



Matt Russell, Mayor/Ward III
 Brandon Self, Ward I
 Garry Wilson, Ward II
 Christopher Updike, Ward III
 Jennifer Mitchell, Ward IV
 Eric Franklin, Ward I
 Gerry Pool, Ward II
 Jim Deichman, Ward IV

MINUTES
City Council Meeting
Community Center, 711 E. Miller Road
March 23, 2021 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 Christopher Updike, Jim Deichman, Eric Franklin, Garry Wilson, Matt Russell, Gerry Pool, Brandon Self, and Jennifer Mitchell. Others in attendance were: City Administrator David Cameron, Assistant City Administrator Lisa Addington, Finance Director Debbie Parks, Police Lieutenant Jamie Burks, City Attorney Scott Ison, Planning Manager Karen Haynes, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Assistant City Administrator Jared Keeling, BUILDS Administrator Andrew Nelson, Engineering Manager Garrett Brickner, Public Information Officer Mike Landis, Sergeant Frank Schreiber, Finance Officer Meghin Cook, Operations Manager Jason Davis, Police Chief Brian Sells, Patrol Sergeant Zachary Richards, Patrol Officer Sam Dunn, Patrol Corporal Camryn Fite, Patrol Officer Joel Schulz, Police Service Representative Jake Wilburn, Firefighter Nolan McCain, Engineer Sterling Flagg, Engineer Garron Cantrell, Firefighter Nathan Bailey, Fire Captain Travis Liska, Information Systems Director Josh Jones, 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.

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 Wilson and seconded by Council Member Deichman to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 8 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Self, Pool, Wilson, Russell, Updike, and Mitchell. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

1. Approve February 16, 2021 City Council Minutes.
2. Approve February 25, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.
3. Approve February 25, 2021 City Council Work Session Minutes.
4. As per RSMo. 109.230(4), City records that are on file in the City Clerk’s office and have met the retention schedule will be destroyed in compliance with the guidelines established by the Secretary of State’s office.
5. Approve Utility Billing Adjustments.
6. Approve Vendor List.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

Board of Adjustment Meeting	April 1, 2021
City Council Meeting	April 6, 2021
Planning & Zoning Meeting	April 12, 2021
City Council Meeting	April 20, 2021



Old Business and Tabled Items

- 7. 21-11 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the Blueprint for Safer Roadways Program.**

Motion was made by Council Member Pool and seconded by Council Member Mitchell to have the second reading of Bill 21-11 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Russell, Deichman, Mitchell, Franklin, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Frank Schreiber was available to answer any questions from Council. Council Member Deichman motioned for the passage of Bill 21-11. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Franklin, Wilson, Mitchell, Updike, Russell, and Deichman. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

- 8. 21-12 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Calling an Election on the Question of Imposing a City Sales Tax to Fund Public Safety; Designating the Time for Holding Said Election; and Authorizing and Directing the City Clerk to Give Notice to the County Clerks of Said Election.**

Council Member Wilson motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-12 by title only. Council Member Pool seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. David Cameron provided an overview of the bill. Melanie Taylor, 1676 E New Madrid spoke against this bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with Mr. Cameron with any questions prior to the next meeting.

- 9. 21-13 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Amending the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri, by Amending Title IV, Land Use, Chapter 405, Zoning Regulations, Article I, In General, and Article III, Zoning Districts – Use and Regulations, Regarding Definitions and C-1 and C-2 Zoning.**

Council Member Pool motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-13 by title only. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with Ms. Haynes with any questions prior to the next meeting.

- 10. 21-14 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Amending the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri, by Amending Title IV, Land Use, Chapter 405, Zoning Regulations, Article IV, A Planned Development District, Regarding Planned Development Districts.**

Council Member Wilson motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-14 by title only. Council Member Mitchell seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with Ms. Haynes with any questions prior to the next meeting.

- 11. 21-15 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Amending the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri, by Amending Title IV, Land Use, Chapter 415, Sign Regulations, Regarding Signs.**

Council Member Mitchell motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-15 by title only. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with Ms. Haynes with any questions prior to the next meeting.

12.21-16 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 8.44 Acres from Agricultural (AG) and General Commercial (C-3) to General Commercial (C-2), Located at the Southeast Corner of State Highway MM and West Farm Road 148.

Council Member Pool motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-16 by title only. Council Member Franklin seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with Ms. Haynes with any questions prior to the next meeting.

13.21-17 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Authorizing the City Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with Berry Tractor and Equipment for the Purchase of a 2018 Komatsu Excavator and a 2016 Komatsu Dozer and Further Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute the Necessary Documents to Obtain Financing on Said Equipment from Bank of Missouri.

Council Member Wilson motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-17 by title only. Council Member Deichman seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Jason Davis and Debbie Parks 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.

14.21-18 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Amending Title I, Government Code, Chapter 110, Administration Policies, Article II, Purchasing and Surplus Property and Adopting a New Policy Entitled City of Republic's Purchasing Policy and Procedures.

