



MINUTES

City Council Meeting Municipal Court Building, 540 Civic Blvd August 16, 2022 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, Gerry Pool, Chris Updike, Clint Gerlek, and Jennifer Mitchell. Others in attendance were: City Administrator David Cameron, City Attorney Megan McCullough, Assistant City Administrator Jared Keeling, Police Chief Brian Sells, Finance Director Meghan Cook, BUILDS Administrator Andrew Nelson, Assistant BUILDS Administrator Karen Haynes, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Engineering Manager Garrett Brickner, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, IT Director Chris Crosby, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jennafer Mayfield, and City Clerk Laura Burbridge.

Opening Prayer

Opening prayer was led by City Administrator David Cameron.

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Matt Russell.

Citizen Participation

Mayor Russell opened citizen participation at 6:01 p.m.

Earline Minier, 124 E Brooks Street, requested additional yard waste dates be added to address the brush and limbs in people's yards. Ms. Minier was advised additional dates were added and posted on Facebook.

Mayor Russell closed citizen participation at 6:02 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Updike to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 7 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Pool, Mitchell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

1. Approve July 26, 2022 City Council Minutes.
2. 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.
3. Approve Vendor List.
4. Approve Utility Billing Adjustments.
5. 22-R-41 A Resolution of the City Council Awarding the Bid for Waterline Materials for the Remainder of 2022 Through 2023 to Core & Main LP.
6. 22-R-42 A Resolution of the City Council Awarding the Bids for Aggregate Supply for the Remainder of 2022 Through 2023 to Bailey Quarries, Inc., Capital Materials, LLC., Conco Quarries, and Westside Stone Company, LLC.

7. **22-R-43 A Resolution of the City Council Awarding the Bids for Asphalt Supply for the Remainder of 2022 through 2023 to APAC Central Inc., Blevins Asphalt Construction Co., Inc., Capital Materials, LLC, and Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc.**

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| City Council Meeting | August 23, 2022 |
| Board of Adjustment Meeting | September 1, 2022 |
| City Council Meeting | September 6, 2022 |
| Planning & Zoning Meeting | September 12, 2022 |

Old Business and Tabled Items

8. **22-48 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Bill No. 21-65 to Authorize Execution of a Revised Intergovernmental Agreement with Missouri Department of Social Services Family Support Division for the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Pool to have the second reading of Bill 22-48 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Pool, Mitchell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Meghan Cook was available for questions from Council. Council Member Franklin motioned for the passage of Bill 22-48. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 7 Aye-Wilson, Gerlek, Updike, Franklin, Pool, Mitchell, and Gerke. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

9. **A Public Hearing of the City Council Setting the 2022 Property Tax Levies for the City of Republic, Missouri.**

Mayor Russell opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. No one came forward so Mayor Russell closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

10. **22-49 An Ordinance of the City Council Setting the 2022 Property Tax Levies for the City of Republic, Missouri.**

Motion was made by Council Member Gerke and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the first reading of Bill 22-49 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Pool, Mitchell, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Meghan Cook provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this is a first read and to get with staff before the next meeting with any questions.

Other Business (Resolutions)

11. **22-R-44 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing a Three-Year Agreement with Ring Central for Voice-Over Internet Phone Services for the City until 2025.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Wilson to approve Resolution 22-R-44. Chris Crosby provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 7 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

12. **22-R-45 A Resolution of the City Council Appointing Authorized Signers for the Municipal Court Account with Arvest Bank.**

Motion was made by Council Member Pool and seconded by Council Member Updike to approve Resolution 22-R-45. Meghan Cook provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 7 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

13.22-R-46 A Resolution of the City Council Appointing Authorized Signers for the General Operating Account and Bond Proceeds Account with Arvest Bank.

Motion was made by Council Member Pool and seconded by Council Member Mitchell to approve Resolution 22-R-46. Meghan Cook provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 7 Aye-Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Mitchell, Pool, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Finance Report

Meghin Cook presented the Finance Report for the second quarter of 2022.

