



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
March 05, 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, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Police Chief Brian Sells, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jennafer Mayfield, Associate Planner Patrick Ruiz, Assistant City Administrator/Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling, 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.

Mayor's Announcements

1. Appoint Van Bridges to the Planning and Zoning Commission with a term ending on July 19, 2025.
 Mayor Russell announced the appointment of Van Bridges to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

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 Neal to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

2. Approve the February 20, 2024 City Council Minutes.
3. 24-R-09 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the Police Department to Apply for Two (2) Reimbursable 2024-2025 Missouri Highway Safety Program Traffic Safety Grants.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

Board of Adjustment Meeting	March 7, 2024
Planning & Zoning Meeting	March 11, 2024
City Council Meeting	March 19, 2024
City Council Meeting	April 2, 2024

Old Business and Tabled Items-None



New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

4. **24-09 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title II (“Public Health, Safety And Welfare”), Chapter 215 (“Offenses”), Article 215-XII (“Offenses Concerning Minors”), Section 215.2000 (“Use Of Alcoholic Beverages And/Or Controlled Substances By Minors At Open Parties Prohibited-Penalties-Person In Control Of Premises Liable”), of the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri.**

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Fields to have the first reading of Bill 24-09 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Megan McCullough 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.

5. **24-10 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Annexation of Approximately 25 Acres of Property Located Near 1100 North Main Avenue and Adjacent Right-of-Way.**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the first reading of Bill 24-10 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Patrick Ruiz gave an overview of the bill. The project engineer was available for questions. Mayor Russell reminded Council this is a first read and to get with staff with questions prior to the next meeting.

6. **24-11 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title I, Chapter 130 (“Municipal Court”), Article 130-I (“Municipal Court General Provisions”), Article 130-II (“Court Costs and Fees”), Sections 130.080 (“Report To City Council”), 130.180 (“Jailing Of Defendants”), 130.250 (“Court Costs”), and 130.280 (“Installment Payment Of Fine”), of the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Fields to have the first reading of Bill 24-11 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Megan McCullough 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-10 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing Payment to Missouri Rural Services Workers’ Compensation Insurance Trust for Coverage for 2024-2025.**

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Neal to take up Resolution 24-R-10. Lisa Addington 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 thanked Van Bridges for serving on Planning and Zoning, noting he ran into him the day we were opening filing for City Council, when Mr. Bridges submitted his application for Planning and Zoning. Mr. Cameron added they later met to discuss what the role entailed, noting this is a great place to learn and start serving.

City Administrator David Cameron provided an update on the Shuyler Creek Trail, noting they got the second to last easement. Mr. Cameron thanked Andrew for the work on this, adding we will bid out the

work in about 30 days. Mr. Cameron reported the trail is currently under construction along Highway ZZ to the high school. Mr. Cameron noted we are paying more for easements to accommodate the changes, but we had zero interest in taking people's land. Mr. Cameron thanked all the staff involved.

City Administrator David Cameron congratulated Council Member Gerke for being named as a Springfield Business Journal's Man of the Year.

City Administrator David Cameron provided an update on the legislative session, noting he will be in Jefferson City tomorrow. Mr. Cameron added there has been no update on Senate Bill 979, noting he hopes it stays where it is to potentially let it wait until next year. Mr. Cameron reported he will continue to stand in opposition of the bill on behalf of the city but will ask for a Resolution if needed.

City Administrator David Cameron reminded everyone to read the Administrator's Report, which is posted on our website, and referenced a linked email from Dr. Pearce on Senate Bill 799. Mr. Cameron encouraged everyone to read this information on how it will impact the school district and its teachers. This is part of what is happening in Republic, as our school district is an attractive place to bring students, so we shared the information at his request. Mr. Cameron advised people to call their Senator or Representative if they have concerns.

City Administrator David Cameron noted that we did a developer agreement with Valley Trails in 2017 with a lot of concessions made with a final agreement of 2.7 units per acre. Since that time, they sold the property, and he has received several calls and questions on the newly proposed development of it. Staff make recommendations based on what the Planned Development District plan says. This will be presented at the next meeting, but it doesn't match what we told residents we would do. Mr. Cameron noted this is a great developer, but this doesn't align with what we said, and Mr. Cameron is not in support of the item due to this. Mr. Cameron advised Council to watch the Planning and Zoning meeting to be informed, noting the original plan was 2.7 units per acre and the proposed PDD adds 10 more units. Mr. Cameron noted a petition is being circulated in opposition.

Council Member Franklin thanked staff for the workshop on Main Street Revitalization, adding it was one of the best opportunities to hear other people's input and perspective. Mr. Franklin noted he enjoyed it and the staff and students that prepared it. Mr. Franklin asked if Council would receive a summary of the information gathered as there were separate groups that presented input and ideas. Andrew Nelson answered that the Drury students did the heavy lifting, but announced there will be a second meeting coming up presenting the findings. Mr. Nelson added some clarification regarding the upcoming PDD, noting staff is recommending it due to the plan meeting requirements of zoning regulations, infrastructure accessibility, and requirements of code. Council Member Franklin also encouraged everyone to go see Rooting Republic's tower garden, noting they will be meeting on Saturday March 16th, at 10:00 am.

Council Member Campbell noted that a week ago, the Fire Department assisted Brookline Fire District and they were out for 10+ hours, followed by being called out again on another fire. Mr. Campbell noted there were multiple departments assisting, adding he appreciates what they do.

Mayor Russell announced Andrew Nelson was right, and he was wrong about the easement negotiations. Mr. Nelson noted there is still one more to go. Mayor Russell noted Andrew's negotiation skills are outstanding. Mayor Russell added we get a lot of pushback on the growth in Republic, but he will argue that we still have small town values. Mayor Russell shared that on Saturday February 24th, he was walking in his neighborhood noting a car that looked out of place. He texted Chief Sells and 6 minutes later there was an officer looking into it. While it is nice to have his cell number, that is the service we get in Republic.

Adjournment

Mayor Russell adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

ATTEST:



Laura Burbridge, City Clerk



Matt Russell, Mayor

