



MINUTES

City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers, 540 Civic Boulevard
July 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Matt Russell, Mayor
Garry Wilson, Ward II
Christopher Updike, Ward III
Jennifer Mitchell, Ward IV

Eric Franklin, Ward I
Gerry Pool, Ward II
Shane Grooms, Ward III
Jim Deichman, Ward IV

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 Christopher Updike, Jim Deichman, Eric Franklin, Garry Wilson, Gerry Pool, Shane Grooms, and Jennifer Mitchell. Others in attendance were: City Administrator David Cameron, Interim City Attorney Damon Phillips, Assistant City Administrator/Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling, BUILDS Administrator Andrew Nelson, Information Systems Director Chris Crosby, GIS Manager Josh Jones, Principal Planner Chris Tabor, Police Chief Brian Sells, and City Clerk Laura Burbridge.

Opening Prayer

Opening prayer was led by City Administrator David Cameron.

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Matt Russell.

Mayor's Announcements

Mayor Matt Russell introduced Damon Phillips as the Interim City Attorney.

Mayor Matt Russell requested Council approve the following appointments:

Housing Authority: Reappoint Mary Vincent for a 4-year term. Appoint Charlie Johnson to complete the term of Leo Clanton through June 17, 2023.

Enhanced Enterprise Zone: Appoint Rusty MacLachlan to complete Harold Bengsch's term through July 13, 2024. Reappoint Todd Wojciechowski and Allen Kunkel for 4-year terms. Appoint Blake Cantrell for a 4-year term.

Planning and Zoning: Reappoint Garry Wilson as Council Liaison for a 1-year term. Appoint Darran Campbell for a 4-year term. Appoint Brian Doubrava to complete the term of Chris Crosby expiring 11-2-24.

Board of Adjustment: Reappoint Kelly Evans for a 5-year term. Reappoint Karen Pittman for a 5-year term. Appoint April Swanson to complete the term of Torre Conklin to expire 2-20-23. Appoint Randy Tindell to complete the term of Dolph Woodman to expire 7-18-22.

Council Member Pool motioned to approve the requested appointments. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 7 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Grooms, Mitchell, Pool, Updike, and Wilson.

Citizen Participation

Mayor Matt Russell opened citizen participation at 6:04 p.m. No one came forward so Mayor Russell closed citizen participation at 6:04 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Council Member Pool and seconded by Council Member Franklin to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 7 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Grooms, Pool, Wilson, Updike, and Mitchell. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

1. Approve Amending the City Council Minutes from June 15, 2021 to Correct a Scrivener's Error.
2. Approve June 22, 2021 City Council Regular Session Minutes.
3. Approve Vendor List.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

City Council Meeting (Via Zoom)	August 03, 2021
Board of Adjustment Meeting	August 05, 2021
Planning & Zoning Meeting	August 09, 2021
City Council Meeting	August 17, 2021

Old Business and Tabled Items

4. **21-52 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving the Final Plat of Auburn Hills Phase Two Subdivision.**

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Grooms to have the second reading of Bill 21-52 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Grooms, Pool, Wilson, Mitchell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Andrew Nelson was available to answer any questions from Council. Council Member Franklin motioned for the passage of Bill 21-52. Council Member Mitchell seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 7 Aye-Updike, Pool, Wilson, Franklin, Deichman, Grooms, and Mitchell. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

5. **21-53 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 9.1 Acres from General Commercial (C-2) to Heavy Manufacturing (M-2), Located at 6330 West US Hwy 60.**

Council Member Grooms motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-53 by title only. Council Member Franklin seconded. The vote was 7 Aye-Wilson, Deichman, Franklin, Pool, Mitchell, Grooms, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Andrew Nelson provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

6. **21-54 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 92.85 Acres from Agricultural (AG) and General Commercial (C-2) to Planned Development District (PDD), Located at 3456 South Farm Road 101.**

Council Member Wilson motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-54 by title only. Council Member Franklin seconded. The vote was 7 Aye-Wilson, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Grooms, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Andrew Nelson provided an overview of the bill. Sean Coatney with ATW and Country Land spoke in favor of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

Other Business (Resolutions)

7. **21-R-31 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving a Preliminary Plat for Olde Savannah Phase 3, a Residential Subdivision Consisting of Approximately 22.95 Acres Located in the 6400 Block of South Farm Road 89.**

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Grooms to approve Resolution 21-R-31. Chris Tabor provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 7 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Grooms, Wilson, Pool, Mitchell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Reports from Staff

Presentation of the Citizen Survey for 2021.

Mark Ellison with Opinion Research Specialists presented the citizen survey results for 2021.

City Administrator David Cameron reported it is good to be back and he enjoyed his time away with his family. Mr. Cameron shared he appreciated being allowed to take that time. Mr. Cameron reported he now has an empty nest, so he will be here for you more now. Mr. Cameron thanked staff for all their work and for continuing to move forward while he was out.

City Administrator David Cameron reminded everyone that we have a significant ballot measure on August 3rd. Mr. Cameron announced there will be a virtual town hall meeting next Tuesday to answer any questions from citizens. Mr. Cameron reported we want to be fully transparent and shared he will be on RepMo radio Thursday to talk about the ballot as well. Mr. Cameron encouraged everyone to get out and vote on August 3rd. Mr. Cameron reminded everyone this is a question, not a mandate. Mr. Cameron shared his appreciation for Council allowing this to go to the community for consideration and encouraged people to participate in the virtual meeting. Mr. Cameron also reported that any questions about audits or financials can be answered by going on our website, with records on there for the last 5 years. Mr. Cameron shared we will provide better links to get to those as well.

City Administrator David Cameron shared that Tom Rankin was interviewed as part of the 12 People You Need To Know. Mr. Cameron reminded everyone that on June 2, 2020, he received a text from Mr. Rankin about the Amazon project. Mr. Cameron commended staff that in less than 10 months, on August 1, they will be occupying and running orders out of an over 1 million square feet building. Mr. Cameron spoke of the challenges in navigating the approvals, highway needs, and inspections, which included walking miles to inspect their facility. Mr. Cameron shared he watched first hand the extra mile staff took to work to help them achieve their objective. Mr. Cameron reminded everyone we are trying to do these things to improve our community and tax base, partially to not have to ask for additional taxes. It is important to recognize the staff, team, and community as he imagines it has been rough for those living and working out by the project. Mr. Cameron shared he listened to the community getting recognized at the 12 People You Need to Know event as Mr. Rankin attributed a lot of success to the staff of the City. Mr. Cameron encouraged everyone to drive out and see the completed road on the back of Amazon that leads to the new McLane project, which currently has steel going up. Mr. Cameron announced that Convoy of Hope is getting ready to launch into their next phase of their project. Mr. Cameron shared he is proud of this community and staff and appreciated the opportunity to lead and serve. Mr. Cameron stated he will bring this ballot question with transparency and civility. Mr. Cameron shared the work goes smoothly because it begins in this Council Chamber. Mr. Cameron reported we are getting ready to go to phase two.

Council Member Franklin reported he went to a family function and one of the things discussed was Amazon. Mr. Franklin shared there were developers from the east and west coasts and their jaws dropped when they heard the timeline. Mr. Franklin stated August 3rd is the time to vote, there is plenty of stuff out about it. Mr. Franklin thanked the citizens who filled out the citizen survey and those who volunteered for all the Boards and Committees.

Mayor Matt Russell shared we don't say "I" very often. We have a team approach but Mayor Russell shared David didn't do a good job of explaining what happened. Mayor Russell shared that at the Springfield Business Journal event in a room full of Springfield business people, Mr. Rankin sat on the

platform being interviewed. Mayor Russell reported Mr. Rankin spent his 45 minutes talking about Republic, David, and Andrew. Mayor Russell reported it was over 100 times Mr. Rankin said Republic. Mr. Rankin reported that Republic is the place. We don't pat each other on the back often, but Mayor Russell wanted to pat David on the back for his work. Mayor Russell also showed Council the 417 Biz magazine where David is on the cover. Mayor Russell shared David has developed a great team and they answer questions before he can come up with them. Mayor Russell acknowledged that David is starting to get notoriety but will not pat himself on the back. Mayor Russell reminded everyone that this is the Republic City Administrator on the cover of 417 Biz. Mayor Russell expressed we are lucky to have David.

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 610.021.2 Real estate acquisition. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.
3. RSMo 610.021.3 Hiring, firing, promotion, or disciplining personnel. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Updike at 6:45 p.m. to go into Executive Session under RSMo 610.021.3 Hiring, firing, promotion, or disciplining personnel. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 7 Aye - Mitchell, Deichman, Franklin, Pool, Wilson, Updike, and Grooms. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Council Member Deichman and seconded by Council Member Grooms to adjourn the Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. The vote was 7 Aye-Deichman, Wilson, Franklin, Mitchell, Grooms, Updike, and Pool. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

ATTEST:



Laura Burbridge, City Clerk



Matt Russell, Mayor

