



Matt Russell, Mayor
 Eric Gerke, Ward I
 Garry Wilson, Ward II
 Christopher Updike, Ward III
 Justin Neal, Ward IV
 Eric Franklin, Ward I
 Darran Campbell, Ward II
 Brian Fields, Ward III
 Clint Gerlek, Ward IV

MINUTES
City Council Meeting
Municipal Court Building, 540 Civic Blvd
January 11, 2024 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 Darran Campbell, Eric Franklin, Garry Wilson, Eric Gerke, Brian Fields, Justin Neal, Chris Updike, and Clint Gerlek. Others in attendance were: City Administrator David Cameron, City Attorney Megan McCullough, Police Major Jamie Burks, Fire Chief Duane Compton, Finance Director Bob Ford, Assistant City Administrator-Community Development Andrew Nelson, City Clerk Laura Burbridge, IT Director Chris Crosby, Chief of Staff Lisa Addington, Associate Planner Patrick Ruiz, Aquatics Administrator/Recreation Coordinator Emma Dulin, Recreation Superintendent Garrett Cline, Principal Planner Chris Tabor, Data and Security Supervisor Michael Sallee, Planning Manager Karen Haynes, Recreation Superintendent Garrett Cline, and Captain Travis Liska.

Opening Prayer

Opening prayer was led by City Administrator David Cameron.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Matt Russell.

Citizen Participation

Mayor Russell opened citizen participation at 6:00 p.m. No one came forward so Mayor Russell closed citizen participation at 6:01 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Neal to approve the consent agenda. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

1. Approve December 12, 2023 City Council Minutes.
2. Approve Vendor List.
3. 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.
4. 24-R-01 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the Overage Amount to Purchase and Safety Equip Two (2) New Police Department Vehicles.

Board, Commission, and Committee Schedule

City Council Meeting	January 23, 2024
Board of Adjustment Meeting	February 1, 2024-Cancelled
City Council Meeting	February 6, 2024
Planning & Zoning Meeting	February 12, 2024



Old Business and Tabled Items

5. **23-61 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Final Plat of Greenfield Estates Subdivision. (Tabled from December 12, 2023)**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the second reading of Bill 23-61 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Chris Tabor were available to answer questions. Council Member Wilson motioned for the passage of Bill 23-61. Council Member Franklin seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

6. **23-62 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Final Plat of the Stone Creek Falls Phase Two Subdivision.**

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the second reading of Bill 23-62 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Chris Tabor were available to answer questions. Council Member Franklin motioned for the passage of Bill 23-62. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken digitally. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

7. **23-63 An Ordinance of the City Council Calling an Election on the Question of Whether to Impose an Additional Three Percent Sales Tax on Tangible Personal Property Retail Sales of Adult Use (Non-Medical) Marijuana Sold Within the City, Pursuant to Article XIV, Section 2.6(5) of the Missouri Constitution; Calling an Election to be Held on April 2, 2024 on the Proposed Sales Tax; and Authorizing and Directing the City Clerk to Give Notice to the County Clerk of Said Election.**

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Fields to have the second reading of Bill 23-63 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Laura Burbridge were available to answer questions. Council Member Wilson motioned for the passage of Bill 23-63. Council Member Neal seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 5 Aye-Neal, Gerke, Wilson, Campbell, and Gerlek. 3 Nay-Franklin, Fields, and Updike. Motion carried.

8. **23-64 An Ordinance of the City Council Proposing Amendments to the City Charter Pertaining to the Appointment, Term and Minimum Qualifications and Duties of the City Attorney; Calling an Election to be Held on April 2, 2024 on the Proposed Amendments; Authorizing and Directing the City Clerk to Give Notice to the County Clerk of Said Election, and Providing for Enactment of the Proposed Amendments if Approved.**

Motion was made by Council Member Updike and seconded by Council Member Fields to have the second reading of Bill 23-64 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Laura Burbridge were available to answer questions. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 23-64. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye-Fields, Franklin, Wilson, Gerlek, Campbell, Gerke, Neal, and Updike. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

9. **23-65 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.

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Wilson to have the second reading of Bill 23-65 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Laura Burbridge were available to answer questions. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 23-65. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye-Wilson, Fields, Updike, Gerlek, Franklin, Campbell, Neal, and Gerke. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

10.23-66 An Ordinance of the City Council Proposing an Amendment to The City Charter to Clarify the Procedure for Filling Vacancies in the City Council; 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.

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the second reading of Bill 23-66 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Laura Burbridge were available to answer questions. Council Member Wilson motioned for the passage of Bill 23-66. Council Member Updike seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye-Updike, Franklin, Neal, Wilson, Fields, Gerlek, Campbell, and Gerke. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

11.23-67 An Ordinance of the City Council Proposing an Amendment to the City Charter Establishing Procedures for the Passage of Ordinances in a Single Open Meeting of the City Council and Allowing for the Second Reading of Ordinances to Occur as Part of the Consent Agenda for an Open Council Meeting; 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.

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Gerke to have the second reading of Bill 23-67 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Laura Burbridge were available to answer questions. Council Member Neal motioned for the passage of Bill 23-67. Council Member Fields seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Gerlek, Wilson, Updike, Gerke, Franklin, Neal, and Fields. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

12.23-68 An Ordinance of the City Council Proposing an Amendment to the City Charter to Include Capital Planning in the Annual Budget Process; 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.

Motion was made by Council Member Gerke and seconded by Council Member Neal to have the second reading of Bill 23-68 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Laura Burbridge were available to answer questions. Council Member Wilson motioned for the passage of Bill 23-68. Council Member Neal seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye-Gerlek, Wilson, Updike, Campbell, Franklin, Fields, Gerke, and Neal. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

13.23-69 An Ordinance of the City Council Proposing an Amendment to the City Charter by Repealing Section 10.3 Pertaining to Temporary Permitting for Public Utilities; 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.

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the second reading of Bill 23-69 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Laura Burbridge were available to answer questions. Council Member Updike motioned for the passage of Bill 23-69. Council Member Franklin seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 8 Aye-Fields, Updike, Gerke, Franklin, Campbell, Neal, Wilson, and Gerlek.. 0 Nay. Motion carried.

New Business (First Reading of Ordinances)

14.24-01 An Ordinance of the City Council Amending the Employee Handbook.

Motion was made by Council Member Gerke and seconded by Council Member Updike to have the first reading of Bill 24-01 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Lisa Addington gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council this is a first read and to get with staff with questions prior to the next meeting.

15.24-02 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City and the Southern Missouri Professional Fire Fighters Local 152, the Bargaining Unit of the Republic Fire Department and Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute the Same on Behalf of the City.

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the first reading of Bill 24-02 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Lisa Addington gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council this is a first read and to get with staff with questions prior to the next meeting.

16.24-03 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving Amendment of the Zoning Classification of Approximately 0.29 Acres of Real Property Located at 1167 North Oakwood Avenue, from Agricultural (AG) to General Commercial (C-2).

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the first reading of Bill 24-03 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Chris Tabor gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council this is a first read and to get with staff with questions prior to the next meeting.

17.24-04 An Ordinance of the City Council Approving Amendment of the Zoning Classification of Approximately 1.08 Acres of Real Property Located at 505 West Brookfield Street, from General Commercial (C-2) to Multi-Family Residential (R-3).

Motion was made by Council Member Wilson and seconded by Council Member Franklin to have the first reading of Bill 24-04 by title only. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried. Patrick Ruiz gave an overview of the bill. Mayor Russell reminded Council this is a first read and to get with staff with questions prior to the next meeting.

Other Business (Resolutions)

18.24-R-02 A Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute Necessary Documentation to Effect the Purchase of Approximately 0.964 Acres of Real Property Located at 2493 North Commercial Avenue.

Motion was made by Council Member Fields and seconded by Council Member Updike to take up Resolution 24-R-02. Andrew Nelson presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

19.24-R-03 A Resolution of the City Council Approving the Preliminary Plat for Walker Heights Subdivision.

Motion was made by Council Member Neal and seconded by Council Member Updike to take up Resolution 24-R-03. Chris Tabor presented the Resolution and answered questions of Council. The vote was 8 Aye-Campbell, Fields, Franklin, Gerke, Gerlek, Neal, Updike, and Wilson. 0 Nay. Motion Carried.

Reports from Staff

City Administrator David Cameron noted this was a large agenda but not a lot of discussion due to the months of work put into drafting and crafting the work, including days spent working on the ballot measures by Megan and Laura. Mr. Cameron noted that the changes to the Employee Handbook required a lot of work by Lisa and while many places don't change theirs for ten or more years, Lisa keeps ours fresh and relevant. Mr. Cameron noted he appreciates the mental health element through the EAP program. Mr. Cameron noted there was a lot of work in putting this packet together and appreciates the work to get it ready for discussion and presentation by Megan, Laura, and Lisa.

City Administrator David Cameron thanked Council and the community for the flexibility in moving from Tuesday night's meeting due to the weather, adding we dodged the bullet. Mr. Cameron noted with the weather there may be warming stations noted on social media should some areas lose power.

City Administrator David Cameron announced that we will have a workshop on February 6th for phase three of the wastewater treatment plant, which is a lot of the heavy lifting. The work session will cover what is left to be done, the issue to proceed, and additional funding or fund through rates and CIST. Mr. Cameron noted that anyone running for office needs to be here to understand the history of that project. Mr. Cameron noted Andrew will provide a lot of information that has transcended several elected bodies, adding we will record the meeting. Mr. Cameron noted we will continue to work with the legislators for funding but must make decisions ahead of any decision by the state.

City Administrator David Cameron noted with the new year, we have a new legislative session, noting that Senate Bill 979 has led to numerous phone calls. Mr. Cameron noted he appreciates running point on this as we are working on this with the city attorney, adding Springfield is open to amending it. Mr. Cameron noted we have a joint boundary and settlement agreement with Springfield and are currently tied to third party litigation regarding that boundary agreement with the plaintiff questioning the validity of the boundary agreement. Mr. Cameron noted he has expressed his opposition of the bill and appreciates the calls asking where to go and how to handle it.

Council Member Franklin noted the Planning and Zoning video, adding he loved the end of the meeting with Planning and Zoning 101. Mr. Franklin shared his appreciation of staff for teaching the duty of the commission. Mr. Franklin also shared his appreciation of everyone that signed up for the election.

Council Member Updike reminded everyone to keep their pets protected during the cold and to bring them inside.

Council Member Gerlek noted he also loved Council Member Updike's pets. Mr. Gerlek noted a connection between 174 and 60 West where semi-trucks are going down the side street connecting them, adding he is unsure what to do to address this for a tiny 2 lane road. Andrew Nelson noted in the past we have been able to put up signage for local traffic only, adding he can go look at it. Otherwise it can be more of an enforcement issue and we can work with the Police Department on that.

Council Member Campbell thanked Mr. Cameron for handling Senate Bill 979 for the citizens. Mr. Campbell referenced the administrator's report, noting the citizen compliment for the Police Department, reading it aloud. Mr. Campbell noted during those times, our police and first responders are important and how they are viewed by citizens matters. To hear them say how kind the officers were speaks volumes for the leadership.

Mayor Russell added for everyone to stay warm, have a happy new year, and keep up the good work.

Adjournment

Mayor Russell adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

Matt Russell, Mayor