

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNCILMEMBERS TO STAGGERED FOUR-YEAR TERMS AT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON EVEN YEARS; CALLING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 2, 2024 ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE COUNTY CLERK OF SAID ELECTION, AND PROVIDING FOR ENACTMENT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT IF APPROVED**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Republic, Missouri (“City” or “Republic”) is a municipal corporation and Charter City located in Greene County, Missouri, being duly created, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about April 3, 2007, pursuant to Section 19, Article VI of the Missouri Constitution of 1945 and Section 82.010 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, the citizens of Republic voted to establish a home rule charter (the “Charter”) to serve as the City’s central document and constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, Article XII, Section 12.7, of the Charter allows the City Council to propose amendments to the Charter and sets forth the requirements for proposing such amendments; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article XII, Section 12.7, of the Charter, the City Council desires to submit the proposed amendment contained herein below to the qualified voters of the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REPUBLIC, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** Pursuant to Article XII, Section 12.7 of the City Charter, the City Council hereby proposes an amendment to Article III of the City Charter to establish a schedule on which City Councilmembers shall be elected to staggered four-year terms, at the General Municipal Election to be held on even years.

In accord with the above, the question herein below shall be placed on the ballot and submitted to the qualified voters of the City of Republic, Missouri at the General Municipal Election to be held on April 2, 2024. The question presented shall be in substantially and materially the following form:

**QUESTION 2**

**Shall the Charter of the City of Republic, Sections 3.2(c), 14.2(a) and 14.2(b), be amended to establish a schedule for the election of Councilmembers to staggered four-year terms at the General Municipal Election to be held on even years?**

YES [    ]  
NO [    ]

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: If you are in favor of the question, select the box opposite "YES". If you are opposed to the question, select the box opposite "NO".**

**Section 2.** The amendment to Section 3.2(c) of the City Charter, proposed in Section 1 of this Ordinance, shall read as follows:

*(Note: Language shown in **bold, underlined** text is to be added. Language shown in ~~stricken~~ text is to be removed.)*

### **3.2 Composition, Qualifications, Election And Terms**

- (a) *Election By Wards.* There shall be a City Council of eight members with two from each Ward elected by the qualified voters of their respective Wards, as provided in Article **VIII**.
- (b) *Qualifications.* A Councilmember shall be a citizen of the United States and shall have been a resident of the City for one year at the time of filing for office and a qualified voter of the City. A Councilmember shall be a resident of the Ward for which the person is seeking office at the time of filing for office and shall be registered to vote in that Ward and shall remain a resident and qualified voter of the Ward during the time of service as an elected official of the City.
- (c) *Election And Terms.* Councilmembers from each Ward shall be elected to serve staggered four-year terms **with elections on even years**. At each regular municipal election, Councilmembers shall be elected to fill the offices of those whose terms expire.

**Section 3.** The amendment to Sections 14.2(a) and 14.2(b) of the City Charter, proposed in Section 1 of this Ordinance, shall read as follows:

*(Note: Language shown in **bold, underlined** text is to be added. Language shown in ~~stricken~~ text is to be removed.)*

### **14.2 Election Of City Officials**

- (a) ~~Incumbents. All officials elected on April 2, 2019, shall serve the term to which they were elected. All officials elected prior to April 2, 2019, who would continue in office shall continue in office for the duration of the term to which they were elected.~~
- (b) ~~City Council. At the municipal election in April of 2020, Councilmembers elected to fill offices with expiring terms from all Wards shall serve four-year terms. At the municipal election in April of 2021, Councilmembers elected to fill offices with expiring terms from all Wards shall serve four-year terms.~~ **At the municipal election in April of 2024, Councilmembers elected to fill offices with expiring terms from all Wards shall serve four-year terms. At the municipal election in April of 2025, Councilmembers elected to fill offices with expiring terms from all Wards shall serve one-year terms. At**

**the municipal election in April of 2026, Councilmembers elected to fill offices with expiring terms from all Wards shall serve four-year terms.** At

each regular municipal election thereafter, Councilmembers shall be elected to fill the offices of those whose terms expire and shall serve full four-year terms. It is the intent of this provision to establish the required staggered terms as set forth in this Charter.

(c) Mayor. At the municipal election in April of 2020 and every fourth year thereafter, the Mayor shall be elected to serve a full four-year term.

**Section 4.** The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to notify the County Clerk of Greene County, Missouri, and the County Clerk of Christian County, Missouri, of the adoption of this Ordinance by sending a certified copy hereof as soon as practicable, but in no event later than 5:00 p.m. on the tenth Tuesday prior to April 2, 2024, and to include in said notification all terms and provisions required by Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, and other applicable law.

**Section 5.** The Greene County Clerk and Christian County Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to conduct said election in a manner consistent with the provisions of Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, including but not limited to the designation of polling places for the qualified voters of the City.

**Section 6.** If, upon certification by the Greene County Clerk and Christian County Clerk, the proposed amendment is approved by the affirmative vote of qualified electors voting thereon in accord with Section 12.7 of the City Charter, the City Charter shall be amended as approved, and such amendment shall become part of the Charter at the time of such approval.

**Section 7.** The City Clerk is hereby authorized to take all necessary and appropriate action to effect the intent and purpose of this Ordinance including but not limited to the codification of the amendment if approved by the electors.

**Section 8:** The whereas clauses are hereby specifically incorporated herein by reference.

**Section 9:** The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and if any provision hereof is declared invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance.

**Section 10:** This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage as provided by law.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, this \_\_\_\_ day of January 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Russell, Mayor

**Attest:**

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Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

**Approved as to Form:**



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Megan McCullough, City Attorney

**Final Passage and Vote:**