Council Member Mitchell motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-18 by title only. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. David Cameron and Debbie Parks provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with Ms. Parks with any questions prior to the next meeting.

15.21-19 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Amending the Employee Handbook.

Council Member Deichman motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-19 by title only. Council Member Pool seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Self, Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Lisa Addington provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with Ms. Addington with any questions prior to the next meeting.

Other Business (Resolutions)

16.21-R-08 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Authorizing Payment for the City's Workers' Compensation Insurance for 2021-2022.

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Deichman to approve Resolution 21-R-08. Lisa Addington provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 8 Aye-Pool, Self, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

17.21-R-09 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Designating the Municipal Prosecutor and Authorizing the City Administrator to Enter into an Agreement for Prosecution Services.

Motion was made by Council Member Deichman and seconded by Council Member Mitchell to approve Resolution 21-R-09. Jared Keeling provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 8 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Pool, Russell, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Finance Report

Debbie Parks presented the Finance Report.

Reports from Staff

City Administrator David Cameron thanked Council for the discussion tonight regarding the ballot measure. Mr. Cameron shared he enjoys presenting and providing information. Mr. Cameron thanked Debbie for the finance report and for keeping it brief. Mr. Cameron shared that Ms. Parks summarized it quickly but there was a lot of work behind the presentation. Mr. Cameron thanked staff for their work.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked Scott, Karen, and Andrew for their work on the code changes presented tonight. What was outlined in those documents are ways to make it easier to do what is in the best interest of the community and Mr. Cameron shared he appreciates the work put into it. Mr. Cameron emphasized they make it look easy but there are a lot of topics addressed in those ordinances and a lot of vendors will be happy with the improvements.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked Congressman Billy Long for coming into town two weeks ago. Mr. Cameron reported they drove around the community and he had about an hour to talk to Congressman Long about transportation needs at Highway MM and US Highway 60. Mr. Cameron reported there is a lot of attention and excitement drawn to the community. Mr. Cameron announced he will be presenting to the Greene County Commission Thursday to discuss the transportation needs as well. Greene County is getting a 1.75 % sales tax benefit from our businesses; generating a lot of funding for the county. Mr. Cameron shared he would like to partner with the county on transportation as the work Republic does also positively impacts the County and State. Mr. Cameron shared he is having those discussions with both the County and State. Mr. Cameron announced he will also be meeting with Senator Blunt's office on Thursday. Mr. Cameron reported there is a lot of interest in our community.

City Administrator David Cameron announced Mike Landis is leaving the City of Republic to go back to his roots of reporting the news by joining KOLR 10. Mr. Cameron announced this information was provided today and a press release will be released tomorrow. Mr. Cameron shared he has been in government a long time, and Mr. Landis by far set the bar of anyone he has ever dealt with in his ability to communicate and tell the story. Mr. Landis has done great work on the last ballot measure and numerous publications. Mr. Cameron expressed that Mr. Landis is a class act and wished him nothing but the best. Mr. Cameron reported the City did not have a Public Information Officer before and Mr. Landis set the bar in place for the next person to fill his shoes. Mr. Cameron said he looks forward to seeing Mr. Landis on KOLR 10 and working with him there. Mr. Cameron expressed Mr. Landis will be sorely missed, but still has Mr. Cameron's cell number and Mr. Landis can do both sides of the story. Mr. Cameron told Mr.

Landis he is loved and has been awesome. Mr. Cameron said he wishes Mr. Landis and the boys nothing but the best.

Council Member Franklin shared he appreciated the conversation this evening stating it can be difficult representing the citizens and it was great to see citizens involved. Mr. Franklin shared he sees the need for our funding and does not want people to think he doesn't. Mr. Franklin shared a lot of things have been said implying he doesn't 100% back Police and Fire. Mr. Franklin said the community shows a great response to our first responders and he is proud to be in Republic and step up when the need arises. Mr. Franklin said there are two sides of the story and the elected official's voice is the voice of the people and he is happy to give that voice. Mr. Franklin thanked everyone for their time.

Council Member Wilson shared he supports the Police and Fire stating we need them. Mr. Wilson asked "where would we be without them?". Mr. Wilson shared he whole heartedly supports the tax to get them up to staffing needs and possibly save their lives by having a full crew.

Mayor Russell said Mr. Landis will be missed and shared he gave Mike his office. Mayor Russell shared Mr. Landis is true professional as is the City across the board, but Mr. Landis will be hard to replace and will be missed. Mayor Russell said he is famous for saying we do not all have to agree. Mayor Russell spoke about being an attorney and how people are paid to disagree with him. Mayor Russell shared he has been married 22 years and wonders if his wife is paid to argue with him too. Mayor Russell reminded everyone we can disagree like a family and still come together for the best results. The City is going through growing pains and with that, you just have to pay for it. Mayor Russell stated we will figure out a way together. Mayor Russell told Mr. Landis "we will miss you as part of the family, but you will still be a cousin".


Adjournment

Mayor Russell adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

ATTEST:



Laura Burbridge, City Clerk



Matt Russell, Mayor

