OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park Planning Commission was held on September 28, 2026, at the City Hall, at 7:00 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT
Chair Hans Hansen
Commissioner Rick Cobbs
Commissioner Eric Julien
Commissioner Steve Coyle
Commissioner Kristi Goldstein

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT
Building Official Jeff Baker, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer Daniel Buchholtz

VISITORS

Ken Wending	547 81st Ave NE	Spring Lake Park
Perry Korzenowski	8420 Laddie Road	Spring Lake Park
Ken Kirchner	7955 Van Buren St	Spring Lake Park
Bob Nelson	7805 Jackson St	Spring Lake Park
Halyn Roth	7914 Able St	Spring Lake Park
Erna Thomley	7902 Able St	Spring Lake Park
Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff	8309 Monroe St	Spring Lake Park
Shane Givens	Spring Lake Park Schools	

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes – May 26, 2026 Meeting

Motion made by Commissioner Julien, seconded by Commissioner Cobbs, to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2026 Planning Commission meeting.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Cobbs, Commissioner Julien, Commissioner Coyle, Commissioner Goldstein, Chairperson Hansen. Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Public Hearing: Ordinance No. 512, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 16 of the Spring Lake Park City Code Relating to Secondary School Stadium Video Displays

Administrator Buchholtz presented the proposed ordinance establishing performance standards for secondary school stadium video displays. He explained that the City's existing dynamic sign regulations were primarily intended for signs oriented toward motorists and were not well suited to a stadium video display intended for spectators. The proposed ordinance would establish specific standards governing the location, size, brightness, orientation, hours of operation and residential impacts of these displays.

Buchholtz reviewed the principal standards contained in the ordinance, including limitations on the number and size of stadium video displays, minimum separation from residential property, requirements that the rear and sides remain non-illuminated, daytime and nighttime brightness limits, automatic dimming controls, limits on illumination at neighboring residential property, and restrictions on hours of operation. He noted that the ordinance establishes maximum brightness levels rather than guaranteed operating levels and allows the City to require additional testing or reduced brightness if impacts on neighboring properties warrant further restrictions.

The Commission discussed whether the display should be permitted to operate during private rental events and whether advertising and sponsorship messages could be shown during authorized stadium events. Staff clarified that the ordinance would permit event-related advertising and sponsorships, but would not allow the display to operate as a general commercial billboard outside of authorized stadium activities. Commissioners expressed support for allowing use of the display during private rental events because those rentals provide revenue to the School District.

The Commission also discussed the permitting history of the existing display. Staff explained that the School District had previously contacted the City regarding permit requirements, but the necessary permits were not obtained before the display was installed. Commissioners expressed concern that construction had occurred prior to issuance of the required permits and emphasized that the School District should be held to the same permitting standards as other property owners and businesses. Staff stated that the School District would be required to obtain the necessary building and sign permits, verify that the existing structure and foundations comply with applicable requirements, and pay the City's standard doubled permit fees for work completed without permits. Staff further explained that installation of the display before adoption of the ordinance would not establish a legal nonconforming use or vested right.

Chair Hansen opened the public hearing at 7:35pm.

Ken Kirchner, 7955 Van Buren Street, expressed concern regarding the permitting and enforcement process and accountability for construction occurring before permits

were obtained. Staff responded that the School District would be subject to the same permitting and enforcement practices applicable to other property owners.

Halyn Roth, 7914 Able Street, stated that the display is visible and bright from his property and asked whether operation of the display would create additional noise. Staff stated that the display itself does not generate additional sound. Roth noted that he understood that living adjacent to the high school would involve some level of light and noise and expressed general support for the regulatory approach being considered.

Bob Nelson, 7805 Jackson Street, requested that construction plans and specifications for the display be available when the matter proceeds to the City Council so that compliance with applicable structural requirements can be reviewed.

Chairperson Hansen closed the public hearing at 7:48 PM.

Motion made by Commissioner Julien, seconded by Commissioner Cobbs to recommend approval of Ordinance No. 512, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 16 of the Spring Lake Park City Code Relating to Secondary School Stadium Video Displays.

Motion was then made by Commissioner Julien, seconded by Commissioner Goldstein, to amend the main motion by removing “private rentals” from the activities excluded from the definition of an authorized stadium event. Voting Yea: Commissioner Cobbs, Commissioner Julien, Commissioner Coyle, Commissioner Goldstein, Chairperson Hansen. Motion to amend carried.

The Commission then considered the main motion as amended. Voting Yea: Commissioner Cobbs, Commissioner Julien, Commissioner Coyle, Commissioner Goldstein, Chairperson Hansen. The main motion, as amended, carried.

6. OTHER

Administrator Buchholtz advised the Commission that a Planning Commission meeting will be held in October. He stated that the primary agenda item is expected to be a public hearing regarding proposed regulations for wireless communication towers following the City Council's establishment of a moratorium.

Buchholtz also reminded Commissioners to complete the Comprehensive Plan leadership survey. He reported that the resident Comprehensive Plan survey is being promoted through the City newsletter, social media, utility bill communications and other outlets. Commissioners were encouraged to promote participation in the survey. Staff confirmed that the deadline for residents to complete the community survey is December 1, 2026.

7. ADJOURN

Motion made by Commissioner Cobbs, seconded by Commissioner Julien to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Cobbs, Commissioner Julien, Commissioner Coyle, Commissioner Goldstein, Chairperson Hansen. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.