



**Matt Russell, Mayor**  
 Garry Wilson, Ward II  
 Christopher Updike, Ward III  
 Jennifer Mitchell, Ward IV  
 Eric Franklin, Ward I  
 Gerry Pool, Ward II  
 Shane Grooms, Ward III  
 Jim Deichman, Ward IV

**MINUTES**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**City Council Chambers, 540 Civic Blvd**  
**June 15, 2021 at 6:00 PM**

**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 Christopher Updike, Jim Deichman, Eric Franklin, Gerry Pool, Shane Grooms, and Jennifer Mitchell. Others in attendance were: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jennafer Mayfield, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, City Attorney Scott Ison, Assistant City Administrator/Parks and Recreation Director Jared Keeling, Planning Manager Karen Haynes, BUILDS Administrator Andrew Nelson, Deputy Fire Chief Lynn Hollandworth, Police Lieutenant Jamie Burks, Police Chief Brian Sells, Finance Director Meghin Cook, Senior Financial Analyst Debbie Parks, Information Systems Director Josh Jones, and City Clerk Laura Burbridge.

**Opening Prayer**

Opening prayer was led by Jim Deichman.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Matt Russell.

**Citizen Participation**

Mayor Matt Russell opened citizen participation at 6:03 p.m. No one came forward so Mayor Russell closed citizen participation at 6:03 p.m.

**Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Council Member Grooms and seconded by Council Member Deichman to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 6 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Pool, Grooms, and Mitchell. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

1. Approve June 1, 2021 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. 21-R-24 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Authorizing the Purchase of Radios for the Fire Department.
6. 21-R-25 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Appointing Authorized Signers with Bank of Missouri.

**Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule**

City Council Meeting (Zoom)	June 22, 2021
Board of Adjustment Meeting	July 1, 2021
Planning & Zoning Meeting	July 12, 2021
City Council Meeting	July 20, 2021



## Old Business and Tabled Items

**7. 21-42 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving the Final Plat of Olde Savannah Phase 1B Subdivision.**

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the second reading of Bill 21-42 by title only. The vote was 6 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Grooms, Mitchell, Pool, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes was available to answer any questions from Council. Council Member Franklin motioned for the passage of Bill 21-42. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 6 Aye-Grooms, Updike, Deichman, Pool, Franklin, and Mitchell. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

## New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

**8. 21-43 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving a Special Use Permit to Operate a Rugby Football Club Facility Located in the 6100 Block of West Farm Road 156 to the Springfield Rugby Football Club.**

Council Member Pool motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-43 by title only. Council Member Grooms seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill.

Mayor Matt Russell opened it up for citizens opposing this item. Betty Bodenhamer spoke for Tom Gammon representing the Brookline Cemetery. Ms. Bodenhamer expressed that if the Springfield Rugby Football Club put in a fence, they would be in agreement with this item. Greg Smith, 2926 E. Alpine Dr. did not have anything further to add to Ms. Bodenhamer's comments.

Mayor Matt Russell opened it up for citizens in favor of this item. Bryan Bevel, 885 S Farm Road 197 stated he had nothing to add to staff's report but was available for any questions Council might have. Derek Lee, 1200 E Woodhurst was also present in favor of this item, but did not have anything further to add. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**9. 21-44 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 10 Acres from Agricultural (AG) to Planned Development District (PDD), Located in the 7400 Block of West Farm Road 174.**

Council Member Deichman motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-44 by title only. Council Member Pool seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**10. 21-45 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 5.91 Acres from Local Commercial (C-1) to General Commercial (C-3), Located in the 6500 Block of West Republic Road.**

Council Member Grooms motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-45 by title only. Council Member Franklin seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**11.21-46 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 36.95 Acres from Agricultural (AG) to Heavy Manufacturing (M-2), Located in the 6800 Block of West Farm Road 144.**

Council Member Pool motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-46 by title only. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill.

Mayor Russell opened it up for citizens speaking against this item. Brian Ward, 6741 W. Farm Road 144, approached to speak against this and the next item. Mr. Ward reported he was speaking for his neighbors, including Rachel Hodge, who was unable to attend. Mr. Ward cited spot zoning descriptions and stated he believed this item would be a spot zone. Mr. Ward spoke about his fear of the rezone decreasing the value of his home stating commercial property doesn't have the value of residential. Mr. Ward expressed this could make it impossible to sell their homes for current value. Mr. Ward expressed he wants a fair purchase price for owners. Nancy Randles, 1235 S. State Highway MM, spoke against this rezone. Ms. Randles shared she has lived in her home for 44 years and fixed her home up to retire. Ms. Randles expressed concern of eminent domain from MoDOT and expressed she had hoped to stay at this house for the rest of her life.

Mayor Russell opened it up for those speaking in favor of this item. Project engineer Elliott Reed, 530A E. Independence Dr., spoke in favor of this and the following rezone. Mr. Reed shared there are approximately 330 acres between this and James River Freeway that are all zoned commercial. Mr. Reed expressed his sympathy for the neighbors but reminded everyone that MM is going to 5 lanes with or without this development. Mr. Reed apologized for not being at Planning and Zoning due to a miscommunication and was not available to answer questions of the Commission. Mr. Reed shared this is step 1 of the development process and they would still have to figure out a preliminary plat that would come before Council. The applicant's attorney, Cory Collins from Husch and Blackwell at 901 St. Louis Street, spoke in favor. Mr. Collins shared in real estate law, the neighbor concerns are always an issue they want to address. Mr. Collins disagreed with the reference to spot zoning and shared this information was irrelevant to what is going on as this development is within the City's comprehensive plan. Mr. Collins shared this is an appropriate use of property and his client offered a fair property value as he is willing to pay the appraised value minus 6% commission, inspection, and required repairs of anything identified in the inspection to be fixed. Mr. Collins reminded everyone the road widening isn't part of this development.

Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**12.21-47 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 16.42 Acres from Agricultural (AG) to Heavy Manufacturing (M-2), Located in the 1100 Block of South State Highway MM.**

Council Member Deichman motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-47 by title only. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill.

Mayor Russell opened it up for citizens speaking against this item. Brian Ward, 6741 W. Farm Road 144, approached to speak against this item. Mr. Ward again referenced spot zoning on the previous item and expressed concerns about the road that would be built between his home and his neighbor's property. Nancy Randles, 1235 S. State Highway MM, spoke against this rezone. Ms. Randles again expressed concern about the MM widening.

Mayor Russell opened it up for those speaking in favor of this item. Project engineer Elliott Reed, 530A E. Independence Dr., spoke in favor of this and the following rezoning. Mr. Reed expressed his comments for the previous item apply to this one as well. The applicant's attorney, Cory Collins from Husch and Blackwell at 901 St. Louis Street, spoke in favor of this item as well.

Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**13.21-48 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 10.88 Acres from Agricultural (AG) to High Density Single-Family Residential (R1-H), Located at 6354 South Farm Road 89.**

Council Member Grooms motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-48 by title only. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Project engineer Chris Wynn, 5051 S. National Ave. Suite 7A, spoke in favor of this item. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**14.21-49 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 17.1 Acres from Agricultural (AG) to High Density Single-Family Residential (R1-H), Located in the 6400 Block of South Farm Road 89.**

Council Member Pool motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-49 by title only. Council Member Updike seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Project engineer Chris Wynn, 5051 S. National Ave. Suite 7A, spoke in favor of this item. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**15.21-50 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Amending the Zoning Code and Official Map by Changing the Classification of Approximately 2.5 Acres from Local Commercial (C-1) to General Commercial (C-3), Located at 6552 West Republic Road.**

Council Member Updike motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-50 by title only. Council Member Grooms seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**16.21-51 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving Budget Amendment No. 2 to the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2021.**

Council Member Franklin motioned for the first reading of Bill 21-50 by title only. Council Member Mitchell seconded. The vote was 6 Aye-Pool, Deichman, Franklin, Mitchell, Russell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Karen Haynes provided an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council that this was a first read and to get with staff with any questions prior to the next meeting.

**Other Business (Resolutions)**

**17.21-R-26 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Authorizing an Agreement with Midwest Public Risk for Property and Liability Insurance for 2021-2022.**

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Updike to approve Resolution 21-R-26. Debbie Parks provided an overview of the Resolution. The vote was 6 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Grooms, Pool, Mitchell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

**18.21-R-27 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Approving the Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020.**

Motion was made by Council Member Deichman and seconded by Council Member Pool to approve Resolution 21-R-27. Debbie Parks introduced Jon Cummings, who provided an overview of the audit report. The vote was 6 Aye-Deichman, Franklin, Grooms, Pool, Mitchell, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

**Reports from Staff**

Assistant City Administrator Jared Keeling referenced the City's website to show a week from Friday is Have-A-Blast. Mr. Keeling reported there has been a large amount of talk and we anticipate a large crowd. We are very excited and it will begin Friday at 6:00 p.m. with fireworks at 10:00 p.m. Mr. Keeling shared we are encouraging people to come to J.R. Martin Park to enjoy the Pyro-musical show.

Assistant City Administrator Jared Keeling reported that 7 weeks from today, on August 3rd, is the election for the sales tax initiative. Mr. Keeling showed Council the City's website, with a page dedicated to information on this ballot. More information will be added continually as well as mailings and interviews with Lieutenant Burks and Captain Tim King coming soon.

Assistant City Administrator Jared Keeling reported construction started this week on the City's Gateway Sign and construction should be wrapping up Friday. Staff will do landscaping work after that and eventually there will be a driveway and sidewalk. Mr. Keeling shared it is huge and the tiger will be installed in the weeks to come. Mr. Keeling reminded everyone this project started in 2017 with the capital improvement sales tax vote and we are proud of how it has turned out.

Assistant City Administrator Jared Keeling shared he attended the grand re-opening of the Wilson's Creek Battlefield Visitors Center. Mr. Keeling shared Sarah Cunningham is an asset to community. He encouraged people to check it out and shared he is proud to have them at our back door.

Council Member Franklin thanked the citizens who came to speak and acknowledged it is not easy to do. Mr. Franklin praised a great job on the sign and for moving so fast.

**Executive Session:** *No further action, other than announcing adjournment by the Mayor, shall take place after an Executive Session that is scheduled as the last matter on the Agenda unless otherwise stated on the Agenda or as allowed per RSMo. 610.02.*

1. RSMo 610.021.1 Pending and/or potential litigation. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.
2. RSMo 610.021.2 Real estate acquisition. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.
3. RSMo 610.021.3 Hiring, firing, promotion, or disciplining personnel. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record.

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Updike at 7:35 p.m. to go into Executive Session under RSMo 610.021.2 Real estate acquisition. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record. and RSMo 610.021.3 Hiring, firing, promotion, or disciplining personnel. Closed session. Closed vote. Closed record. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 6 Aye - Pool, Deichman, Updike, Franklin, Mitchell, and Grooms. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Council Member Franklin and seconded by Council Member Deichman to adjourn the Executive Session Meeting at 8:35 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 6 Aye-Grooms, Mitchell, Franklin, Pool, Updike, and Deichman. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

ATTEST:

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Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

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Matt Russell, Mayor

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