Reports from Staff

City Administrator David Cameron asked Jared Keeling to give an overview on what happens now that the sales taxes have passed. Mr. Cameron thanked the community for their support of the renewal of both taxes, noting that Mr. Keeling can answer some of the questions we have received, and it will be posted on our website.

Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling echoed Mr. Cameron in thanking the citizens for successfully passing both sales tax renewals, which provides funding for the Parks Department for the next 25 years. Mr. Keeling added the operations sales tax passed by about 70% in favor, 30% opposed and the Capital Improvement Question passed at about 67% in favor to 33% opposed. Mr. Keeling added that both numbers are great results, especially with the economy as is.

Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling noted we are already fielding calls regarding the timeframe of the projects. Mr. Keeling noted this will take time but Olsson has already started their work at JR Martin Park and the Republic Aquatics Center. After that, design work begins, then bidding the jobs, followed by construction up to the grand opening. Mr. Keeling reported the JR Martin Park additions are estimated to be completed in spring of 2024. Mayor Russell asked how the design development is completed. Mr. Keeling answered it is through input from the community, staff, and consultants to determine all the elements we want to include. Mr. Keeling reported we are 1/2 to 3/4 finished with the schematics and moving toward the detail phasing. Mr. Keeling added we are not relying on our own expertise. Mr. Keeling reported we estimate the Republic Aquatics Center will be completed by the summer of 2024, noting it is an aggressive timeframe, but feasible. Mr. Keeling added this timeline would include some construction in 2023 when the Aquatics Center is open, but we will have conversations with contractors to reduce any impact to patrons. Mr. Keeling reported it took 5 months for Republic Aquatics Center to be constructed and with the material shortage impacting timelines, we are fairly confident in that timeframe.

Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling noted the sports complex is the largest project and requires some preparation internally. Mr. Keeling reported Garrett Cline will need more resources before this opens and the project will have a longer planning, design, and construction timeline. The estimate for completion is March or April of 2025, just in time for soccer season, but there is a lot of work between now and then. Mr. Keeling added we will be good stewards of the money allocated while creating something dynamic. This information will be on the website and social media by the end of the week.

Council Member Gerlek said his daughter wanted to know about frisbee golfers. Mr. Keeling noted the tennis courts will be moved to Miller Park, but frisbee golf will remain in Miller Park with a reduction from 13 to 9 holes. Mr. Keeling added he would like to put frisbee golf in Brookline Park sometime as well.

Council Member Wilson asked what impact this will have to the JR Martin Park walking trail. Mr. Keeling noted it should still be around the same distance with only a small, jagged loop added that will connect to the farmers park, estimating it to be around 0.8 miles.

Council Member Franklin asked where the tennis courts will be located. Mr. Keeling responded they would be added where the rodeo arena used to be. Mr. Keeling added we will redo that area, adding bathroom facilities and expanding the parking lot at the Republic Aquatics Center.

Council Member Updike asked about the park behind the Pentecostal Church. Mr. Keeling noted Garrett Brickner has been working on that project alongside Joanna Scott with plans to make that land a dog park. Mr. Keeling added there is some drainage work to be done and the timeframe is not known at this time. Parking would be at the facility Liberty will be building adjacent to the park.

Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling also noted the Early Childhood Center that has been under construction the last 18 months will open on Monday. This and next year, the vehicle traffic for that school will use Park Road, which has been closed 7 years. The school paid to have it repaved so parents can drive up Park Road, turn to get to the Early Childhood building with passenger side drop off, loop, and come back out the same way. Mr. Keeling added we are working out a gate closing schedule and taking safety measures for patrons of JR Martin Park. After 1-2 years, it will be queued in the parking lot instead of Park Road. This queue will be 3 times per day, and we are still deciding on a timeframe for the road being open. The school estimates 300-350 cars per day. This route will alleviate some congestion on Highway 174 and Main Street, although the first week could be challenging as is usually the case the first week of school. The new JR Martin Park venue will have a large U in the parking lot to help facilitate traffic for the school after construction is completed. This will solve the traffic safety concerns at the park.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked Jared Keeling and Jennafer Mayfield for the work done and their transparency on the ballot measures. Mr. Cameron added what he loves about the way they go about it; they are frugal and will find every square inch to use on that property. A lot of places would just go buy land, but Jared finds a way to utilize all the property for the citizens. Mr. Cameron noted the last sales tax utilization and the additional projects completed leads to the citizens' confidence in this tax. This project will come with \$200,000,000.00 of sewer, water, and transportation infrastructure in that area and is a good opportunity to have others in that area gain infrastructure during our construction.

