our Clerk, for completing her inventory of Rosehill Cemetery, which took 93 weeks and involved over 12,000 graves. It is now indexed and will be computerized soon.

Steele – Mayor Pro Tem Steele gave a shout-out to City Staff and wished the State of Michigan a Happy 189th Birthday.

Nicholas – Councilmember Nicholas attended the Brownfield meeting, the shortest meeting ever. It took 7 minutes, and the only item on the agenda was to approve the Brownfield Reimbursement Plan for the Inverness Homes project. Shout out to the DPW department and their diligent efforts to clean and clear the roads. Snow removal, starting the generator, and working in dangerous temperatures. Great Job to all.

Loftus – Councilmember Loftus commended the City Workers for the road work being done all day long. He sent out a recruiting message for the Wooden Boat Show. He has 4 confirmed boats and continues to send out invitations. The meeting packets reflect the effort it takes to put on an event from start to finish. Commends Director Cagel for his detailed work on these events. Oakridge Park continues to look for ways to improve the park. The board would like to publicly recognize Scott Wilson for the work that he put into the pavilion. The park board is looking to replace benches, picnic tables, and add another recycling bin. He thanked library for acting as a warming center in this frigid weather. He also appreciated the Facebook comments offering advice to new homeowners.


Mayor Colestock – Mayor Colestock attended a special Strategic Planning meeting for the DDA. Established an event schedule with good discussion. Façade Grant Funds were not totally used last year. DDA has decided to use some of those funds to beautify the city. LFDA has a potential new member attending and is waiting for his application. Also, the Lions Club will meet in the library on February 4th, after they hold their eyeglasses collection event. This will allow them more room to sort the glasses once they are collected.

Adjournment

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to adjourn the Council meeting. **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.


Pamela Colestock, Mayor


Robin Webb, City Clerk