



MINUTES

City Council Regular Session BUILDS Building, 4221 S. Wilson's Creek Blvd. May 06, 2025 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 Justin Neal, Darran Campbell, Garry Wilson, Chris Updike, Brian Fields, Eric Gerke, Daniel Harter, and Justin Shaw. Others in attendance were: City Administrator David Cameron, City Attorney Megan McCullough, Fire Chief Duane Compton, City Clerk Laura Burbridge, Data and Security Supervisor Michael Sallee, Police Chief Brian Sells, Police Lieutenant Zach Richards, Police Major Jamie Burks, Chief Financial Officer Bob Ford, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, Engineer (E.I.) Angel Falig, Associate Planner Patrick Ruiz, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Brad Stulce, and Parks and Recreation Director Kris Parks.

Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Council Member Darran Campbell.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Franklin.

Proclamations

1. **Republic City Employee Appreciation Week.**

Mayor Eric Franklin read the Proclamation and thanked staff for their work.

2. **Head Start Day.**

Mayor Franklin presented the proclamation to Kimberly Shen-Brown from Head Start.

Election of Mayor Pro Tem

Council Member Harter nominated Council Member Gerke to be Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Wilson motioned for the nomination of Council Member Gerke as Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Harter seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Citizen Participation

Mayor Franklin opened citizen participation at 6:06 p.m.

Lisa Roller, 6618 W. Farm Road 182, spoke about concerns with the driveway installed on her property along the trail. Ms. Roller spoke highly of the contractor but was unhappy with the turnover of staff on this project. Ms. Roller noted Angel Falig has been on top of it today and may have resolved it. She also reported concerns about people already using the trail and accessing private property.

Angel Falig noted we are working to rectify the situation but some items in this concern were not part of the design plan, so we are trying to work it out in the field.

Janey Combs, 406 W. Barcelona, reported concerns with water prices. Mr. Cameron gave a brief overview of the history and expenses.

Mayor Franklin closed citizen participation at 6:26 p.m.

Consent Agenda

3. Approve the April 15, 2025 City Council Minutes.
4. Approve the April 22, 2025 City Council Special Session Minutes.
5. Approve the April 22, 2025 City Council Work Session Minutes.
6. Approve the Vendor List.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

Planning & Zoning Meeting	May 12, 2025
City Council Work Session	May 13, 2025
City Council Meeting	May 20, 2025
City Council Meeting	June 3, 2025
Board of Adjustment Meeting	June 5, 2025

Old Business and Tabled Items

7. **25-12 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Annexation of Approximately 9.9 Acres of Property Located at 4297 South Wilson's Creek Boulevard 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 25-12 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Patrick Ruiz was available for questions of Council. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 25-12. Council Member Harter seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

8. **25-13 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Final Plat of Harper Ridge Phase 3 Subdivision.**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Harter to have the first reading of Bill 25-13 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Patrick Ruiz gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Franklin announced that pursuant to 3.10 (f) of the Charter, Staff requested the second reading of this ordinance during the meeting. Council Member Updike motioned to hold the second reading during the meeting. Council Member Campbell seconded. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

New Business (Second Reading of Ordinances)

9. **25-13 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Final Plat of Harper Ridge Phase 3 Subdivision.**

Motion was made by Council Member Campbell and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the second reading of Bill 25-13 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Patrick Ruiz was available for questions of Council. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 25-13. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Other Business (Resolutions)

10.25-R-18 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the Purchase of Two (2) Replacement Vehicles for the Parks and Recreation Department's Maintenance Division.

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to take up Resolution 25-R-18. Brad Stulce presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Shaw, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

11.25-R-19 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 Burns & McDonnell for Related Consulting Services.

Mayor Franklin noted this item will be presented at the workshop on May 13, 2025, and therefore will be removed from the agenda.

Reports from Staff

City Administrator David Cameron expressed appreciation for the comments received from the community. He noted that during Employee Appreciation Week, it is important to recognize that Council Members and the Mayor have full-time jobs outside of their elected roles, which can be difficult to balance. He thanked Council for the time and service they dedicate to staff and the community, emphasizing that the role is not highly compensated and requires a strong commitment. Mr. Cameron highlighted the dedication of employees across all departments, acknowledging that while the work of some—such as Wastewater Treatment Plant staff—may not be as visible to the public, every individual adds value to the organization. He recognized crews who work in extreme conditions and reiterated the importance of stopping to appreciate the contributions of staff. He emphasized the city's commitment to its Mission, Vision, and Values (MVV), noting that Mayor Eric Franklin carries a copy of the MVV with him.

City Administrator David Cameron also acknowledged that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. He emphasized the importance of recognizing that "it's okay to not be okay," referencing his remarks on the topic during the recent Think Summit. He shared a recent interaction with someone who simply needed to talk and pointed out that suicide ideation rates are particularly high in the region. He encouraged everyone to take the time to check on their friends and loved ones.

City Administrator David Cameron provided an update on stormwater concerns in Brookside Estates and Rankin Acres. Letters have been sent to residents, and the city has hired a third-party consultant to assist in addressing the issues.

City Administrator David Cameron gave a legislative update, reporting that \$10 million has been included in the state budget for the MM Highway project, and \$25 million for improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He reminded Council that although these items are currently in the budget, the legislative session ends on Friday per the state constitution, and funding is not final until the Governor signs the appropriations.

City Administrator David Cameron shared an update on the city's ERP project, commending staff for their outstanding work. He stated the project is anticipated to break even upon completion, with deployment dates scheduled for 2025 and 2026. The city's ADP platform is expected to go live on January 8, 2026.

City Administrator David Cameron previewed the upcoming City Council work session scheduled for next week, which will include presentations from Tri-State Water Coalition, AARP final report out on emergency management, and Council Member Neal's discussion on liquor licensing. There will also be

discussion about a potential CU water tie-in and allocation coordination, aimed at avoiding the construction of a second water tower.

City Administrator David Cameron announced that the city has received the Spire Silver Shovel Award for the third consecutive year, recognizing safe digging practices.

City Administrator David Cameron reported that he spoke at the Chamber of Commerce event earlier in the day, highlighting a lengthy list of current and upcoming projects, including the addition of another Eagle Stop at Iron Grain. He also mentioned that further development is underway along MM Highway.

Council Member Wilson expressed appreciation for all city employees and specifically acknowledged the work and leadership of City Administrator David Cameron.

Mayor Eric Franklin thanked Mr. Cameron and city staff for their continued efforts. He noted that he carries the city's Mission, Vision, and Values with him at all times. Mayor Franklin shared feedback from Greene County officials, who expressed how much they enjoy working with Republic staff and appreciated their professionalism. He recognized that city staff consistently represent the community well. Referring to a recent storm, Mayor Franklin thanked the Police Department, Fire Department, and Public Works crews for quickly removing debris and restoring safety. He stated that the city was fortunate to avoid serious injuries or fatalities and encouraged anyone who can volunteer their time to assist neighboring communities. He thanked Head Start for attending to accept their proclamation, as well as citizens for sharing their concerns during the meeting. Mayor Franklin noted he looked forward to the next work session and reported the first annual Art Walk on Main Street took place over the weekend, commending the Republic Main Street Events team for organizing the event. He noted that all featured artists are local and have compelling stories. He concluded by thanking everyone for their work during the meeting and recognized the newly sworn-in Council Members.

Adjournment

Mayor Franklin adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

Eric Franklin, Mayor