

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS MAYORS

Henry R. Williams	1850	Paul G. Goebel	1950-54
Ralph W. Cole	1851	George Veldman	1954-56
William H. Withey	1852	Paul G. Goebel	1956-58
Thomas B. Church	1853	Stanley J. Davis	1958-64 (resigned)
Wilder D. Foster	1854	C.H. Sonneveldt	1964-70
Charles Shepard	1855	Robert Boelens	1970-71(resigned)
John M. Fox	1856	Lyman S. Parks	1971-75
William T. Powers	1857	Abe L. Drasin	1976-83
Gilbert M. McCray	1858	Gerald R. Helmholdt	1984-91
George K. Johnson	1859	John H. Logie	1992 – 2003
Martin L. Sweet	1860	George Heartwell	2004 -
George H. White	1861		
Charles C. Comstock	1863		
Wilder D. Foster	1865		
John W. Champlin	1867		
Moses V. Aldrich	1868		
Leonard H. Randall	1871		
Julius Houseman	1872		
Peter R.L. Peirce	1873		
Julius Houseman	1874		
Peter R.L. Peirce	1875		
George W. Thayer	1877		
Henry S. Smith	1878		
Francis Letellier	1879		
Henry S. Smith	1880		
George G. Steketee	1881		
Edmund B. Dikeman	1882		
Crawford Angell	1883		
Charles E. Belknap	1884		
John L. Curtiss	1885		
Edmund B. Dikeman	1886		
Isaac M. Weston	1888		
John Killean	1889		
Edwin F. Uhl	1890		
William J. Stuart	1892		
Ernest B. Fisher	1894		
Charles D. Stebbins	1895		
Lathrop C. Stow	1896		
George R. Perry	1898		
W. Millard Palmer	1902		
Edwin F. Sweet	1904		
George E. Ellis	1906		
George P. Tilma	1916		
Philo C. Fuller	1917		
Christian Gallmeyer	1918-20		
John McNabb	1920-22		
William Oltman	1922-23		
Julius Tisch	1923-24		
Elvin Swarthout	1924-30		
John D. Karel	1930-34		
William Timmers	1934-36		
Tunis Johnson	1936-38		
George W. Welsh	1938-50		
Stanley J. Davis "Reform" Interim			

MAYOR TERMS OF OFFICE

- Lyman S. Parks - Elected as Commissioner Feb. 19, 1968 for a term from May 6, 1968 to Dec. 31, 1973. Appointed Mayor - Nov. 23, 1971. Effective Nov 26, 1971 - Sworn in Dec 7, 1971. Was then elected Nov, 1973 to fill out unexpired term until Dec, 1975.
- Abe L. Drasin - Elected Nov, 1975 to Mayor. Term through Dec, 1979. Re-elected Sept, 1979 for a term through Dec, 1983.
- Gerald R. Helmholdt - Elected Nov, 1983 for a term through Dec, 1987. Re-elected September, 1987 for a term through Dec, 1991.
- John H. Logie - Elected November, 1991. Term through Dec, 1995. Re-elected November, 1995 for a term through Dec, 1999. Re-elected 1999 for a term through Dec, 2003.
- George Heartwell - Elected September, 2003. Term through December 2011.

GRAND RAPIDS CITY MANAGERS

1917-1918	Gaylor C. Cummin
1918-1929	Fred H. Locke
1929-1932	George Welsh
1932-1933	C. Sophus Johnson
1933-1934	Ernest T. Conlon
1934-1941	C. Sophus Johnson
1941-1943	Peter Kammeraad
1943-1946	Walter H. Sack
1946-1949	Frank H. Goebel (and 2 months in 1950)
1949-1950	George H. Kranenburg, Jr.
1950-1953	George E. Bean
1953-1954	Millard M. Moore
1954-1955	George Welsh
1955-1959	Donald M. Oakes
1959-1961	Alfred H. Rypstra
1961-1961	Bernard Passage (Acting City Manager for 6 months)
1961-1965	George E. Bean
9/9/1965-9/30/1967	Henry B. Nabers
10/1/1967-3/31/1968	George B. Schmid (Acting City Manager)
4/1/1968-3/25/1970	Julian Orr
3/25/1970-7/1/1976	Joseph R. Grassie
7/5/1976-9/30/1976	Joseph G. Zainea (Acting City Manager)
10/1/1976-1981	Joseph G. Zainea (Appointed)
6/15/1981-1987	G. Stevens Bernard
4/28/1987-1/1/2009	Kurt Kimball
1/2/2009-8/11/2009	Eric DeLong (Acting City Manager)
8/12/2009 -	Greg Sundstrom

CITY COMMISSIONERS TERMS OF OFFICE

FIRST WARD

Joseph V. Sypniewski - Elected Feb 28, 1961 - Term until Dec 31, 1973. Re-elected Nov, 1973 for another term to Dec 31, 1977.

