

**City Council Meeting
April 13, 2026**

A regular Eaton Rapids City Council meeting was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on April 13, 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:

Mark Michalceqicz from Gace Baptist provided the invocation.

Approval of the Agenda:

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, approving April 13, 2026, Council meeting agenda adding item 9a, Eaton Rapids Police Department Annual Report. **Motion carried.**

Approval of March 23, 2026, City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes:

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving the March 23, 2026, City Council Work Session meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the March 23, 2026 Closed Session Minutes, under MCL 15.268(e) of the Open Meetings Act:

Steele moved, and Loftus seconded, approving March 23, 2026, Closed Session meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the March 23, 2026 Closed Session Minutes, under MCL 15.268(d) of the Open Meetings Act:

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving the March 23, 2026, Closed Session meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of March 23, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes:

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, approving March 23, 2026, City Council meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Expenditures totaling \$656,354.63

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving expenditures of the City of Eaton Rapids, totaling \$656,354.63. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

Steve Benkowski – Treasurer for Oakridge Park provided a copy and presented the budget for the 2026/2027 year, highlighting items of interest to the public.

Marty Backofen – Presented a 250th sign for the 4th of July Celebration. He carved it and Councilmember Malewski painted it.

Unfinished and Special Business:

Eaton Rapids Police Department Annual Report- Chief Larry Weeks

Chief Weeks presented the Police Department Annual Report, highlighting statistics for the year, such as State police assistance up tick, the first-year report of the license plate readers and how

it helped track a felon, as well as a missing person, only 6-7 complaints on officers, 1200 incidents, over 161 arrests. This speaks volumes to our staff. Lastly, the investigation of the officer shooting last year has been completed and has been turned over to the prosecuting attorney's office.

Eaton Area District Library Annual Report – Bryonna Barton, Library Director

Barton presented the Eaton Area District Library Annual Report. She gave statistics of the traffic through the library, reading program, increase in new library cards, events coming up, and the library remodel, adding offices, new carpet, and paint.

New Business:

Adopt Ordinance 2026-03 to Amend Section 8.5-82 of Article V of Chapter 8.5, billing information, and to amend Section 22-16 of Article I of Chapter 22, Administrative Fines, of the Codified Ordinances of City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan.

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to adopt Ordinance 2026-03 to Amend Section 8.5-82 of Article V of Chapter 8.5, billing information, and to amend Section 22-16 of Article I of Chapter 22, Administrative Fines, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-27 to approve amendment to Professional Services for the North Industrial Park Improvements for Bidding and Construction Administration with C2AE Engineering

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-27 to approve amendment to Professional Services for the North Industrial Park Improvements for Bidding and Construction Administration with C2AE Engineering.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-28 to approve amendment for Construction Services for East Knight Street (Main to East) Improvements, MDOT Local Agency Program (LAP)

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-28, to approve amendment for Construction Services for East Knight Street (Main to East) Improvements, MDOT Local Agency Program (LAP).

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-29 to approve Self-Reporting Entity Agreement between Michigan Public Power Agency and the City of Eaton Rapids for Hydro Facility – Gen58 Smithville, Hydro Facility – GEN59 Mix Hydroelectric and Solar Facility – GEN311 Inverter #1 Eaton Rapids Solar

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-29 to approve Self-Reporting

Entity Agreement between Michigan Public Power Agency and the City of Eaton Rapids for Hydro Facility – Gen58 Smithville, Hydro Facility – GEN59 Mix Hydroelectric and Solar Facility – GEN311 Inverter #1 Eaton Rapids Solar.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-30 to approve Downtown Development Authority to apply for three (3) Special Liquor Licenses for the Beer Tent for the Urban Air Event on May 7, 8 and 9, 2026

Steele moved, and Loftus seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-30 to approve Downtown Development Authority to apply for three (3) Special Liquor Licenses for the Beer Tent for the Urban Air Event on May 7, 8 and 9, 2026 .

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-31 to support the Oakridge Park Grant application to the Eaton County Parks Community Grant Program for Benches

Steele moved, and Loftus seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-31 to support the Oakridge Park Grant application to the Eaton County Parks Community Grant Program for Benches.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-32 to approve third addendum to the City Manager Employment Agreement

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-32 to approve third addendum to the City Manager Employment Agreement

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Public Comments: None

Reports:

Reports given at Work Session Meeting

Steele – Mayor Pro Tem Steele commented on all the construction throughout the city. Please be patient, it will be well worth the inconvenience. Many projects from Water, Sewer, and Electric.

Mayor Colestock – Mayor Colestock spoke with the 4th-grade greyhound intermediate students. She received many ideas and suggestions She had a blast hearing their input and they were very excited that they aired on Fox 47. She and Councilmember Loftus had lunch at the Jean Bradford Kline Senior Center, she gave updates on the city. Announced if you

have potholes in your yard from the potholing that was done, please contact Public Works Director Pierce, and he will make arrangements to get them filled in. She also sent out condolences to the family of Bill Botti , a legend, who was a huge influence in this town. He was involved in many activities, most recently a board member of Oakridge Park and the current President of the Eaton Rapids Lions Club. He will surely be missed.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.



Pamela Colestock, Mayor



Robin Webb, City Clerk