



MINUTES

City Council Regular Session
City Hall, 4221 S. Wilson's Creek Blvd.
February 03, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Eric Franklin, Mayor
Eric Gerke, Ward I
Garry Wilson, Ward II
Christopher Updike, Ward III
Justin Neal, Ward IV

Justin Shaw, Ward I
Darran Campbell, Ward II
Brian Fields, Ward III
Daniel Harter, 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 Eric Franklin at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present included Darran Campbell, Chris Updike, Brian Fields, Justin Neal, Dan Harter, Eric Gerke, and Justin Shaw. Others in attendance were: City Administrator Colten Harris, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, Fire Chief Duane Compton, IT Manager Michael Sallee, Police Chief Brian Sells, Police Major Jamie Burks, Police Lieutenant Zach Richards, Chief Financial Officer Bob Ford, City Clerk Laura Burbridge, Chief Technology Officer Josh Jones, Community Development Director Karen Haynes, City Attorney Justin Rogers, Operations Manager Eric Brown, Street Maintenance Specialist David Brink, and Engineer Angel Falig.

Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Mayor Franklin.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Franklin.

Proclamations

1. Ronald McDonald House Week

Mayor Eric Franklin presented the Proclamation to Randell Boggs and Ryan Blumenstock.

Citizen Participation

Mayor Franklin opened citizen participation at 6:04 p.m.

James Lutze, 442 North Glenwood, spoke with his son Douglas Lutze interpreting for him. Mr. Lutze reported concerns about the lack of plowing on his street, noting he couldn't check his mail for 5 days. He is also concerned that the street speed limit is 30 mph.

Ray Kopatich, 757 N. Delaware Avenue, noted he moved here 2 1/2 years ago from Minnesota. He noted they had a city ordinance that if there is 2 or more inches of snow, cars had to be off the road to be out of the way for plows. Mr. Kopatich added having cars on the road prevents parts of the road from being plowed properly.

Mayor Franklin closed citizen participation at 6:17 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Updike to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

2. Approve the January 20, 2026 City Council Workshop Minutes.
3. Approve the January 20, 2026 City Council Minutes.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

Board of Adjustment-Cancelled	February 5, 2026
Planning and Zoning-Cancelled	February 9, 2026
City Council Workshop	February 10, 2026
City Council Meeting	February 17, 2026
City Council Meeting	March 3, 2026

Old Business and Tabled Items

- 4. 26-01 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title IV ("Land Use"), Chapter 410 ("Subdivision Regulations"), Section 410.700 ("Sinkholes and Karst Features"), of the Municipal Code of the City or Republic, Missouri.**

Motion was made by Council Member Harter and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the second reading of Bill 26-01 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes was available for questions of Council. Council Member Shaw motioned for the passage of Bill 26-01. Council Member Neal seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

- 5. 26-02 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Annexation of Approximately 70.83 Acres of Property Located at 7275 West Farm Road 144 and Adjacent Right-of-Way.**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Harter to have the second reading of Bill 26-02 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes was available for questions of Council. Council Member Updike motioned for the passage of Bill 26-02. Council Member Neal seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

- 6. 26-03 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Annexation of Approximately 9.85 Acres of Property Located at 7395 West Farm Road 144 and Adjacent Right-of-Way.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the second reading of Bill 26-03 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes was available for questions of Council. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 26-03. Council Member Shaw seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

- 7. 26-04 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving Amendment of the Zoning Classification of Approximately 0.33 Acres of Real Property, Located at 641 North College Avenue, from Medium Density Single-Family Residential (R1-M) to Two-Family Residential (R-2).**

Motion was made by Council Member Campbell and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the second reading of Bill 26-04 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes was available for questions of Council. Council Member Harter motioned for the passage of Bill 26-04. Council Member Neal seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 5 Aye-Campbell, Gerke, Harter, Neal, and Shaw. 2 Nay-Fields and Updike. Motion Carried.

