City of Eaton Rapids Work Session Meeting
September 14, 2026

The Work Session of the Eaton Rapids City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on September 14, 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, Treasurer/Finance Director Allen, Clerk Webb, Lieutenant Creger, Chief McNutt, Building Official Hummel, and City Attorney Harkness.

Public Comments: None

New Business

1. Department Updates

Hummel- Official Hummel gave an update on the Building and Zoning Department. He presented statistics of permits issues, code enforcement violations, letters sent, and rental inspections. He also reported that Cam Priest, e code enforcement specialist is now entering violations into BS&A, as well as learning the administrative side of this position. His assistance is very helpful for the department.

Webb – Clerk Webb reported that she is gearing up for the November Election, with 4 new soon to be certified inspectors. There is 738 Absent Voters for this upcoming election. She has been working hard to get a handle on the Utility Billing and all of the nuances of the system. It is way more complex than most would think. Lastly, once again is grateful for the Pontem software; it has simplified the search for new graves and has allowed the funeral homes to help locate loved ones for their needs. It benefits city staff, as well as the Sexton, John Nobach.

Allen – Treasurer Allen reported that ninety-two percent of the taxes have been collected, the audit preparation is underway as the audit is October 19-23, which is coming up soon. The chart of accounts conversion is almost complete.

McNutt – Chief McNutt has one new-hire that has passed his physical. Received the gear grant that was recently applied for in the amount of $4,999.00. He is working on another grant for up to $50,000 for a hydraulic tool for extraction.

Creger – Lieutenant Creger just stated the police department has made it through the summer season, and they are now on to the fall.

CM Ridge – City Manager Ridge presented Director Cagle's report in his absence. She report that there are many upcoming events such as Triathlon, Downtown Trick or Treat, Sip & Sleigh, and Hometown Family Christmas in the works right now. Announced the passing of the Mobile Food Vendor permits and is currently going to hire another person to replace Raven. Not sure what the title of the position will be; it depends on the applicant's qualifications.

City Manager Ridge gave a brief update on the lead line project. Currently trying to complete as much potholing s they can to reduce the bond amount. Cartier, C2AE, and the City of Eaton Rapids are all hands on deck. Currently working on Water and Electric Rate Studies. She commented that the City is participating in a Generation Project as well.

Attorney Harkness – Attorney Harness reported that he is working on code enforcement,

but mostly quiet.

2. Community Exchange

City Manager Ridge gave a brief itinerary for the Community Exchange Day tomorrow, September 15, 2026. Discussion Ensued.

3. Lieutenant Position - Discussion

City Manager handed out facts on this topic for Council to review. Proposed putting together Budget amendments for both proposals for Council to review. Discussion Ensued

4. Partnership with Eaton County for Animal Control Services

City Manager spoke on the meeting attended by the County and herself, Mayor Colestock and Chief Weeks, in the discovery of interest in collaborating together to work out Animal Control Services.

Steele moved, Malewski seconded to go into Closed Session at 6:35 pm.

Roll call vote:
Yeas: 5 – Nicholas, Loftus, Steele, Malewski, and Mayor Colestock
Nays: 0
Absent: 0

Closed Session under MCL.268(a) to consider periodic personnel evaluation of an employee

Public Comments:

Suzi Politza, 1310 Montgomery St, stated her concern about the electric bikes that drive way too fast on the sidewalks. She was nearly run over twice.

Board & Committee Reports, in the interest of time these reports will be presented at the Regular Meeting

Steele moved, and Malewski seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Motion Carried.

Pamela Colestock, Mayor

Robin Webb, City Clerk