

NEWS RELEASE



GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
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George Heartwell Sworn in as City of Grand Rapids Representative to The Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN – On Thursday, October 2, Grand Rapids Mayor-elect George Heartwell was sworn in as a representative to the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council. Mayor John Logie’s term on the Metro Council officially expired as of September 30, 2003. He handed over the seat to Heartwell after serving on the Metro Council for almost 12 years.

The City of Grand Rapids has three seats on the Metro Council. Kurt Kimball and Beverly Drake also represent the City. According to the GVMC bylaws, member communities must be represented by at least one elected or appointed official. As City Manager, Kurt Kimball fulfills this requirement.

“I would like to welcome George to the Metro Council,” said Mayor Logie. “It speaks to the majesty of this country that this type of change of office can take place smoothly, with a seamless transition,” said Mayor Logie.

“I have coveted this appointment for years,” said Heartwell. “I believe what is good for the region is good for the core city, and what is good for the core city is good for the region. The two are co-dependent. Working together we will ensure the region’s strength and vitality, as well as that of the Metro Council.”

Mayor Logie stressed the need for continued regional cooperation and added, “After twelve years serving on this board I can tell you that it is the relationships that are forged here that allow us to move forward,”

GVMC Chairman Jim Buck praised Mayor Logie for his leadership and dedication to regional issues. The GVMC Board and audience gave Mayor Logie a standing ovation as he handed over the reins to Heartwell. A short recess was called to allow Mayor Logie and Mayor-elect Heartwell to receive well wishers.

The Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC) is a regional organization dedicated to promoting cooperation and coordination among local governments in the metropolitan Grand Rapids area. Created in 1990, its membership now includes 32 local governments, representing nearly 665,000 people. For more information on GVMC go to www.gvmc.org

