

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REPUBLIC, MISSOURI,
CALLING AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF IMPOSING A CITY SALES TAX TO
FUND PUBLIC SAFETY; DESIGNATING THE TIME FOR HOLDING SAID ELECTION;
AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE
COUNTY CLERKS OF SAID ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the City of Republic, Missouri, (herein called the "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, the City is authorized under the provisions of the Missouri Constitution and Sections 94.500 through 94.550 RSMo., the City Sales Tax Act, to impose a general city sales tax as long as it does not result in a combined rate of sales taxes adopted under Section 94.510 in excess of two percent (2%); and

WHEREAS, in 1981, the voters of the City of Republic did approve a one percent (1%) city sales tax (herein called the "Original Sales Tax"), and the original sales tax shall remain in full effect regardless of the provisions of this Ordinance including the outcome of the vote contemplated herein; and

WHEREAS, the City has experienced significant growth since the Original Sales Tax was approved in 1981. In 1981, the population of the City was listed as 4,485 residents, and according to the latest census estimate from 2019, the City's population is approximately 16,938 residents; and

WHEREAS, if this city sales tax is approved, the City plans on adding an additional 26 public safety employees to include 14 firefighters, 12 police officers; and

WHEREAS, since 1986, the City has not and does not collect any personal property taxes from the citizens of Republic. Were the City to collect a personal property sales tax, it would be paid by property owners in Republic whereas a sales tax is also paid by those purchasing items in Republic; and

WHEREAS, the City is the only city in Greene and Christian County, other than the City of Springfield, that has its own fire department as opposed to a fire protection district. A fire protection district is commonly funded by a real estate tax levy which is paid by the property owners in the district. The average fire protection district tax levy in Greene and Christian County is approximately .5231; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the voters of the City of Republic did approve a one-eighth of one percent (1/8%) sales tax for the operation of the City's Fire Department (herein called the "Fire Sales Tax") and the Fire Sales Tax shall remain in full effect regardless of the provisions of this Ordinance including the outcome of the vote contemplated herein; and

WHEREAS, the impact of a three-fourths of one percent (3/4%) sales tax will add \$0.75 to a \$100.00 retail purchase; and

WHEREAS, a proposed sales tax cannot become effective unless approved by a majority of the qualified voters at a municipal election; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, has determined it is necessary to authorize an additional three-fourths of one percent (3/4%) city sales tax to fund public safety.

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

Section 1. An election is hereby ordered to be held in the City of Republic, Missouri, pursuant to Section 94.510, et. seq. RSMo., on August 3, 2021, to the qualified voters of the City of Republic. The following question shall be in substantially the following form:

QUESTION

Shall the City of Republic, Missouri, impose a city sales tax of three-fourths of one percent (3/4%) to fund public safety, such tax to terminate automatically 25-years after the imposition thereof?

YES
NO

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

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to conduct said election in a manner consistent with the provisions of Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

Section 3. The form of the notice of said election and ballot, to be in substantially the same form, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, is hereby approved.

Section 4. A certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the County Clerk of Greene County, Missouri, and the County Clerk of Christian County, Missouri, by the City Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 25, 2021.

Section 5. If the city sales tax is approved by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters voting thereon, then the City Clerk shall within ten days forward to the Director of Revenue of the State of Missouri by United States registered or certified mail, a certified copy of this Ordinance with a map clearly showing the boundaries of the City and said sales tax shall become effective no later than the first day of the second calendar quarter after the Department of Revenue receives notification of the rate change, and shall be levied, collected and distributed in the manner provided by the City Sales Tax Act.

Section 6. If the proposed city sales tax is not approved by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters voting thereon, then this Ordinance shall be of no effect, and the of three-fourths of one percent (3/4%) sales tax proposed herein shall not be effective, however, the failure of this proposition to receive the requisite majority vote shall have no effect on the Original Sales Tax or Fire Sales Tax. Nothing herein is intended to be nor shall be deemed as an abolition of the Original Sales Tax, Fire Sales Tax, or any other tax levied by the City.

Section 7. The Greene County Clerk and Christian County Clerk are hereby authorized to conduct said election in a manner consistent with the provisions of Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri and designate the polling places for the qualified voters of the City.

Section 8. The Mayor, the City Clerk, and other officers and representatives of the City are hereby authorized and directed to take such other action as may be necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of this Ordinance.

Section 9. The whereas clauses are hereby specifically incorporated herein by reference.

Section 10. 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 11. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from its date of passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, this _____ day of _____ 2021.

Matt Russell, Mayor

Attest:

Laura Burbridge, City Clerk

Approved as to Form: _____, Scott Ison City Attorney

Final Passage and Vote: _____

NOTICE OF ELECTION

REPUBLIC, MISSOURI

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of the City of Republic, Missouri, that pursuant to an Ordinance duly adopted, the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, has called an election to be held in the City on August 3, 2021, commencing at 6:00 a.m. and closing at 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City the question contained in the following sample ballot:

**OFFICIAL BALLOT
ELECTION
REPUBLIC, MISSOURI
August 3, 2021**

PROPOSITION S

Shall the City of Republic, Missouri, impose a city sales tax of three-fourths of one percent (3/4%) to fund public safety, such tax to terminate automatically 25-years after the imposition thereof?

YES
NO

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

A full and complete copy of Ordinance No. 21-12, submitting the above question to the electorate is on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Republic, Missouri where the same is open for inspection and copying during normal business hours.

The election will be held at the following polling places in the City:

To be determined by the County Clerk of the respective jurisdiction.