



AGENDA ITEM ANALYSIS

Project/Issue Name: 23-46 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending Title V, Chapter 515, Sections 515.010 (“Applicability; Preemption”), 515.020 (“Definitions”), 515.050 (“Permits Required; Requirements”), 515.090 (“Row User Responsibilities And Requirements”), and 515.110 (“Inspections, Stop Work Orders, Appeals, And Penalties”) of the Municipal Code of the City of Republic, Missouri.

Submitted By: Garrett Brickner, Assistant BUILDS Administrator

Date: October 3, 2023

Issue Statement

Consideration to approve Amendments to Chapter 515 Rights-of-Way Management.

Discussion and/or Analysis

In 2022 and continuing into 2023, underground utility installers began introducing AT&T fiber optic infrastructure to the City of Republic. Throughout this endeavor, the project encountered various challenges, including instances of damaged sewer lines, impacted gas services, and disrupted electric lines. These issues were direct consequences of the construction activities undertaken, leading to a notable degree of discontent among citizens impacted. AT&T Fiber continues to be installed, and other fiber providers are preparing to install their own fiber lines as well.

Considering these concerns, changes are being proposed in the operational processes and procedures. The primary objective of these adjustments is to mitigate, if not eliminate, the frequency of damage and the resulting dissatisfaction experienced by our customers. The revised Ordinances in combination with new utility installation protocol will provide a comprehensive framework outlining the expectations from the City of Republic from the project's outset. This proactive approach aims to ensure that contractors are well-informed and prepared, minimizing any unforeseen circumstances for all parties involved.

Attached are the proposed Ordinance amendments and proposed administrative process developed by Utility Locator/Inspector Tim Fowkes. This policy is based upon Warrensburg Missouri’s process for underground utilities that has seen great success with installers of all underground utilities.

Recommended Action

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance #23-46 to amend chapter 515.