



## **AGENDA ITEM ANALYSIS**

Project/Issue Name: 21-65 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Republic, Missouri, Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement with Missouri Department of Social Services Family Support Division Regarding the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program.

Submitted By: Meghin Cook, Finance Director

Date: October 19, 2021

### **Issue Statement**

To authorize an agreement with the Department of Social Services to allow citizens to utilize their Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program for disconnect fees, past due bills, and reconnection fees.

### **Discussion and/or Analysis**

The Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is administered by the Department of Social Services (DSS) and is funded by the Administration of Children and Families. The program will provide up to \$750 for water and wastewater (sewer) disconnection fees, customers who are in threat of disconnection, arrearages (past due bills), and reconnection fees. LIHWAP is expected to begin in Missouri on October 1, 2021, for elderly and disabled households, and November 1, 2021, for other households. This resource will remain available until September 30, 2023 or until all funds are spent.

The City of Republic is resuming utility shut offs beginning October 12<sup>th</sup> and this service would assist those at risk of disconnect avoid being shut off or assist in their services being reinstated.

### **Recommended Action**

Staff recommends approval.