

## OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the duly called work session of the Spring Lake Park City Council was held on October 21, 2024 at the Able Park Building, 8200 Able Street NE, at 5:30 PM.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ken Wendling  
Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff  
Councilmember April Moran  
Acting Mayor Lisa Dircks

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

Mayor Robert Nelson

#### STAFF PRESENT

Attorney John Thames, Building Official Jeff Baker, Administrator Buchholtz

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew Nykanen, Nykanen Inspections  
Andy Schreder and Carri Levitski, Rum River Consultants

### 2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. Discuss Transitioning Plumbing Plan Reviews and Electrical Inspections from State to Outside Contractors (Baker/Buchholtz)

Building Official Baker introduced the agenda item, stating that he is recommending transitioning plumbing plan reviews from the State of Minnesota to Rum River Consulting and transitioning electrical inspections from the State of Minnesota to Nykanen Inspections. He highlighted delays experienced with state services, such as a two-month wait for a plumbing review that delayed the City Hall Renovation/Expansion project. He stated that the proposed shift to outside contractors will offer quicker turnaround times, same-day electrical inspections, and a streamlined "one-stop shop" at City Hall for permit submissions, reducing the need for residents and businesses to navigate state processes independently.

Representatives from both firms emphasized their qualifications and experience with neighboring cities, assuring the council of their capability to meet Spring Lake Park's needs.

Administrator Buchholtz noted that the city will receive 20% of the fees charged under these contracts, providing revenue to offset building department costs.

Councilmembers expressed support, noting the potential for improved services and convenience for the community. Administrator Buchholtz stated that the October 21, 2024 City Council agenda included a number of items to implement this change.

B. Review Proposed Changes to Statement of Values (Buchholtz)

Administrator Buchholtz presented the proposed updates to the Statement of Values, aiming to ensure respectful and orderly meetings. He noted that the revisions include protocols for addressing disruptive behavior and an enforcement structure. Councilmembers expressed support for the changes, noting that they offer a clear and fair framework for managing conduct at City Council meetings and events. Administrator Buchholtz stated that final adoption of the updates to the Statement of Values would take place at the October 21, 2024 City Council meeting.

**3. REPORT**

A. City Council and Staff Reports

Administrator Buchholtz provided an update on the City Hall renovation, which is progressing on schedule despite minor supply chain issues. He provided an update that Officer Brady Lohse Johnson will be leaving the Police Department in early November and that staff will be on-boarding a new officer starting in November.

Administrator Buchholtz sought input from the City Council about partnering with the building trades program at Spring Lake Park High School to construct a new warming house at Terrace Park. He stated that this collaboration would involve students building a significant portion of the facility, resulting in labor cost savings for the city. Councilmembers expressed support for the project and the City's application for Community Development Block Grant funds to construct the warming house.

Council Member Dircks reported ongoing parking and litter issues along Fillmore Street, attributed to various sources, including dental office employees. Administrator Buchholtz confirmed that "no littering" signs would be installed and that additional police patrols would be conducted to address resident concerns.

**4. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

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Lisa Dircks, Acting Mayor

Attest:

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Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer