

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council was held on February 2, 2026 at Spring Lake Park Community Center, 1301 81st Avenue N.E., at 7:00 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ken Wendling

Councilmember Lisa Dircks

Councilmember April Moran

Mayor Bob Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilmember Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff

STAFF PRESENT

Building Official Jeff Baker, Public Works Director George Linngren, Police Chief Antoine, Attorney John Thames, Administrator Daniel Buchholtz

VISITOR

Kristi Goldstein

466 Manor Drive NE

Spring Lake Park MN

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

Administrator Buchholtz requested that Item 6F be added to the Agenda Appoint Kristi Goldstein to Planning Commission, Item 6G be added Approval of Final Registration Process for True North Green LLC Dispensary and item 7A be removed Rental License Revocation for Certain Property Located at 349 81st Avenue NE.

5. DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR - None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes – January 20, 2026 Council Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes – January 20, 2026 City Council Meeting
- C. Resolution 2026-03, Accepting Donation from Perfect 10 Auto, Inc
- D. Appoint Bill Clement to Parks and Recreation Commission
- E. Contractor's Licenses
- F. Appoint Kristi Goldstein to Planning Commission

G. Approval of Final Registration Process for True North Green LLC Dispensary

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve the Consent Agenda.

Voting Aye: Councilmember Wendling, Councilmember Dircks, Councilmember Moran, Mayor Nelson. Motion carried.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Rental License Revocation for Certain Property Located at 349 81st Avenue NE - Removed

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Public Works Report

Public Works Director Linngren reported that recent operations involved more salting than plowing due to January's cold temperatures, ice storms, and preceding rainfall. He noted that the Department applied salt proactively to prevent freezing and rut formation, while plowing has been conducted as necessary to manage ice accumulation.

Director Linngren stated that tree trimming activities were limited in January due to extreme cold and wind chill. He said work will resume in February and March, focusing on park areas and oak trees over the streets and sidewalks.

B. Code Enforcement Report

Building Official Baker reported on the activities of the Code Department. He stated that the primary focus for the month was rental licensing, wrapping up 2025 and starting 2026. He stated that one property originally on the agenda for rental license revocation was removed after passing its pre-Council inspection. Building Official Baker noted three properties flagged for failing to register, all came into compliance early in the year. He stated that in 2025, there were 13 properties involved: 12 failed to register initially, and one did not pass inspection. He noted that Inspector Wirtz posted notices on doors, which prompted quick action—10 properties paid within a day or two, and the remaining trickled in, successfully resolving the issue.

Building Official Baker gave an update on construction activities. He said that the property at 7777 Highway 65, known as Melt & Dip, remains under construction. He noted that the property at 8179 University Avenue, formerly Advanced Auto Parts, has been converted to Dollar Tree. A full Certificate of Occupancy was issued in January. Building Official Baker noted that the largest project currently under construction is at 8181 University Avenue, formerly Once Upon a Child, which is being renovated into Aqua Coin Laundry, a 24-hour laundromat.

9. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution 2026-04, Approving the Tentative Agreement between the City of Spring Lake Park and IUOE Local 49, Representing the Public Works Bargaining Unit, for Calendar Years 2026-2027

Administrator Buchholtz reported that Local 49, representing the Public Works Union has accepted the offer outlined in Resolution 2026-04.

Motion made by Councilmember Moran to approve Resolution 2026-04, Approving the Tentative Agreement between the City of Spring Lake Park and IUOE Local 49, Representing the Public Works Bargaining Unit, for Calendar Years 2026-2027.

Voting Aye: Councilmember Wendling, Councilmember Dircks, Councilmember Moran, Mayor Nelson. Motion carried.

- B. Resolution 2026-05, Authorizing a Phased Retirement Option (PRO) Agreement Under MNPERA and Approving Related Police Department Staffing Adjustments

Administrator Buchholtz reported that one of the City's Police Record Technicians has requested to participate in the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) phased retirement option. He said this program allows eligible employees aged 62 or older to begin receiving retirement benefits while continuing to work on a reduced schedule. He stated that the participation in this program is discretionary and requires City Council approval.

Administrator Buchholtz said the proposed agreement would enable the requesting employee to reduce their schedule from 32 hours per week to 20 hours per week, while the other record technician transitions back to full-time. He said the arrangement ensures operational coverage and workload balance, which is critical given the upcoming implementation of the new Tyler records system. Additionally, the city would realize a net payroll savings of four hours per week compared to the 2026 budget.

Administrator Buchholtz said the request includes authority to enter into two consecutive one-year phased retirement agreements. He noted that during this two-year period, the employee would remain eligible for city-provided health and dental insurance. He noted that if the arrangement continues beyond two years, the extension would exclude health and dental benefits, as the employee would be eligible for Medicare, resulting in further cost savings to the City.

Motion made by Mayor Nelson to approve Resolution 2026-05, Authorizing a Phased Retirement Option (PRO) Agreement Under MNPERA and Approving Related Police Department Staffing Adjustments.

Voting Aye: Councilmember Wendling, Councilmember Dircks, Councilmember Moran, Mayor Nelson. Motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS - None**11. REPORTS**

A. Attorney Report - None

B. Engineer Report

Accept report as submitted

C. Administrator Report

Administrator Buchholtz announced that the City has been awarded a congressionally directed spending appropriation of just under \$900,000 for the stormwater resiliency project. He expressed appreciation to Congresswoman Ilhan Omar for encouraging the application and to Senators Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar for their sponsorship and support of the project in the Senate.

Administrator Buchholtz reported attending the Spring Lake Park–Blaine–Mounds View Fire Department Awards Banquet on January 24, 2026. He expressed appreciation for the opportunity to celebrate the excellence and dedication of the firefighters who serve Spring Lake Park, Blaine, Mounds View, as well as Circle Pines and Centerville. Administrator Buchholtz congratulated all award recipients and extended thanks to the department for their outstanding service in protecting the community.

12. OTHER

A. Closed Session to Develop or Consider Offers and Counteroffers Related to the Potential Lease of City-owned Property Located at 8466 Central Avenue NE Pursuant to MS 13D.05, subd. 3(c)3

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to adjourn the meeting to a closed session to develop or consider offers and counteroffers related to the potential lease of city-owned property located at 8466 Central Avenue NE.

Voting Aye: Councilmember Wendling, Councilmember Dircks, Councilmember Moran, Mayor Nelson Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Meeting reconvened at 7:44 PM.

Attorney Thames reported that the City Council held a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subd. 3C(3) to develop or consider offers and counteroffers related to the potential lease of city-owned property located at 8466 Central Avenue NE. He stated that staff has been provided direction.

13. ADJOURN

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to adjourn.

Voting Aye: Councilmember Wendling, Councilmember Dircks, Councilmember Moran, Mayor Nelson.
Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer