

**City Council Meeting
August 24, 2026**

A regular Eaton Rapids City Council meeting was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on August 24, 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 Steve Laginess, from Thrive Church, provided the invocation.

Approval of the Agenda:

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, approving August 24, 2026, Council meeting agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of August 10, 2026, City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes:

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving August 10, 2026, City Council Work Session meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of August 10, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes:

Steele moved, and Loftus seconded, approving August 10, 2026, City Council meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Expenditures totaling \$1,244,493.28

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving expenditures of the City of Eaton Rapids, totaling \$1,244,493.28. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

Commissioner Barber announced the tire recycling coming on the 3rd weekend of September; you must register online for this event. He mentioned that Erosion control is moving from the Drain Commission department to the Construction Code office to improve efficiency in data requirements. Lastly, September 8th will be the Truth in Budget Meeting, no cut and still a huge deficit in the retirement funding.

New Business:

Adopt Ordinance 2026-07 an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 17 to Add Article I, Section 17-1 through 17-5, Mobile Food Vendors, of the Codified Ordinances of City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

No Action Required.

Adopt Ordinance 2026-05 an Ordinance to rescind Chapter 8 ¾ , Fair Housing, and to amend Chapter 10 to add sections 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, and 10-4, Fair Housing, of the Codified Ordinances of City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, to approve Ordinance 2026-05 to rescind Chapter 8 ¾, Fair Housing, and to amend Chapter 10 to add sections 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, and 10-4, Fair Housing, of the Codified Ordinances of City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

Roll call vote:

Yeas: 4 – Malewski, Nicholas, Loftus, and Mayor Colestock

Nays: 1 - Steele

Absent: 0

Adopt Ordinance 2026-06 to Amend Sections 19-9 and 9-10 and to Rescind Section 19-11, of Article 1 of Chapter 19, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Grounds, of the Codified Ordinances of City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to approve Ordinance 2026-06 to Amend Sections 19-9 and 9-10 and to Rescind Section 19-11, of Article 1 of Chapter 19, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Grounds, of the Codified Ordinances of City of Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-86 to approve Third Addendum to Intergovernmental Agreement for School Resource Officer

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-73 to approve Third Addendum to Intergovernmental Agreement for School Resource Officer.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-87 to approve Purchase and Installation of Air Conditioner System at Public Safety Building

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-87 to approve Purchase and Installation of Air Conditioner System at Public Safety Building.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-88 to approve Budget Amendment for FY 2026-2027 Budget

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-88 to approve Budget Amendment for FY 2026-2027 Budget.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Public Comments:

Ray Miller, 405 State St, commented on the National Day of Prayer, May 6th, 2027, and a preparatory meeting for the National Day of Prayer will be on November 6th at 5:30 pm, with a light meal provided. All are welcome. See Him or Amy Tait for more information.

Reports:

Police Chief – Chief Weeks mentioned the revenue-sharing fund from the Federal Government for the public safety departments. He requested that Eaton Rapids Township and Hamlin Township give theirs to the City of Eaton Rapids, due to the fact that they don't have any public safety in their municipalities. Aurelius Township offered their revenue-sharing to the City of Eaton Rapids. Lastly, he has heard there is going to be a meeting pertaining to Animal Control and wanted to know if the city has shown an interest?

City Manager – City Manager Ridge announced the opening of the Social District on September 2, 2026; the Kids Market was a great success; and the departure of (Ranger) Raven. She will be completing her park visits before she leaves at the end of the week to move out west. We wish her well. Lastly, City Manager Ridge hopes to have project updates soon and the potholing grant has almost expired, but hopes to have a final push to get more done before the grant runs out in order to minimize our cost to complete.

Council Member:

Steele – Mayor Pro Tem Steele couldn't attend the Active Shooter simulation but listened to the calls on the scanner. This was a well-planned, highly coordinated event and all participants were exceptional, from the entire police department to EMS and volunteers.

Malewski – Councilmember Malewski mentioned Autumn on the Island is October 3rd, the same day as the Triathlon. Several weddings were scheduled on the Island; Fun on the Farm and corn hole contest were a big hit.

Loftus – Councilmember Loftus reported of the discussion at the Parks, Recreation and Event Board meeting topics of discussion, Mayor Monarch Pledge with related communication to resident to encourage planting Monarch gardens, upcoming meeting will discuss end-of season park reviews, grants for small projects for each park, discussion of painting bathroom building at Howe Park, fixing ORC trailer, looking for replacement, want to standardize signage for parks, upcoming triathlon, and scarecrow contest. Oakridge Park has created new maps to include the new northern trail. He will pass them along to the Police and Fire Departments. A tentative ribbon-cutting date is set for September 21st to display the new pavilion, benches, and park improvements. Almost all of the benches are installed except for the one honoring Bill Botti, for which the plaque is being made. Wayne Ash continues to work on the dock repair. Fun on the Farm, lived up to its name, including the quilt display in the church provided by Main Street Quilters. He attended the Active Shooter Simulation on August 13th, with 300 area public safety personnel, volunteers and specialized equipment. He raved about Deb Malewski's article in the county journal reporting on the event, and praised Mayor Colestock, Police Chief Weeks, and Dave Hendon for representing the city in the mock news conferences (part of the simulation). Lastly, he congratulated Lieutenant Creger for his part in organizing the event and applauded the Kids Market and looks forward to the next installment.

Mayor Colestock – Mayor Colestock read a note sent to City Hall thanking the city for the prompt response to take care of some branches on wires. DDA installed new benches and trash can throughout the city. DDA will purchase flags/banner to replace the 250th existing banner. Due to popular demand, the 250th banners will be for sale for \$50 each. DDA also encourages ribbon cutting for new businesses. She also stated she ran into longtime residents in Family Fare and they love living in Eaton Rapids and they love this city, the events, beauty and safety

make it a pleasure to be a part of this community. They look forward to the next event and all of the changes being complete.

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