



**MINUTES**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**Municipal Court Building, 540 Civic Blvd**  
**January 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM**

**Matt Russell, Mayor**  
Eric Gerke, Ward I  
Garry Wilson, Ward II  
Christopher Updike, Ward III  
Jennifer Mitchell, Ward IV  
  
Eric Franklin, Ward I  
Gerry Pool, Ward II  
Brandon Self, Ward III  
Clint Gerlek, 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 Eric Franklin, Garry Wilson, Eric Gerke, Chris Updike, Clint Gerlek, Brandon Self, Jennifer Mitchell, and Gerry Pool. Others in attendance were: City Administrator David Cameron, Deputy City Administrator Andrew Nelson, City Attorney Megan McCullough, Police Chief Brian Sells, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jennafer Mayfield, Assistant BUILDS Administrator Garrett Brickner, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, Assistant City Administrator/Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling, Principal Planner Chris Tabor, City Clerk Laura Burbridge, 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 Pool and seconded by Council Member Updike to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

1. Approve December 6, 2022 City Council Minutes.
2. Approve Vendor List.
3. 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.
4. 23-R-01 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the City Administrator to Increase the Not-To-Exceed Amount for the City's Engagement of Outside Legal Counsel for Environmental Compliance Matters.

**Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule**

Board of Adjustment Meeting	February 2, 2023
City Council Meeting	February 7, 2023
Planning & Zoning Meeting	February 13, 2023
City Council Meeting	February 21, 2023



## Old Business and Tabled Items

5. 22-63 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving a Developer Agreement with Stone Creek Development LLC.

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Pool to have the second reading of Bill 22-63 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Garrett Brickner was available to answer questions. Council Member Updike motioned for the passage of Bill 22-63. Council Member Franklin seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

6. 22-64 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement with City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri to Deliver Electric Service to the Brookline South Lift Station.

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Mitchell to have the second reading of Bill 22-64 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Garrett Brickner was available to answer questions. Council Member Updike motioned for the passage of Bill 22-64. Council Member Pool seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

7. 22-65 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving Budget Amendment No. 2 to the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022.

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the second reading of Bill 22-65 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Jared Keeling provided updated information since the last meeting and Council reviewed the proposed amended ordinance. Council Member Self motioned to strike the totals of the Parks and Recreation Fund, CIST Fund, and Grant Fund and replace with the new numbers provided by staff. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Council Member Self motioned for the passage of Bill 22-65. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

## New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

8. 23-01 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Final Plat of the Westbury Gardens Phase Two Subdivision.

Motion was made by Council Member Self and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the first reading of Bill 23-01 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Chris Tabor provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this is a first read and to get with staff prior to the next meeting with any questions.

9. 23-02 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Final Plat of the Wilson's Creek Villas Subdivision.

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the first reading of Bill 23-02 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Chris Tabor provided an overview of the



bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this is a first read and to get with staff prior to the next meeting with any questions.

#### **Other Business (Resolutions)**

- 10.23-R-02 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the City Administrator to Retain an Outside Consulting Firm to Assist with the Recruitment, Selection and Post-Offer Process for the Finance Director and Finance Manager Positions.

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Pool to approve Resolution 23-R-02. David Cameron provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

- 11.23-R-03 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the City Administrator to Retain an Outside Consulting Firm to Assist with the Recruitment, Selection and Post-Offer Process for an Engineer Vacancy.

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Franklin to approve Resolution 23-R-03. David Cameron provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

- 12.23-R-04 A Resolution of the City Council Appointing Assistant BUILDS Administrator Garrett Brickner as the City's Director of the Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission And BUILDS Administrator Karen Haynes As The City's Alternate.

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Wilson to approve Resolution 23-R-04. Garrett Brickner provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 8 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Self, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

#### **Reports from Staff**

City Administrator David Cameron thanked Mayor Russell, Council, and staff for attending the work session to discuss the priorities of the City. Mr. Cameron added he appreciated the feedback and looks forward to sharing that feedback. Mr. Cameron noted he will increase the information that goes out in the Administrator's Report. Our communication can improve and we are moving forward and turning inward to improve processes and glean from the feedback. Mr. Cameron added we need to understand what we can improve on. Mr. Cameron noted development isn't slowing down and we have companies from all over looking to move here, but we need to work on our processes. Mr. Cameron reported we will build on that and do a follow up work session next month.

City Administrator David Cameron announced we have posted the opening for Public Information Officer, noting Jennafer has handled it brilliantly, but we need more communication internally and externally to get our message out. Mr. Cameron noted we received 25 million dollars last June and found out we got 5 million dollars in the omnibus bill through Congressman Long. Mr. Cameron reported he met with leadership in the House of Representatives last week and discussed the meetings with the Mayor shortly after. Our request has been made again and the meetings went well with Representative Davidson, Representative Riley, Representative Deaton, and Representative Owen this week. Mr. Cameron added he will be meeting with Representative Curtis Trent soon as well. Mr. Cameron added we continue to work hard to get utility rates down and to minimize the impact to citizens, but we have to work on that plant. Mr. Cameron reported we are working with our attorneys and engineers to keep the City in compliance and the State has stepped up. We have been working on a lot of things that we just aren't communicating. Mr. Cameron noted that the Hines and Lynn roundabout is coming. Mr. Cameron shared

he is proud of the funding we have generated, which totaled 97 million dollars for the community in the last five years. It is our responsibility to find those funds but we should share the information. Mr. Cameron noted we are good at being vulnerable but not great at sharing our story.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked staff for their vision and thanked the community.

Council Member Franklin thanked staff for the workshop last week, noting he appreciated the perspective from supervisors. Mr. Franklin added it was a great session and he is looking forward to the next work session.

Mayor Russell thanked Mr. Cameron for doing the work session, noting it is easy to not do it but it takes a lot to stop and say we can do better. Mayor Russell noted the next day, he went to the animal shelter with his son, Nick, who had a project at school to pay it forward. Mayor Russell spoke to Christina Elmore, who said the workshop was the best thing she has experienced in this job. Mayor Russell noted this was a great thing.


**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.*

RSMo 610.021.13 Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment, except that this exemption shall not apply to the names, positions, salaries and lengths of service of officers and employees of public agencies once they are employed as such, and the names of private sources donating or contributing money to the salary of a chancellor or president at all public colleges and universities in the state of Missouri and the amount of money contributed by the source

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Pool at 6:36 p.m. to go into Executive Session under RSMo 610.021.13 Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings and 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, Updike, Pool, Self, Gerke, Mitchell, Gerlek, and Franklin. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Updike to adjourn the Executive Session Meeting at 7:12 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye – Mitchell, Updike, Pool, Self, Gerlek, Franklin, Wilson, and Gerke. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

  
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Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

  
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Matt Russell, Mayor