Richard C. Schwaiger - Elected April 6, 1970 - Term May 5, 1970 through December, 1975.

William Johnson - Elected Nov, 1975 to replace Schwaiger. Term until December 31, 1979.

Raymond Heidenga - Elected November, 1977 to replace Sypniewski. Term until December 31, 1981.

James Kozak - Elected November 3, 1981 to replace Heidenga. Term until Dec 31, 1985. Re-elected Nov, 1985 for a term through Dec, 1989. Re-elected Nov, 1989 for a term through Dec, 1993. Re-elected in Primary, Sept, 1993 for a term through Dec, 1997.

George Bowman - Elected in the Primary, September, 1979 to replace Johnson. Term through Dec, 1983. Re-elected Nov, 1983 for a term through Dec, 1987. Re-elected Nov, 1987 for a term through Dec, 1991.

Roy Schmidt - Elected in Sept Primary, 1991 - replaced Bowman. Term until December, 1995. Re-elected in September Primary, 1995. Term until December 31, 2007.

James Jendrasiak - Elected November 4, 1997 to replace Kozak. Term until December 31, 2005. Re-elected in November General 2005. Term until December 31, 2009.

Walt Gutowski - Elected November 2007 to replace Roy Schmidt. Term until December 31, 2011.

Dave A. Shaffer - Elected November 2009 to replace James Jendrasiak. Term until December 31, 2013.

CITY COMMISSIONERS TERMS OF OFFICE

SECOND WARD

- Abe Drasin - Appointed as Commissioner March 30, 1971 for a term until Dec 31, 1973. Elected August, 1973 for 4 yr term until Dec, 1977. However, was elected Mayor in November 1975. (See Mayor)
- Patrick Barr - Elected April 6, 1970 for a term through December 1975. Resigned in 1974 and Blair Mohney was appointed to fill out term.
- Norine Brooks - Elected November, 1975. Term until December 31, 1979.
- Thomas Warke - Appointed Jan 7, 1976 to fill out Drasin's unexpired term. Ran for office and was elected in the Primary, Sept, 1977. Term through Dec, 1981.
- Mary Alice Williams - Elected Nov, 1979. Term until December 31, 1983.
- Sharon Worst - Elected November 3, 1981. Term through December, 1985. Re-elected Nov, 1985 - Term through Dec, 1989. Re-elected November, 1989 for a term through Dec, 1993. Re-elected Nov, 1993 for a term through Dec, 1997.
- Linda Samuelson - Elected November 1983. Term through December, 1987. Re-elected Sept, 1987 for term through Dec, 1991. Re-elected November, 1991 for a term through December, 1995. Re-elected November, 1995 for a term through December, 1999.
- Lynn Rabaut - Elected September 9, 1997 to replace Worst. Term until December 31, 2005.
- Richard Tormala - Elected November 2, 1999 to replace Samuelson. Term until December 31, 2003. Re-elected September, 2003. Term until December 31, 2007.
- Rosalynn Bliss - Elected November 2005. Term until December 31, 2009. Re-elected November 2009. Term until December 31, 2013.
- David LaGrand - Elected November 2007. Term until December 31, 2011. Resigned on January 6, 2010. New Commissioner to be appointed by City Commission.

CITY COMMISSIONERS TERMS OF OFFICE

THIRD WARD

- M. Howard Rienstra - Elected April 6, 1970. Term from May 4, 1970 through December, 1975. Re-elected Sept, 1975 for term through December, 1979. Re-elected September, 1979 for term through Dec, 1983.
- Harold Dekker - Appointed January 4, 1972 to replace Lyman Parks. Term - Jan 1972 to Dec 31, 1973. Elected August, 1973 for term through Dec, 1977. Re-elected Sept, 1977 Primary for a term through Dec, 1981. Re-elected Nov, 1981 for term through Dec, 1985.
- William K. Blickley - Elected November, 1983. Term through Dec, 1987. Re-elected Nov, 1987 for a term through Dec, 1991.
- Lewis A. Meriweather - Elected November, 1985 for term through December, 1989. Re-elected Sept, 1989 for term through Dec, 1993.
- George K. Heartwell - Elected in the Sept, 1991 Primary to replace Blickley. Term until Dec, 1995. Re-elected in September Primary, 1995. Term until December 31, 1999.
- Eric J. Williams - Elected November 2, 1993 to replace Meriweather. Term until December 31, 1997.
- M. Scott Bowen - Elected November 4, 1997 to replace Williams. Term until December 31, 2005. Resigned August 7, 2003. New Commissioner to be appointed by City Commission.
- Robert Dean - Elected November 2, 1999 to replace Heartwell. Term until December 31, 2007. Resigned seat on February 7, 2006.
- James White - Appointed on October 21, 2003, to replace Scott Bowen. Elected in Municipal Primary on August 2, 2005. Term until December 31, 2009. Re-elected November, 2009. Term until December 2013.
- Elias Lumpkins Jr - Appointed on March 7, 2006, to replace Robert Dean. Term until December 12/31/2007. Re-elected November 2007. Term until December 31, 2011.

