



MINUTES

City Council Regular Session City Hall, 4221 S. Wilson's Creek Blvd. September 22, 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, Eric Gerke, Dan Harter, Justin Neal, Justin Shaw, Chris Updike, and Garry Wilson. Others in attendance were City Administrator Colten Harris, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, IT Manager Michael Sallee, Chief Financial Officer Bob Ford, City Clerk Laura Burbridge, City Attorney Justin Rogers, Parks and Recreation Director Kris Parks, Police Chief Brian Sells, Police Major Jamie Burks, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Principal Planner Chris Tabor, Project Engineer Stefani Fitzpatrick-Duncan, and Police Lieutenant Zach Richards.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Mayor Franklin.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Franklin.

Proclamations

1. Good Neighbor Week

Mayor Franklin recognized Good Neighbor Week and read the proclamation. David Burton was unable to attend.

Citizen Participation

Mayor Franklin opened citizen participation at 6:04 p.m. No one came forward, so Mayor Franklin closed citizen participation at 6:04 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Council Member Harter and seconded by Council Member Neal to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 6 Aye. 0 Nay. 1 Abstain—Campbell. Motion Carried.

2. Approve the August 25, 2026 City Council Work Session Minutes.
3. Approve the August 25, 2026 City Council Minutes.
4. 26-R-15 A Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to Submit a Renewal Application for Hall Provider of Bingo Premises.
5. 26-R-16 A Resolution Approving the Dates for Meetings of the City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Board of Adjustment During Calendar Year 2027.
6. 26-R-17 A Resolution Accepting a 2027 Missouri Blue Shield Grant Program Award from the Missouri Department of Public Safety, Office of Homeland Security, in the Amount of \$29,069.76 for the Purchase of In-Car and On-Body Camera Equipment.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

Board of Adjustment Meeting	October 1, 2026
Planning & Zoning Meeting	October 5, 2026
City Council Meeting	October 6, 2026
City Council Work Session	October 20, 2026
City Council Meeting	October 20, 2026

Old Business and Tabled Items-None

New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

7. 26-29 An Ordinance Approving Amendment of the Zoning Classification of Approximately 105 Acres of Real Property, Located at 5470 West Republic Road, from Agricultural (AG) to High Density Single Family Residential (R1-H).

Motion was made by Council Member Harter and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the first reading of Bill 26-29 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Principal Planner Chris Tabor presented the bill and answered questions of Council.

Russell Brand, 6121 West Farm Road 178, spoke in opposition to the bill. Mr. Brand stated that he had spoken at the zoning public hearing and had additional concerns regarding the proposed rezoning, including the potential for more homes than currently proposed, increased traffic and potentially insufficient street improvements, surrounding agricultural and hunttable land, and water runoff.

Randy Kirby, 4897 Butterfield Place, stated that he owns property east and southwest of the proposed development. Mr. Kirby expressed concerns regarding the approximately 10,000 vehicles already traveling through the area daily, traffic congestion and safety issues, and well water impact on surrounding properties.

8. 26-30 An Ordinance Approving Amendment of the Zoning Classification of Approximately 3.91 Acres of Real Property, Located at 2193 North Stone Falls Road, from a Split-Zoning of Stone Creek Falls Planned Development District (PDD) and Agricultural (AG) to General Commercial (C-2).

Motion was made by Council Member Harter and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the first reading of Bill 26-30 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Principal Planner Chris Tabor presented the bill and answered questions of Council.

Other Business (Resolutions)

9. 26-R-18 A Resolution Approving an Agreement with Abilities First for Clean Start Initiative Grant Funding for the Installation of a Universal Changing Table and Restroom Improvements at J.R. Martin Park.

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Updike to approve Resolution 26-R-18. Parks and Recreation Director Kris Parks presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 7 Aye. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

10. 26-R-19 A Resolution Authorizing the City to Apply for the Cost Share Program with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission to Fund Intersection Improvements at Hines Street and State Highway ZZ.

Motion was made by Council Member Shaw and seconded by Council Member Neal to approve Resolution 26-R-19. Stefani Fitzpatrick-Duncan presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 7 Aye. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Reports from Staff

City Administrator Colten Harris reported that the Police Department added seven Ford F-150 trucks to its fleet. The trucks make it easier for staff and the public to identify when a supervisor is on scene and provide capabilities not available with sport utility vehicles or cars. The vehicles were funded through the Community Improvement Sales Tax.

City Administrator Colten Harris announced a public meeting regarding the upcoming U.S. 60 widening project on Tuesday, September 29, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Construction is anticipated to begin in mid-2028. He also stated that the utility-rate-structure work session would be held October 6 at 4:30 p.m. He also reported that the wastewater treatment plant project was approaching another milestone and remained on schedule for substantial completion by the end of October, with a ribbon cutting planned that month.

City Administrator Colten Harris reported that paving and overlay work had improved 11.1 lane miles of roadway and that the Hines Street sidewalk gap project would continue through September 2027. The Americans with Disabilities Act survey would remain open through September 30, followed by a November 18 public meeting presenting an overview of the findings.

City Administrator Colten Harris also reported continued work on the City website, with completion anticipated near the beginning of the year, and stated that Project Genesis was nearing completion. Mr. Harris identified renewal of the Community Improvement Sales Tax as the primary priority for the next year, with the funding directed to public safety.

City Administrator Colten Harris noted that the budget work session and first reading were scheduled for October 20. He also highlighted the State of the County event on October 1, Pumpkin Daze on October 2 and 3, and the October 18 Guns and Hoses softball game benefiting Shop with a Hero. He thanked the Pumpkin Daze Committee and the Kiwanis Club for their work on the upcoming event.

Council Member Harter reported seeing Police Department officers patrolling at approximately 2:00 a.m. Mr. Harter also commented that the new gym floor was beautiful.

Mayor Eric Franklin recognized the first day of fall and thanked City employees who continued working through the recent extreme heat. He reported attending the Missouri Municipal League conference the previous week with approximately 700 to 800 elected officials from across Missouri. He noted that the conference provided opportunities to learn from other communities and better serve Republic. Mayor Franklin also congratulated Council Member Chris Updike on completing the additional 16 hours of training required to earn the Certified Municipal Official designation.

Mayor Franklin highlighted the Ozarks Transportation Organization legislative breakfast and the upcoming State of the County event. He encouraged residents to volunteer for the Haunted Trail and noted that the October 18 Guns and Hoses event would support Shop with a Hero. He reflected on Missouri Municipal League keynote speaker John O'Leary, who survived burns over his entire body and overcame significant challenges. Mayor Franklin stated that meetings move efficiently because staff and Council prepare in advance, and he expressed gratitude for the opportunity to attend the conference and serve the citizens.

Adjournment

Mayor Franklin adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

ATTEST:

Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

Eric Franklin, Mayor

DRAFT