



**Matt Russell, Mayor**  
 Eric Gerke, Ward I  
 Garry Wilson, Ward II  
 Christopher Updike, Ward III  
 Justin Neal, Ward IV  
 Eric Franklin, Ward I  
 Darran Campbell, Ward II  
 Brian Fields, Ward III  
 Clint Gerlek, Ward IV

**MINUTES**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**Municipal Court Building, 540 Civic Blvd**  
**February 06, 2024 at 6:00 PM**

**Call Meeting to Order**

The regular session meeting of the City Council of the City of Republic, Greene County, Missouri, was called to order by Mayor Matt Russell at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present included Eric Franklin, Garry Wilson, Eric Gerke, Darran Campbell, Brian Fields, Justin Neal, Chris Updike, and Clint Gerlek. Others in attendance were: City Administrator David Cameron, Assistant City Administrator Andrew Nelson, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, City Attorney Megan McCullough, Assistant BUILDS Administrator Karen Haynes, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Police Chief Brian Sells, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jennafer Mayfield, Assistant City Administrator/Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling, Recreation Superintendent Karsen Forbis, Recreation Superintendent Garrett Cline, Sergeant Zach Richards, Office Manager Steffi Weaver, City Clerk Laura Burbridge, Finance Director Bob Ford, Data and Security Supervisor Michael Sallee, and IT Director Chris Crosby.

**Opening Prayer**

Opening prayer was led by City Administrator David Cameron.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Matt Russell.

**Citizen Participation**

Mayor Russell opened citizen participation at 6:01 p.m. No one came forward so Mayor Russell closed citizen participation at 6:01 p.m.

**Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Updike to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. 1 Abstain-Gerlek. Motion Carried.

1. Approve the January 23, 2024 City Council Minutes.
2. 24-R-04 A Resolution of the City Council Selecting Gateway Pyrotechnical Productions, LLC as the Vendor to Provide the Fireworks Display at the City’s Annual Have-A-Blast Patriotic Celebration and Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute an Agreement with Gateway for Such Services.

**Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule**

Planning & Zoning Meeting	February 12, 2024
City Council Meeting	February 20, 2024
City Council Meeting	March 5, 2024
Board of Adjustment Meeting	March 7, 2024

**Old Business and Tabled Items**

3. 24-05 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title III, Chapter 300, Section 300.020 (“Definitions”), and Adding New Section 340.125 (“Golf Carts And Utility Task Vehicles”) to Title III, Chapter 340, of the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri.



Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the second reading of Bill 24-05 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Zach Richards was available to answer questions. Council Member Neal motioned to amend Bill 24-05 by striking out paragraph (A)(9) of Section 340.125, striking out the words “valid proof of insurance and” from the 7th line of Section 340.125 paragraph D, striking out the word “registered” from the last line of Section 340.125 paragraph D, striking out the words “The operator, and all passengers of a golf cart or UTV, shall be restrained by seat/safety belts and shall remain seated” from Section 340.125 paragraph (A)(7), and inserting the words “If the golf cart or UTV is equipped with original manufacturer-installed seat belts, occupants shall be restrained by the original manufacturer-installed seat belt for their respective seat (if one) at all times” at the beginning of Section 340.125 paragraph (A)(7). Council Member Fields seconded. City Attorney Megan McCullough let Council know there was a redline version of the requested amendments at their seat and clarified it also included striking section B, 1, E and replace. The vote was 7 Aye- Wilson, Gerlek, Franklin, Fields, Gerke, Neal, and Campbell. 1 Nay-Updike. Motion Carried. Council Member Campbell motioned for the passage of Bill 24-05. Council Member Neal seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Neal, Gerke, Fields, Franklin, Gerlek, Wilson, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

4. **24-06 An Ordinance of the City Council Authorizing the City to Participate in the Missouri Fire Fighters Critical Illness Trust and Pool and Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute the Necessary Documentation to Secure the City’s Participation.**

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the second reading of Bill 24-06 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Duane Compton was available to answer questions. Council Member Wilson motioned for the passage of Bill 24-06. Council Member Fields seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

**New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)**

5. **24-07 An Ordinance of the City Council Authorizing Execution of a Third Supplement STP-Urban Program Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for Additional Extension of the Shuyler Creek Trail.**

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Gerke to have the first reading of Bill 24-07 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council this is a first read and to get with staff with questions prior to the next meeting.

6. **24-08 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title VIII, Chapter 805, Section 805.100 (“Utility Administration”) of the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri.**

Motion was made by Council Member Gerke and seconded by Council Member Fields to have the first reading of Bill 24-08 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Andrew Nelson gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council this is a first read and to get with staff with questions prior to the next meeting.

## Other Business (Resolutions)

### 7. **24-R-05 A Resolution of the City Council Awarding the Bid for Portable Restroom Services for Calendar Years 2024 and 2025 to BWI Sanitation.**

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Neal to take up Resolution 24-R-05. Karsen Forbis presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 7 Aye-Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. 1 Abstain-Campbell. Motion Carried.

