



AGENDA ITEM ANALYSIS

Project/Issue Name: 24-73 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title VIII (“Fees”), Chapter 805 (“Fee Schedule”), Section 805.100 (“Utility Administration”) of the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri.

Submitted By: **David Cameron, City Administrator**

Date: December 10, 2024

Issue Statement

An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri to increase water rates for all water consumers to fund necessary improvements to the water system and ultimately increase water supply.

Discussion and/or Analysis

Over the past several years, the City of Republic has prioritized upgrading our wastewater system and treatment plant to comply with Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) standards. These essential improvements required steady wastewater rate increases from 2023 to 2027. While we also recognized the need for water system upgrades to support our city’s growth, we chose to defer a water rate increase until securing all necessary wastewater funding through state legislation, bonds, and loans. Now that wastewater funding is in place, our attention turns to vital improvements to the water system.

With rapid growth, particularly in the Brookline area, expanding our clean water infrastructure is critical. To meet MDNR guidelines for water system capacity, we are proposing the addition of a water tower and well near the Convoy of Hope campus. This project is estimated to cost \$15 million and will include the tower, well, and supporting water mains.

Funding for the project is as follows:

- **\$5 million** from the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Community Grants Program.
- **Land donated** by Convoy of Hope for the tower and well site.
- The remaining **\$10 million** to be funded through a proposed water rate increase.

To generate the necessary funds, we recommend a water rate increase over the next three years:

Year	Base Charge (Inside City)	Surcharge (Inside City)	Base Charge (Outside City)	Surcharge (Outside City)
2025	\$16.76	\$7.08	\$21.39	\$13.90
2026	\$24.26	\$14.81	\$28.89	\$16.90
2027	\$31.76	\$17.90	\$36.39	\$19.90



This increase will generate over \$10.5 million, enabling the City to complete the construction of the new water tower and ground well in a timely manner.

We believe these investments are necessary to support the City's continued growth and ensure reliable, clean water for our residents and businesses.

Recommended Action

Staff recommends approval.