



MINUTES

**City Council Regular Session
City Hall, 4221 S. Wilson's Creek Blvd.
March 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, Justin Neal, Dan Harter, Eric Gerke, Brian Fields, Garry Wilson, and Chris Updike. Others in attendance were: City Administrator Colten Harris, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, IT Manager Michael Sallee, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Police Major Jamie Burks, Chief Financial Officer Bob Ford, City Clerk Laura Burbridge, Chief Technology Officer Josh Jones, Community Development Director Karen Haynes, Police Lieutenant Zach Richards, City Attorney Justin Rogers, Project Engineer Stefani Fitzpatrick-Duncan, Operations Manager Eric Brown, WWTP Operator 2 Chris Mooneyham, WWTP Operator 1 Dakota Bledsaw, and Parks and Recreation Director Kris Parks.

Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Mayor Franklin.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Franklin.

Proclamation

- Honoring the Fallen Deputies of the Christian County Sheriff's Office and Recognizing the Officers Wounded.**

Mayor Franklin read and presented the proclamation.

Citizen Participation

Consent Agenda

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

- Approve the January 27, 2026 City Council Workshop Minutes.
- Approve the February 3, 2026 City Council Minutes.
- Approve the February 10, 2026 City Council Workshop Minutes.
- 26-R-06 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the Police Department to Apply for Two (2) Reimbursable 2026-2027 Missouri Highway Safety Program Traffic Safety Grants.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

Board of Adjustment Meeting	March 5, 2026-Cancelled
Planning & Zoning Meeting	March 9, 2026
City Council Meeting	March 17, 2026
City Council Meeting	April 7, 2026
City Council Workshop	April 14, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.



New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

- 6. 26-07 An Ordinance of the City Council Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Funding for Engineering of Sidewalk Gaps along Hines Street.**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Harter to have the first reading of Bill 26-07 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Stefani Fitzpatrick-Duncan gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Franklin reminded Council to get with staff before the next meeting with any questions.

- 7. 26-08 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving Budget Amendment No. 2 to the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2025.**

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the first reading of Bill 26-08 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Bob Ford 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 this meeting. Council Member Neal motioned to hold the second reading during this meeting. Council Member Harter seconded. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

- 8. 26-09 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title I, Government Code, Chapter 110, Administration Policies, Article VIII, Authority To Enter Into Contracts Policy, Section 200, Persons Authorized To Enter Into Contracts On Behalf Of The City to Align Purchasing and Contracting Authority with the City's Purchasing Policy.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the first reading of Bill 26-09 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Bob Ford gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Franklin reminded Council to get with staff before the next meeting with any questions.

- 9. 26-10 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title VIII "Fees", Chapter 805 "Fee Schedule", Section 805.100 "Utility Administration" of the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri.**

Motion was made by Council Member Harter and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the first reading of Bill 26-10 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Bob Ford gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Franklin reminded Council to get with staff before the next meeting with any questions.

- 10. 26-11 An Ordinance of the City Council Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Finalize/Secure a \$2 Million Line of Credit ("LOC") with Arvest Bank to Fund Short Term Cash Flow for Water Improvements as a Special, Limited Obligation Payable Solely from Water Fund Revenues.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the first reading of Bill 26-11 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Bob Ford gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Franklin reminded Council to get with staff before the next meeting with any questions.

New Business (Second Reading of Ordinances)

11.26-08 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving Budget Amendment No. 2 to the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2025.

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the second reading of Bill 26-08 by title only. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Bob Ford was available for questions of Council. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 26-08. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 7 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Gerke, Harter, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Other Business (Resolutions)-None

Reports from Staff

City Administrator Colten Harris acknowledged the recent proclamation and the tragedy involving the Christian County deputies, noting that it served as a sobering reminder of the risks faced by public safety and law enforcement personnel. He welcomed Garry Wilson back to the City Council meetings.

City Administrator Colten Harris noted the public meeting held the previous week regarding the MM Corridor project, stating that more than 50 people attended. Mr. Harris expressed appreciation for the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) staff who participated, adding the City was excited to see the project begin.

City Administrator Harris announced that a ribbon cutting for the new City Hall would be held on March 18, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. He added that staff are also working on communications related to the upcoming utility billing system change and announced that the next City Council workshop will be held at 5:00 p.m. on April 7, 2026.

Council Member Chris Updike reported that he traveled to Jefferson City to attend the Missouri Municipal League Conference, where he met with area representatives. He also noted that the Town of Wilson's Creek had been approved as a historical site by Greene County. Council Member Updike recognized several athletic achievements from Republic High School, including freshman Mabel Rogers winning the Class 2 State Championship and the Girls Varsity team finishing 9th in the state.

Council Member Darran Campbell gave a shout-out to the Parks Department for organizing the Father Daughter Dance, noting that it was approximately the 20th or 21st dance he has attended. He commended staff for their work hosting the event and preparing the facility for games scheduled the following morning, thanking them for a great event.

Mayor Eric Franklin thanked City staff for the workshops they have hosted and reminded residents that the city maintains a YouTube channel where workshops and Council meetings can be viewed. He reported that he attended the OTO Executive Meeting the previous month and noted that the next meeting would be held on March 26, 2026, with the agenda available online.

Mayor Eric Franklin also thanked MoDOT for their work on the the MM Corridor public meeting and noted the strong turnout. He expressed appreciation to staff for answering questions and enjoyed hosting the meeting in the new City Hall. He stated that he looks forward to the ribbon cutting and noted the commemorative plaque installed earlier that day. Mayor Franklin added that he looked forward to inviting the public into the building.

Mayor Eric Franklin reminded residents that daylight saving time would occur soon and encouraged everyone to watch the upcoming weather. He also noted that he spoke at the Chamber of Commerce Luncheon today and shared updates on City initiatives. Mayor Franklin addressed concerns raised during

the previous meeting and stated that Eric Brown has followed up with those who spoke. He also thanked the Republic School District for the opportunity to participate in the ROAR Academy to gain perspective on students and teachers, and for inviting him to spend the afternoon at Sweeny Elementary for Career Day. Mayor Franklin remarked that while students might assume the Mayor is rich, he feels rich through the blessings of the community, City staff, and the City Council. He concluded by thanking everyone for the opportunity to serve.

Adjournment

Mayor Franklin adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

Eric Franklin, Mayor

DRAFT