City Administrator David Cameron added he will talk more about doing design/build projects instead of hiring an architect, then engineer, and construction. This helps capture and provide savings to the community and we are currently using this approach at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

City Administrator David Cameron notified Council that we will be bringing an engagement letter for Stifel at the next meeting for underwriting for Fire, Economic Development and Parks financing. We utilized them as underwriters for the Wastewater Treatment Plant but must have a separate letter for these projects. Mr. Cameron noted we will have to do the S & P call again.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked staff for the work on the median on US Highway 60, noting it looks fantastic. Mr. Cameron noted he saw about 15 of our lawnmowers out there, adding it is a nasty job. MoDOT didn't have it programmed but gave us permission to do it. Mr. Cameron added the community may not know that staff steps up to do this. The Chamber and other groups also do cleanup along US Highway 60.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked the voters for passing the tax initiative. Mr. Cameron added it is great to see our community showing up to vote. Mr. Cameron thanked Andrew Nelson for not paving on election day.

City Administrator David Cameron noted that the meeting next week was scheduled due to the tax levy timeframe. At that meeting, the wage analysis will be presented to Council as it will be a consideration for the budget. This analysis shows how we compare and keep up with other cities, noting there are a few positions we need to adjust.

City Administrator David Cameron reported we will also bring a Resolution next week to do additional maintenance and microseal of additional streets to continue the momentum made with the recent paving with a subsequent amendment on the budget. Mr. Cameron noted we will be doing the most needed areas and can send the list out in advance if requested. Garrett has been working on these projects.

City Administrator David Cameron reported a repair and maintenance on a pump at Shuyler Lift Station. This was not budgeted but is a repair. Mr. Cameron added we want to remain transparent on what we spend even if it is an emergency.

City Administrator David Cameron congratulated Laura Burbridge for obtaining her Certified Municipal Clerk certification from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Mr. Cameron noted the work it took to reach this certification. Mr. Cameron added that the Trust Edge includes a power hour and Laura puts a paper in her window noting it is her power hour, which signals people to not interrupt that time. Mr. Cameron noted that she works hard, stays educated, and grows her skills. Mr. Cameron added she also completed 75 Hard, which he is currently finishing up and has developed a great respect for those who have completed it. Mr. Cameron noted that investing in yourself is a huge win as well as a win for the community.

Council Member Franklin thanked everyone for voting. Mr. Franklin also thanked staff and the citizens for the quick cleanup after the storm, noting it was great to see neighbors helping neighbors.

Council Member Gerke shared he appreciates voters coming out and it was great to see a 70% approval rating.

Mayor Russell reported that on election night in his house, he is constantly refreshing his cell phone. This is not because of nerves because nobody could have worked harder than Jared and Jennafer, but he wanted to see the final results. Mayor Russell thanked them, encouraging them to pat themselves on the back. Mayor Russell also thanked Mr. Keeling for the presentation, which shows they have it well planned, adding that is why the taxes passed. The citizens trusted us with the public safety sales tax and the renewals for Parks. Mayor Russell added peoples' jaws are dropping because you do the work you say you will do. Mayor Russell thanked them for the work, adding he wished he could go out to those projects tomorrow. Mayor Russell added to forgive him in the future as he keeps asking when, noting he has confidence in the staff to pull these projects off.

Adjournment

Mayor Russell adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

Matt Russell, Mayor