CITY COMMISSIONERS (elected position)**TERM OF OFFICE**

Bernard Barto	7/18/49 – 4/30/70
Joseph V. Sypniewski	4/26/60 – 12/31/77
Carl W. Eschels	8/15/67 – 2/28/71
William A. Worst	4/13/65 – 4/30/70
Lyman S. Parks	5/1/68 – 11/26/71
Berton Sevensma	5/1/60 – 4/3/70
Richard C. Schwaiger	5/1/70 – 12/31/75
Patrick Barr	5/1/70 – 6/2/74
M. Howard Rienstra	5/1/70 – 12/31/83
Harold Dekker	1/4/72 – 12/31/85
Abe L. Drasin	3/30/71 – 12/31/75
C. Blair Mohny	7/30/74 – 12/31/75
William A. Johnson	1/1/76 – 12/31/79
Norene J. Brooks	1/1/76 – 12/31/79
Thomas W. Warke	1/13/76 – 12/31/81
Raymond G. Heidenga	1/1/78 – 12/31/81
George Bowman	1/1/80 – 12/31/91
Mary Alice Williams	1/1/80 – 12/31/83
William Blickley	1/84 – 12/31/91
James Kozak (thru Dec 97)	1/82 – 12/97
Sharon Worst	1/82 – 12/97
Linda Samuelson	1/84 – 12/99
Lewis Meriweather	1/86 – 12/93
George Heartwell	1/92 – 12/99
Eric Williams	1/94 – 12/97
Roy Schmidt	1/92 – 12/2007
M. Scott Bowen	1/98 – 8/7/2003
Richard Tormala	1/2000 – 12/2007
James Jendrasiak	1/98 – 12/2009
Lynn Rabaut	1/98 – 12/2005
Robert Dean	1/2000 – 2/7/2006
James White	10/21/2003 –
Rosalynn Bliss	1/2006 –
Elias Lumpkins	3/7/2006 –
David LaGrand	1/2008 –
Walt Gutowski	1/2008 –
Dave A. Shaffer	1/2010 –

COMPTROLLER (elected position)

George Tilma
Rudolph Doornink
Henry T. Stanton
Clayton H. Hoffman
Charles Lawyer
Richard H. (Jack) Harper
Edward Weining (appointed)
Robert G. Jamo
Stanley Milanowski

TERM OF OFFICE

1915 – 1916
1916 – 1929
1929 – 1937
1938 – 1959
5/1/59 – 4/30/68
5/1/68 – 6/1/70
8/18/70 – 12/31/73
1/1/74 – 12/31/81
1/1/82 –

CITY CLERK (appointed position)

Joseph C. Shinkman
Jacob Van Wingen
R. Stanton Kilpatrick
Rawson Weaver
Sandra L. Wright
Marie A. Gowell (Acting)
Mary Therese Hegarty
Marie G. Gowell (Acting)
Lauri S. Parks

TERM OF OFFICE

1917 – 1927
6/4/28 – 5/2/49
5/9/49 – 5/13/67 (died)
7/24/67 – 3/78
4/18/78 – 7/29/94
8/1/94 – 2/14/95
2/14/95 – 2/19/2008
2/20/2008 – 4/6/2008
4/7/2008 –

CITY TREASURER (appointed position)

Simon DeBoer
Richard Johnston
John Frens
Earl Hoenes
J. Paul Brownridge
Albert Mooney

TERM OF OFFICE

1977 -
1977 - 1986
1986 - 1988
1988 -

CITY ATTORNEY (appointed position)

Phillip Balkema
Janice Fuller Bailey (Acting)
Catherine M. Mish

TERM OF OFFICE

1/17/1978 – 1/7/2008
1/8/2008 – 5/12/2008
5/13/2008 -