8. **26-05 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title IV ("Land Use"), Chapter 415 ("Sign Regulations"), Section 415.120 ("Commercial Sign Overlay Districts"), of the Municipal Code of the City or Republic, Missouri.**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the second reading of Bill 26-05 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes was available for questions of Council. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 26-05. Council Member Harter seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

9. **26-06 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title I, "Government Code", Chapter 110, "Administration Policies", Article VIII, "Authority To Enter Into Contracts Policy," Section 110.200, "Persons Authorized To Enter Into Contracts On Behalf Of City;" Article II, "Purchasing And Surplus Property Disposal," Section 110.020.01, "Purchasing Policy And Procedures;" and Chapter 120 "City Officers And Employees," Article V, "City Administrator," Section 120.090, "City Administrator-Duties", and Adopting a Revised Policy Entitled "City Of Republic's Purchasing Policy".**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Harter to have the second reading of Bill 26-06 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Bob Ford was available for questions of Council. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 26-06. Council Member Fields seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)-None

Other Business (Resolutions)

10. **26-R-04 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the City of Republic to Submit up to Three Applications to the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program in Partnership with Ozarks Transportation Organization and Missouri Department of Transportation.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to take up Resolution 26-R-04. Karen Haynes presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

11. **26-R-05 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the City Administrator to Negotiate a Potential Intergovernmental Agreement with City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri for Future Supplemental Water Connections and to Engage Olsson, Inc. for Related Consulting Services.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to take up Resolution 26-R-05. Colten Harris presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Reports from Staff

City Administrator Colten Harris expressed appreciation for holding the first meeting in the new City Hall, noting that it was something the City could be proud of. He welcomed Justin Rogers as City Attorney. He addressed the recent winter weather event and thanked the Public Works Department for responding promptly and professionally through three days of snowfall and below-freezing temperatures.

City Administrator Harris stated that he had been with the City for approximately 60 days and had been focusing on building relationships. He reported attending Republic Chamber of Commerce meetings and noted that he would attend at least quarterly, sharing coverage with the Mayor. He stated that he had met with both the outgoing and incoming school superintendents. He added that he would be traveling to Jefferson City the following day for Advocacy Day and Engineers Day and would be working to learn more about restricted funds in an effort to secure the release of funds for the MM Corridor project.

City Administrator Harris thanked the City Council for approving the purchasing policy, noting that it would allow the City to be more responsive and better aligned with its Mission, Vision, and Values. He announced an upcoming Father-Daughter Dance hosted by the Parks Department. He thanked the Mayor for hosting the Greene County Mayors' Association meeting and expressed appreciation to City staff for assisting with the event. He concluded with a reminder that the February 10 workshop would be held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Eric Franklin reported that he hosted the Greene County Mayors' Association meeting on Thursday and stated that the event was a great success. He noted that Greene County Commissioners were also in attendance and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to collaborate with county partners. Mayor Franklin thanked Karen Haynes for her presentation, noting that it received positive feedback, and also thanked Ms. Haynes and Laura Burbridge for arranging food for the meeting.

Mayor Franklin stated that the recent workshop was successful and thanked City staff for providing an in-depth review of three different topics, emphasizing the Mission, Vision, and Values. He specifically thanked Lisa Addington for her work related to the Mission, Vision, and Values and noted that the workshop was available on the City's YouTube channel. He also addressed the City's response to the recent weather event, thanking staff and residents for enduring the cold conditions and expressing appreciation for the efforts to keep streets plowed to ensure access for emergency services.

Mayor Franklin noted that he would be attending a Republic Chamber of Commerce luncheon later that day. He commented on the City's Tiger Tie, describing it as bold and reflective of the City's Mission, Vision, and Values, and stated that he continued efforts to share the Mission, Vision, and Values with the public.

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. 610.021.*

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.

Motion was made by Council Member Harter and seconded by Council Member Updike at 6:51 p.m. to go into Executive Session under RSMo 610.021.1 Pending and/or potential litigation. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record. and RSMo 610.021.2 Real estate acquisition. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 7 Aye-Fields, Shaw, Gerke, Updike, Campbell, Harter, and Neal. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to adjourn the Executive Session Meeting at 7:37 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 7 Aye-Fields, Neal, Campbell, Updike, Shaw Harter, and Gerke. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

Adjournment

ATTEST:

Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

Eric Franklin, Mayor

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