

## 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 November 17, 2025 at the Spring Lake Park City Hall, 1301 81st Ave NE, at 5:30 PM

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ken Wendling  
Councilmember Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff  
Councilmember Dircks  
Councilmember Moran (arrived at 6:15pm)  
Mayor Nelson

#### STAFF PRESENT

Chief Josh Antoine, Attorney John Thames, City Administrator Buchholtz

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Jesse Mitchell, Tsunami Express Car Wash

### 2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. Discussion on Traffic Safety Concerns Related to Tsunami Car Wash Exit (*Nelson*)

Administrator Buchholtz reviewed recent crashes involving vehicles exiting the Tsunami Car Wash at high speed and crossing 83rd Avenue, noting staff concerns about pedestrian traffic and nearby patio seating.

Mayor Nelson stated that he requested the discussion due to the severity of the crashes, emphasizing that multiple vehicles reached dangerous speeds within a short distance of the exit. He expressed concern that without corrective action, there is a risk of a vehicle striking a pedestrian or the outdoor seating area at Hi-Stakes Café across 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Mayor Nelson stated he does not want to negatively impact the car wash business but believes the City has an obligation to address a preventable safety hazard.

Police Chief Antoine reported that approximately 67,000 vehicles have used the car wash since its opening, with three incidents all attributed to driver inexperience or panic. He emphasized that the conveyor moves slowly and that there is no indication of mechanical error.

Jesse Mitchell, Manager of Tsunami Car Wash stated that the business wants to remain proactive and cooperative and will install a flashing LED stop sign and a portable speed bump at the exit, at its own expense.

Council expressed support for these measures and discussed potential future action if crashes continue, with Mayor Nelson stating he does not want to wait until someone is seriously injured before intervention.

CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL is to proceed with installing a flashing LED stop sign and portable speed bump at the car wash exit, placed in coordination with the Public Works Director. Staff will monitor future incidents and reassess if additional action is warranted.

B. Review and Discuss Cannabis Retail Registration Impact Study (Buchholtz)

Administrator Buchholtz presented a cannabis impact study that found no measurable increase in crime, youth use, or crashes associated with additional dispensaries but supported a cautious, incremental approach.

Council members expressed their preference to maintain only one retail registration at this time and preserve the existing zoning cap of 4 retail registrations for low-potency retailers.

**3. REPORT**

A. Council/Staff Reports

Administrator Buchholtz reported that staff has made budget reductions to reduce the proposed property tax levy increase from 6.54% to approximately 5.5%.

Chief Antoine reported on continued complaints regarding a residence at 8001 5th Street, noting there is no documented victim, no criminal charges are supported by existing facts, and the matter has again been forwarded to Anoka County CID. Activities appear to involve consenting adults, and enforcement options are limited without probable cause.

**4. ADJOURN**

Mayor Nelson adjourned the work session at 6:31pm.

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Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

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Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer