

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council Regular was held on February 18, 2025 at the City Hall, at 7:00 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Police Chief Josh Antoine, Public Works Director George Linngren, Building Official Jeff Baker,
Recreation Director Anne Scanlon, Administrator Daniel Buchholtz

VISITORS

Fire Chief Dan Retka	SBM Fire Department	Spring Lake Park MN
Bev Kieffer		Mounds View MN
Patty Robinson	7735 Spring Lake Road #217	Mounds View MN
Aislinn Dorko	8271 Madison Street	Spring Lake Park MN

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

None

5. DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Aislinn Darko, 8271 Madison Street NE, inquired about the possibility of the City replacing the ash trees that have been removed through a low-cost program for residents. Councilmember Wendling stated that the Spring Lake Park Lions were investigating having a raffle for tree replacement.

Mayor Nelson requested a moment of silence for the fallen City of Burnsville first responders.

A. Dan Retka, Fire Chief, SBM Fire Department

Chief Retka provided an update on the significant transformations the SBM Fire Department underwent in 2024. He stated that recognizing the need for restructuring, the department reassessed its operations, including how stations were staffed and how personnel were deployed. He highlighted a 30% increase in emergency calls, which underscored the necessity for these adjustments.

Chief Retka stated that through donations from the Lions Club and other creative funding sources, the department was able to construct sleeping quarters and renovate stations to support the implementation of a new Duty Crew model. He noted that as a result of these changes, the department has successfully achieved full shift coverage, ensuring a more effective and responsive emergency service for the community.

Chief Retka stated that with the changes of 2024 the Department was able to take Station 2 offline, and reallocate the services and equipment. He said that with that change there was a \$2 million out of the capital plan because the equipment was no longer needed. Chief Retka stated that another fire station will be needed. He noted that the station would be located in the northeast portion of Blaine. He said currently the department cannot reach the residents within the seven-minute guideline suggested by the NFPA standard.

Chief Retka gave an update on the work with the Centennial Fire District. He stated that he is the Fire Chief and that SBM provides administrative support. He noted that with the additional income from the Centennial Fire District there were 3 additional full-time employees added. He noted that all the changes allowed the SBM to come in under budget for 2024.

Chief Retka discussed the Department's to create a Fire Corps program. He said the Fire Corps is group of volunteers, who want to assist the Fire Department in serving the community. He said the Fire Corps will act as advocates to the community to help connect them to needed services.

Chief Retka highlighted the upcoming "Putting for a Pulse" golf tournament, sponsored by the Relief Association. He explained that funds raised from the event will go toward purchasing Lucas machines, which provide automated chest compressions for CPR. Currently, SBM Fire Department has two Lucas machines in operation—one serving the north side and another on the south side.

Chief Retka emphasized SBM's commitment to community safety through CPR teaching, training and certification. He also announced a new EMS program, North Metro Fire/EMS, within the department, further enhancing emergency medical services for the community.

Chief Retka thanked the City Council and Administrator Buchholtz for their support.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes – January 21, 2025 City Council Work Session Minutes

- B. Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2025 City Council Meeting
- C. Approval of January Claims List – General Disbursement #25-01 - \$685,867.86
- D. Contractor’s Request for Payment #12 – City Hall Renovation/Expansion Project - \$102,946.47
- E. Accepting Donation from Spring Lake Park Lions
- F. Contractor’s Licenses
- G. Approval of ROW Application – 7884 Monroe Street NE

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve Consent Agenda.

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

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Police Report

Chief Antoine reported that the Police Department responded to 669 calls for service in January 2025 compared to 803 calls for service for the month of January 2024. Chief Antoine stated that School Resource Officer Imig handled 14 school-related calls, 9 student contacts, 27 escorts, and 12 follow-up investigations.

Chief Antoine said Investigator Bennek reported handling 19 cases for the month of January, 18 of which are felony in nature, 1 misdemeanor cases, while monitoring 5 forfeiture cases. He stated that Investigator Bennek closed one forfeiture case in January 2025.

Chief Antoine recognized the Reserve Program for their volunteer service. He stated that the 2024 Reserve Unit consisted of Reserve Lieutenant Robert Schmidt. He noted that Mr. Schmidt worked 153 hours in the community throughout the year. Chief Antoine stated that the utilizing the 2024 Dollar Value of Volunteer Hours for the State of Minnesota equated to approximately \$5,533.43 in saved wages.

Chief Antoine stated that on March 10 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm there will be a Coffee with a Cop event held at Hy-Vee.

B. Parks and Recreation Report

Parks and Recreation Director Scanlon stated that the City has officially submitted a grant application for Terrace Park through the CDBG program. She said that she will keep the Council informed as the city progresses through the grant process.

Director Scanlon gave an update on Tower Days. She stated that musical acts have been secured for the event, along with the lumberjacks, fireworks and a new wrestling event. Director Scanlon expressed her appreciation and thanks to the Spring Lake Park Lions for

their donation supporting Tower Days. She stated that the next Tower Days Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25 at 6:30 pm.

Director Scanlon gave an update on department activities. She noted that Recreation Supervisor Goldberg is continuing to expand in collaboration with Mounds View, New Brighton and Fridley the North Metro Adult Sports League. She stated tht the department is working to develop the youth recreational softball program by partnering with Mounds View, New Brighton and Arden Hills to increase the participation rate.

8. ORDINANCES AN/OR RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution 2025-07, Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids – 2025 Street Improvement Project

Engineer Gravel stated that the action before the Council is to approve that plans and specifications for the 2025 Street Project. He noted that the project is specifically for 79th Avenue NE between Highway 65 and Able Street NE, and Taylor Street NE between 79th Avenue NE and Osborne Road NE. He stated that the project is a mill and overlay improvement.

Engineer Gravel said that if the Resolution is approved the next steps will be receiving bids, holding another public hearing and awarding the contract.

Motion made by Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff to approve Resolution 2025-07, Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids – 2025 Street Improvement Project.

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

9. NEW BUSINESS

None

10. REPORTS

A. Attorney's Report

None

B. Engineer's Report

Report accepted as presented.

Mayor Nelson requested that Engineer Gravel and Public Works Director Linngren look into water main lining as a potential improvement project.

C. Administrator Report

Administrator Buchholtz stated that there would be a work session before each of the Council meetings in March. He stated that on March 17, Police Chief Antoine and Matt Montaigne from SBM will be holding an emergency management table top exercise to train council on their roles in an emergency situation. He stated that the event will take place in the Emergency Operations Center at City Hall. Administrator Buchholtz stated that the March 3 work session topic will concern the sight triangle ordinance.

11. OTHER

Councilmember Wendling inquired on the status of the electronic billboard. Administrator Buchholtz stated that Ms. Brown is working on getting the billboard repaired.

12. ADJOURN

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer