

City Council Meeting September 14, 2026

A regular Eaton Rapids City Council meeting was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on September 14, 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:

, Mayor Colestock provided the invocation.

Approval of the Agenda:

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving September 14, 2026, Council meeting agenda with the addition of 11b Resolution 2026-89 to support exploring a partnership with Eaton County for Animal Control. **Motion carried.**

Approval of August 24, 2026, City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes:

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, approving August 24, 2026, City Council Work Session meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the August 24, 2026 Closed Session Meeting Minutes under MCL15.268(h) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute

Steele moved, and Loftus seconded, approving August 24, 2026, Closed Session Meeting minutes under MCL15.268(h) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the August 24, 2026 Closed Session Meeting Minutes under MCL15.268(a) to consider periodic personnel evaluation of an employee

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving August 24, 2026, Closed Session Meeting minutes under MCL15.268(a) to consider periodic personnel evaluation of an employee. **Motion carried.**

Approval of August 24, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes:

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

Approval of Expenditures totaling \$1,973,468.16

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, approving expenditures of the City of Eaton Rapids, totaling \$1,973,468.16. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment:

Ray Miller, 405 State St, introduced Dr Eleanor Que. She invited everyone to an alliance meeting to collaborate on resources to help move families from Crisis to Stability. It will be held on October 14 at 9am at the Eaton Rapids Township Hall.

Unfinished and Special Business

Eaton Rapids Area District Library – 150 years of the Library

Brianna Barton, Director of the Library, invited all to the 150 years Anniversary. She announced the celebration/ ribbon cutting at the library on September 26 from 10 am to 3 pm. Honoring the fresh new look of the library. Some in attendance will be Laux Construction and Angela Witwer. ERADL is one of ten of the oldest libraries in Michigan.

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

Steele moved, and Nicholas seconded, to Adopt Ordinance 026-07, 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.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Adopt Resolution 2026-89 to Approve Support for Exploring a Partnership with Eaton County for Animal Control Services

Steele moved, and Loftus seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-89 to approve support for Exploring a Partnership with Eaton County for Animal Control Services.

Roll call vote:

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Public Comments: None

Reports:

City Manager – City Manager Ridge announced a water shutoff on Center and E. Knight St. on September 15 between 8-5, Planning Grants letters of interest are moving forward for floodplain re-evaluation, Masterplan, and Zoning Ordinance with an intake meeting scheduled. Horner Mill grant has now set up a new reporting site, looking to start demo in the spring. Environmental evaluations start September 21st.

Council Member:

Steele – Mayor Pro Tem Steele reported on the Planning Commission topics including Ben Colestock and his wife returning with 2 potential floor plans, discussion on fencing ordinance update, and the Planning Commission 2025 Annual Report review, with some corrections. No action was taken on the floor plans, and the Planning Commission Annual Report is almost ready to present to City Council. Building Official Hummel report Sewer work on State/Plains is near completion.

Malewski – Councilmember Malewski reported that the Art Council meeting discussed upcoming events: Triathlon, Downtown Trick or Treat, the Chamber Legends of the Rapids, the Scarecrow contest, and the need for volunteers. She recognized the need for more kayaks due to increased Triathlon participation. Lastly, she will speak at the GAR Hall on September 26 as the local historian, and Matt VanAiker will be a guest speaker.

Loftus – Councilmember Loftus reported at the Parks, Recreation and Event Board meeting the discussion was the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and the attempt to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens. The annual review of the parks was presented, with the suggestion of applying for grants to complete some small park projects, such as signs. Many new benches, thanks to Wayne Ash. He also didn't notice much activity related to the new social district. He has also visited the 3rd grade football game and congratulated the Eaton Rapids football team on their win over Ionia. Lastly, the GAR Museum is celebrating its 13th year this Saturday with an author roundtable on September 19, as well as the September 11th flags and fire engine display at our firehouse.

Mayor Colestock – Mayor Colestock gave a shout-out to the Varsity Football Team for their first win over Ionia. Lions Club held a charity Golf Outing with the Eaton Rapids Fire Department. Proceeds split between the two organizations. The Community Market ends September 26th and Homecoming parade will be September 25. Lastly, the 250th banner will be for sale, and new banners are ordered.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.



Pamela Colestock, Mayor



Robin Webb, City Clerk