### 8. **24-R-06 A Resolution of the City Council Awarding the Bid for Specified Construction Projects for the Parks and Recreation Department to Westport Construction Co.**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Fields to take up Resolution 24-R-06. Jared Keeling presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

## Reports from Staff

City Administrator David Cameron clarified that while Jared didn't mention it, the primary reason the office space isn't included in the Parks projects is that we would have to use the general fund to pay for it and with the wastewater project and funding needs, we have to focus on that at this point. Mr. Cameron added that we will continue to evaluate the budget, but until we know about funding for wastewater in June, we don't want to make that decision. Mr. Cameron shared his appreciation to the Parks staff for their willingness to sacrifice that project.

City Administrator David Cameron congratulated Andrew Nelson for the great job on the workshop presentation. Mr. Cameron noted that 2 years ago, Mayor Russell asked what kept us up at night and the answer was the wastewater treatment plant needs. Mr. Cameron encouraged everyone to watch the work session video, adding if you look at the history of the city, the citizens voted not to put it south of town and a lot of money was invested in the project. Mr. Cameron noted we can't have a non-compliance issue ongoing since 1994. He noted that our permit renews every five years and between staff and Burns and McDonnell, we found a solution. While we aren't happy with the cost, it could increase significantly if put off further. Mr. Cameron added we will continue to do everything we can to avoid taking out an additional \$50 Million in loans. So far, we have saved citizens \$50 per month on their sewer bills with the funds acquired. Mr. Cameron thanked everyone for the work on this project.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked Karsen Forbis for presenting tonight. Mr. Cameron also noted this is Sergeant Richards first time working on ordinance changes and thanked the Council Members for working with staff to find solutions and to present them. Mr. Cameron added everyone worked collectively to find that answer, and he appreciated the collaboration.

City Administrator David Cameron reported we received our first allocation of ARPA funds coming in at over \$10 Million. Mr. Cameron added that as we submit our invoices, we will be reimbursed by the state, noting that Bob is as happy as he is. Mr. Cameron thanked State Representative Davidson, Senator Trent, and Senator Hough for helping us with the funding.

City Administrator David Cameron reported that we submitted an application for the RAISE Grant. Mr. Cameron noted that while we didn't bring the application to Council for approval, if we are awarded the grant, it will have to come back to Council for approval. This would be for the MM highway project, which is a \$65 Million project, and funding for MM has been hard to come by, so we are doing a local match of \$1.3 Million. Mr. Cameron noted he does not believe it would put the city in a bad financial position with

the current situation taken in consideration. Mr. Cameron reported this is a competitive grant that would improve I-44 and the overpass.

City Administrator David Cameron reported he met with the leaders from Cable America about their upcoming investment in the city, noting last time we had fiber installed, there were issues with the contractors. Since that time, staff have made process changes and Cable America will have someone local for assistance to citizens if they have service interruption. Mr. Cameron shared his appreciation to them for reaching out to us.

City Administrator David Cameron encouraged everyone to read the capitol report in the Administrator's Report to see what is going on, adding we will continue to advocate for additional funding. Mr. Cameron noted he encourages everyone to read the Administrator's Report for helpful information to staff and citizens.

Council Member Franklin thanked everyone for their work on the agenda and workshop. Mr. Franklin thanked everyone for the thoughts and prayers, adding they were needed and appreciated.

Council Member Campbell thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for all they do for the community, noting Friday was the Father Daughter Dance and his 18th or 19th time attending. Mr. Campbell added it is cool what they do and there was a full house.

Mayor Russell reported that earlier today he was at a coffee shop before court and had someone ask how the Republic thing is going, noting they were so excited about the lazy river. More people came to speak to him and at one point nine people were talking about the Father Daughter Dance, the pool updates, the new ball park and more. Mayor Russell asked how they manage a \$7.4 Million project and still throw an amazing party for the citizens. Mayor Russell noted staff have done an amazing job, adding we are doing something good and it is being talked about in random places. Mayor Russell praised staff for their work.

**Executive Session:** *No further action, other than announcing adjournment by the Mayor, shall take place after an Executive Session that is scheduled as the last matter on the Agenda unless otherwise stated on the Agenda or as allowed per RSMo. 610.02.*

1. RSMo 610.021.1 Pending and/or potential litigation. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.
2. RSMo 610.021.3 Hiring, firing, promotion, or disciplining personnel. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.
3. RSMo 610.021.13 Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.


Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Neal at 6:51 p.m. to go into Executive Session under RSMo 610.021.1 Potential Litigation. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record., RSMo 610.021.3 Hiring, firing, promotion, or disciplining personnel. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record., and RSMo 610.021.13 Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye – Wilson, Franklin, Fields, Campbell, Gerke, Updike, Gerlek, and Neal. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Updike to adjourn the Executive Session Meeting at 7:36 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye – Wilson, Fields, Franklin, Campbell, Gerke, Neal, Gerlek, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

  
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Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

  
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Matt Russell, Mayor

