

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council Regular was held on March 16, 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 Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff

Councilmember Lisa Dircks

Mayor Robert Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilmember April Moran

STAFF PRESENT

Police Chief Josh Antoine, Parks and Recreation Director Anne Scanlon, Public Works Director George Linngren, Administrator Daniel Buchholtz

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

Administrator Buchholtz requested that Item 6K Business Licenses be added to the agenda, along with Item 9B Able Park Panel Installation.

5. DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR – None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes – March 2, 2026 Work Session
- B. Approval of February Claims List – General Disbursement #26-03 - \$418,345.34
- C. Revenue and Expenditure Report – February 2026
- D. Statement of Fund Balance – February 2026
- E. Resolution 2026-10 – Temporary Gambling License – Spring Lake Park Lions – Tower Days
- F. Ratify City Administrator's Acceptance of Resignation – Austin Becker
- G. Ratify City Administrator's Acceptance of Resignation – Phillip Pouchak
- H. Authorize Patrol Officer Recruitment Process
- I. Contractor's License
- J. Sign Permit

K. Business Licenses

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve Consent Agenda.

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

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Police Report

Police Chief Antoine reported that the Police Department responded to 665 calls for service in February 2026, compared to 633 calls in February 2025, indicating consistent call volume year over year.

Chief Antoine stated that School Resource Officer (SRO) Imig handled nine calls for service, 12 student contacts, 55 miscellaneous meetings and calls, and five follow-up investigations related to school matters. He noted that SRO Imig spent much of the month training incoming SRO Smith. He stated that SRO Smith officially assumed her duties on March 2 and is performing very well in the role.

Chief Antoine stated that Investigator Bennek managed 16 felony cases in February, along with four ongoing forfeiture investigations. He stated that Investigator Bennek conducted significant training with Detective Imig. He said the Department recently updated the title from "Investigator" to "Detective."

Chief Antoine reported a busy month of administrative and professional activities. He said that the month included attending an Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise in Coon Rapids, multiple meetings with Minnesota BCA auditors, two regional Minnesota Chiefs of Police meetings, and ongoing biweekly administrative meetings with both sergeants. He and SRO Imig also participated in the high school career fair, which provided valuable opportunities to speak with students interested in law enforcement careers. Additionally, Chief Antoine reminded residents and the City Council about the planned traffic changes on McKinley Street during Tower Days. He reported that Information will be posted on the Police Department's Facebook page.

B. Parks and Recreation Report

Parks and Recreation Director Scanlon reported that February was a busy month for the Department. She said the Snow Buddy Scavenger Hunt concluded with strong community engagement, and a live announcement made on Facebook to recognize the winner, Maria Z.

Director Scanlon stated the Department is promoting the Adopt-a-Flower-Garden program, which invites residents, community groups, businesses, churches, and organizations to

assist with maintaining garden areas throughout the park system. She said the goal is to keep these spaces vibrant while easing maintenance demands on Public Works staff.

Director Scanlon stated a new skate track was piloted at Sanburnol Park, and Park and Recreation Commissioner Mark Hoard observed steady public use. He noted that the Commission is considering continuing the skate track next winter or potentially adding a second track at Able Park.

Director Scanlon said herself and Recreation Program Supervisor Claire Waddell have been collaborating with students from the Spring Lake Park High School Pathways Business Program. She said the students are assisting with marketing research to help identify the most effective ways to reach residents and promote programs—whether through traditional materials, digital channels, or other platforms.

Director Scanlon reported on the activities that were held during the month of February, such as the Sweetheart Dance and the Senior's Valentine's Day Luncheon. She reported attending the Spring Lake Park High School Pathways luncheon and learning session, which included a round-table workshop with students. She shared that the career fair was a significant success for the Parks and Recreation Department. She noted that their booth was located next to the Police Department's booth, and both experienced steady activity throughout the event.

Director Scanlon noted that the department is awaiting notification from Anoka County regarding their Community Development Block Grant application. She stated that she submitted a grant request to the Twins Community Fund to support drainage improvements at Terrace Park.

8. ORDINANCES AN/OR RESOLUTIONS - None

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Works Maintenance Worker Vacancy

Public Works Director Linngren requested authorization to fill a vacancy within the Public Works Department. He reported that one employee resigned unexpectedly, leaving the Department short two full-time staff members. He noted with snow events and spring workload demands approaching, additional full-time support is necessary beyond the seasonal staff. Director Linngren noted that the Department identified an excellent candidate while reviewing seasonal applicants. He stated that he is recommending Grant Antoine be promoted to the position. Director Linngren described Antoine as a strong fit for the position with the potential for long-term growth within the Department.

Motion made by Mayor Nelson to approve a conditional job offer to Grant Antoine upon a successful completion of his Pre-Employment Drug Test.

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

B. Approval for Acoustic Panel Installation at Able Park Building

Director Scanlon stated she is seeking City Council's approval for the installation of acoustical tiles in the Able Park Building. She explained that the building's vaulted ceiling creates significant noise issues, leading to ongoing complaints from renters, program groups, and child-care participants. She noted that due to the building's design, including its fire suppression system, options such as drop ceilings or hanging sound banners are not feasible.

Director Scanlon said after researching solutions, the Department received the most favorable proposal from Acoustics Associates, with a bid of \$16,990. She noted that the plan involves mounting acoustical panels flush to the vaulted ceiling, placed every third row between the truss space.

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve the request to purchase Acoustic Panels for Installation at Able Park Building.

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

10. REPORTS

A. Attorney's Report - None

A. Engineer's Report - Report accepted as presented.

B. Administrator Report

Administrator Buchholtz reported that the City received an inquiry from Congresswoman Omar's office regarding potential submissions for additional Congressional Directed Spending requests. He said the City submitted two applications: approximately \$1.5 million for the water tower rehabilitation project and \$1 million for improvements at Terrace Park. He noted that both applications were supported by letters from the City's state legislators.

Administrator Buchholtz reported that, due to delays in the distribution of federal funding, the City has not yet received notification from Anoka County regarding its Community Development Block Grant request for the Terrace Park building.

11. OTHER

- A. Closed Session to Develop to Consider Offers and Counteroffers Related to the Potential Lease of City-owned Property Located at 8480-8492 Central Avenue NE Pursuant to MS 13D.05, subd. 3(c)3

Motion made by Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff 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 8480-8492 Central Avenue NE.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM

Meeting reconvened at 8:02 PM

Administrator Buchholtz reported that the City Council entered a closed session to develop or consider offers and counteroffers related to the potential lease of City-owned property located at 8480–8492 Central Avenue, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subdivision 3(c). The Council discussed the matter and provided direction to staff.

12. ADJOURN

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer