



Memorandum

To: Mayor Nelson and Members of the City Council

From: Sarah Buchholtz, Administrative Intern

Date: June 10, 2026

Subject: Council Salary Ordinance

Mayor and City Council salaries are established by ordinance. Pursuant to State Law, the salary ordinance must be adopted prior to a municipal election and cannot be implemented until after that election.

Since there is a municipal election upcoming in 2026, a salary survey was conducted. Cities with similar characteristics to Spring Lake Park were chosen.

Below are the results of the salary survey:

City	Population	Mayor Salary	Council Salary
Circle Pines	4,949	\$6,000	\$5,000
Falcon Heights	4,998	\$5,400	\$3,600
St. Paul Park	5,355	\$5,350	\$4800
Spring Lake Park	7,188	\$7,453	\$5,961
Mahtomedi	8,197	\$7,200	\$6,000
St. Francis	8,727	\$6,000	\$4,800
Oak Grove	9,179	\$6,290	\$5,540
Arden Hills	9,583	\$8,250	\$7,452
St. Anthony Village	10,181	\$8,700	\$6,000
Little Canada	10,507	\$7,500	\$6,250
Mendota Heights	11,427	\$5,700	\$4,200
Mounds View	12,667	\$8,250	\$7,425
East Bethel	12,736	\$6,300	\$5,700
Lake Elmo	15,071	\$6,250	\$4,860
Ham Lake	17,216	\$6,000	\$4,900

The last time the Mayor and City Council salary changed was in 2008, effective January 1, 2009.

If the City Council wishes to adopt an ordinance amending the Mayor and City Council salary, the Council would need to provide guidance to City staff no later than June 15 so the ordinance

can be drafted, and the request can be included in the 2026 City budget. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel Buchholtz, City Administrator, at 763-784-6491.