

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 December 04, 2023 at the City Hall, 1301 81st Ave NE, Spring Lake Park, at 5:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ken Wendling
Councilmember Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff
Councilmember Lisa Dircks
Councilmember April Moran
Mayor Nelson

STAFF PRESENT

Police Chief Josh Antoine, Administrator Daniel Buchholtz

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2024 Appointments Discussion

Administrator Buchholtz introduced the item, stating that several Councilmembers expressed a desire to have a Council discussion surrounding the annual appointments. Mayor Nelson stated that he has followed past precedent in making the annual appointments, basing many of them on seniority. He said he was uncomfortable removing a member from a committee in favor of another one without input from the first member. Councilmember Dircks said she would like to see the appointments rotated to ensure that all City Councilmembers have a chance to learn and grow into their positions.

Administrator Buchholtz suggested that Councilmembers provide him a list of appointments they would like to seek in 2024 and that he would share those with the Mayor.

B. Zoning Code Land Use Table Discussion (*Nelson*)

Mayor Nelson expressed concern about the continued vitality of our commercial corridors, particularly along Highway 65 and Highway 47. He stated that he would like to see the City Council work to review the land use table and zoning code to ensure that the City's commercial corridors are positioned to attract businesses that generate traffic and economic activity for the City.

CONSENSUS of the City Council was to direct staff to begin to review the land use table and the zoning code with the goal of encouraging business development to generate economic growth and development for the community.

C. Discuss Applying for Embedded Social Worker Grant (*Antoine*)

Chief Antoine requested authority from the City Council to work with Lino Lakes Police Department and Centennial Lakes Police Department to pursue a grant to fund an embedded social worker that would be shared amongst the three departments. He stated that the embedded social worker will help deescalate tense situations related to mental health crises and to help identify resources to individuals in need. He said this community policing approach will help reduce mental health calls for officers while ensuring that residents will be able to receive the resources they need.

Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff expressed concern about liability. Chief Antoine stated that the three cities would work with a private vendor to provide the social worker and that the social worker's liability would be addressed under that service contract.

CONSENSUS of the City Council was to allow Chief Antoine to pursue a grant with Lino Lakes and Centennial Lakes Police Departments to fund an embedded social worker.

D. Edible Cannabinoid Proposal

Administrator Buchholtz requested the City Council consider increasing the number of lower potency cannabis licenses in the City to ensure that all existing businesses currently selling lower potency cannabis products will be able to continue to stay in business. He noted that there are currently four licensees but only two licenses available under the City Code.

CONSENSUS of the City Council was to direct staff to draft an ordinance increasing the number of lower potency cannabinoid licenses from 2 to 5.

E. 2024 Fee Schedule Discussion (*Buchholtz*)

Administrator Buchholtz provided an overview of the proposed 2024 Fee Schedule. Hearing no objections to the fee schedule, Administrator Buchholtz stated that he would place the fee schedule ordinance on the next City Council meeting agenda.

3. REPORT

A. Council Reports – no reports

B. Administrator Report – no report.

4. ADJOURN

Mayor Nelson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer