

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council Work Session was held on May 10, 2021 at the Spring Lake Park City Hall, 1301 81st Ave NE, at 4:35 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nelson called the work session to order at 4:35 PM.

PRESENT: Councilmember Wendling, Councilmember Delfs, Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff, Councilmember Dircks, Mayor Nelson.

STAFF PRESENT: Sergeant Antoine, Administrator Buchholtz

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Police Chief Interview and Discussion

The City Council conducted an interview of Josh Antoine for the Police Chief position. After the interview, the City Council discussed Sgt. Antoine's interview responses, his strengths and weaknesses, and the Council's perceptions on Sgt. Antoine's ability to perform the job duties of Police Chief.. CONSENSUS OF THE CITY COUNCIL was to authorize Administrator Buchholtz to make a conditional job offer to Josh Antoine for the position of Police Chief, subject to formal City Council approval at a future meeting.

B. Insurance Limits Discussion (*Goodboe-Bisschoff*)

Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff inquired if the City had adequate insurance against liability claims against the City. Attorney Thames provided an overview of M.S. Chapter 466 and Federal Section 1983 and how they impacted the City. Attorney Thames expressed his confidence that, under current law, the City had adequate insurance to address potential claims brought under M.S. Chapter 466.

C. COVID-19 Memorial Discussion (*Goodboe-Bisschoff*)

Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff presented an idea to create a 2020 Remembrance Garden on City-owned property at the southwest intersection of Able Street and 81st Avenue NE. Attorney Thames reviewed the deed and determined that a park use is acceptable under the terms of the conditional use deed issued by the State of Minnesota. The City Council discussed the idea thoroughly. CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL was to politely decline moving forward with the 2020 Remembrance Garden idea.

A. Administrator Report

Administrator Buchholtz stated that the City had surplus funds at the end of fiscal year 2020. He stated that he will be presenting a resolution to the City Council at its May 17, 2021 meeting to transfer some of those funds to various capital project funds and debt service funds. He said he is anticipating levy pressure to fund the 2022 General Fund budget and prepaying debt from the 2020 surplus would provide the City Council flexibility to address these budgetary challenges.

Administrator Buchholtz noted that Building Official Baker was expecting a job offer from another community. He stated that this would be a significant loss to the community and asked the City Council for authority to present a counter-offer to Mr. Baker. CONSENSUS OF THE CITY COUNCIL was to authorize Administrator Buchholtz to present a counter-offer to Mr. Baker.

Mayor Nelson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer