City of Eaton Rapids Work Session Meeting
April 27, 2026

The Work Session of the Eaton Rapids City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on April 27, 2026, 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, and Councilmembers Malewski, Loftus, and Nicholas.

Administrative Staff present included City Manager Ridge, Chief McNutt, Building Official Hummel, Parks, Recreation, and Events Director Cagle, Treasurer/Finance Director Allen, Clerk Webb, and City Attorney Harkness.

Public Comments: None

Unfinished and Special Business:

New Business

1. **Eaton County Community Parks Grant Applications**

Director Cagle presented the Parks Grant application for an enclosed trailer for the ORC, Infrastructure for the Community Center, and Landscaping for the Milo L Pocket park. They are due on May 1st. Discussion ensued.

2. **Metro Act Right of Way Telecommunication Permit**

Director Pierce spoke about the Metro Act Right of Way Telecommunication Permit. He explained it is a standard agreement. City attorney Harkness explained that it stated a auto renewal after 30 years, which the city preferred a term date. An agreement for a 15 year term was placed in the contract, as well as the City Manager as the approval on the agreement. Discussion ensued.

3. **North Industrial Park Street Improvement**

Director Pierce spoke on the contract for the North Industrial Park Street Improvement from Leavitt & Starck. City Attorney Harkness requested minor changes to the contract, including stating the cost of the project and providing proof of insurance.

4. **Ordinance to adopt 2021 International Fire Code**

City Attorney Harkness presented the Ordinance update; this would bring the City Ordinance up to the 2021 International Fire Code. The city's ordinance was last updated in 2012. This brings the city inline with the state code.

5. **2670 & 2654 S. Michigan Road Update**

Building Official Hummel presented all document on file for the discussions and steps that have been taken for the Michigan Road property. Discussion ensued.

Public Comments :

Debbie Brinson, Elizabeth Lane, commented on the discussion about the 425 agreement adding 200 homes to this property. This property has been sold to a family that wants to expand their business there. She urged the City Council to encourage young business owners to bring and keep their business in the city. She raised her children here and wants them to stay. Discussion ensued.

Chief McNutt – Chief Weeks reported that the SADD demo would take place on Friday May 1st at 10 am. The fire department responded to a manufactured home fire this afternoon. The fire department will be holding open houses for firefighter recruitment on May 21st, June 13th, June 30th, and July 4th.

Board & Committee Reports:

Steele – Mayor Pro tem Steele reported that he attended the Crime Stopper Breakfast at West Campus of LCC. He was educated on the "Fast 50" and "Okay to Say" campaigns. He was able to see that the expansion of the "Okay to Say" now includes not only guns and drugs but has expanded to suicide prevention and the concerns of the home life of others.

Malewski – Councilmember Malewski reminded residents of the Upcoming Urban Air Event May 7th-9th. She will be doing a Mineral Water Tour and a Cemetery Tour on May 8th. She has been asked to write an article on the History of the Horner Mill property for the County Treasurer. Also, she reminded everyone of the Chamber dinner honoring local people.

Loftus – Councilmember Loftus reported the Wooden Boat Show on the GAR Island on May 9th. This is just a preview of the June 6th Wooden Boat Show. There will be 14-24 boats in June. Oakridge Park met and discussed the filling of the open position on the board. They will also have a ribbon-cutting for the new pavilion. The board will also submit a grant application for new benches.

Nicholas – No Report

Mayor Colestock – Mayor Colestock reported that the DDA is focused on the Urban Air Event and the 250th Anniversary. Director Cagle presented samples of flags for Main St for the 250th Anniversary. Downtown cleanup, Social District, and sale of pole decorations for Christmas will be coming soon. She also mentioned a possible sale of property in the South Industrial Park for the LDFA. The LDFA subcommittee, realtors, and the city are discussing the terms and questions for the buyers.

Building Official Hummel reported that the Master Plan is in progress, and Allen Edwin is still adding homes to Inverness. Three permits are issued, and one more is in process. He's meeting with Lynn Ball on Wednesday to discuss the subdivision behind the high school.

Clerk Webb announced that the cemetery software is almost ready to be put on the website.

Treasurer/ Director Allen – Director Allen reported that she is working on the Budget

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m. Motion carried.

Pamela Colestock, Mayor

Robin Webb, City Clerk