OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council Regular was held on September 21, 2026 at Spring Lake Park Community Center, 1301 gpt 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 April Moran
Mayor Robert Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT
Councilmember Lisa Dircks

STAFF PRESENT
Police Chief Josh Antoine, Attorney Thames, Engineer Phil Gravel, City Administrator Daniel Buchholtz

VISITORS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kristi Cobbs | 8085 Jefferson Street NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Perry Korzenowski | 8420 Laddie Road NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Eric Julien | 700 Holland Lane NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Halyn Roth | 7914 Able Street NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Abi Stark | 609 Manor Drive NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Karl Stark | 609 Manor Drive NE | Spring lake Park |
| William Best | 832 Ballantyne Lane NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Stephanie Pylka | 658 79th Avenue NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Tim Marrs | 658 79th Avenue NE | Spring Lake Park |
| Jason Miller | Cohn Reznick | |

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA**

**5. DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR**

Kristi Cobbs, 8035 Jefferson Street NE, voiced concerns about surveillance technology and emphasized that the central issue is protecting community t rust . She noted that trust between residents and the police has been built through long-standing community engagement and

cautioned against risking it for technologies that many communities are questioning. She urged the council to establish a clear, transparent process for evaluating new tools and to ensure residents have meaningful opportunities to be heard, stressing that trust is built over time and can be quickly lost.

Abi Stark, 609 Manor Drive NE, expressed concerns about Flock camera use, noting that officer training comes solely from the vendor and lacks guidance on proper search practices or documentation. She highlighted missing search-reason data in the city's transparency portal and pointed out inconsistencies revealed through audit logs. Stark also raised concerns about extensive queries from outside agencies with varying policies, questioning whether the privacy trade-offs are justified given the small number of local searches. She urged the council to consider clearer oversight and limits on Flock data use.

Stephanie Pylka, 658 79th Avenue NE, requested that the council consider allowing backyard chickens, noting that several nearby cities already permit small, contained flocks of hens. She highlighted potential neighborhood benefits, including companionship, fresh eggs, organic fertilizer, and natural pest control.

Halyn Roth, 7914 Able Street NE, summarized two concerns previously shared with the council by email. She urged the city to end its contract with Flock and prohibit future ALPR use, citing privacy risks, potential misuse, and documented errors. She also opposed moving "discussion from the floor" to the end of meetings, arguing it would discourage public participation and conflict with the council's stated values on citizen involvement.

Karl Stark, 609 Manor Drive NE, highlighted several incidents across the United States where law enforcement officers and Flock Safety systems were misused for surveillance and tracking, including cases of stalking, unauthorized data searches, and inappropriate access to live camera feeds. He noted that corporate employees and outside agencies have accessed sensitive footage and license plate data in violation of state laws, with some systems lacking basic security protections. He emphasized that these abuses, along with numerous documented cases from the Institute for Justice, show that Flock has failed to safeguard its network, posing serious threats to Fourth Amendment privacy rights.

**6. PRESENTATION**

A. Presentation of 2025 Audited Financial Statements

Jason Miller, Audit Manager with CohnReznick, reported that the city received an unmodified audit opinion for 2025, confirming that its financial statements are fairly presented under U.S. GAAP. He stated that no Minnesota legal compliance issues were found, and a single audit was not required. He noted one ongoing material weakness: auditors must make significant adjustments to the city's trial balance each year, along with one prior-period adjustment affecting government-wide statements.

Mr. Miller stated that revenues continue to grow steadily, with property and sales taxes making up nearly half of governmental revenues. He noted intergovernmental revenues and service charges remain important secondary sources. He noted that expenditures are led by public safety at 43%, followed by general government and Parks & Recreation. He said the City maintains a strong unassigned general fund balance at 62% of expenditures, well above state recommendations.

Mr. Miller said compared to similar nearby cities, Spring Lake Park taxes and spends at a lower per-capita rate. Debt service remains manageable, with larger City Hall bond payments beginning in 2027. He said Capital projects for 2025 included City Hall renovations, street improvements, land purchases, and parks equipment. He noted that the Utility funds show steady revenue growth and positive net income.

Mr. Miller stated that overall, the audit found the city in solid financial condition, with healthy reserves, decreasing debt, and no compliance issues.

Motion made by Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff to accept the 2025 Audited Financial Statements.

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

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval of Minutes - City Council Meeting - September 8, 2026
B. Approval of June Claims List- General Disbursement #26-15 - $336,703.28
C. Revenue and Expenditure Report -August 2026
D. Statement of Fund Balance -August 2026
E. May2026 Second Half Suburban Rate Authority Assessment
F. Contractor's Licenses
G. Approval of Right-of-Way Application - Comcast Cable

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve Consent Agenda.

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

**8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

A. Police Report

Chief Antoine reported that the department handled 771 service calls in August 2026, down from 811 calls in August 2025. He reminded residents to use extra caution with school back in session, noting increased pedestrian and bus activity. He reported that the department participated in 13 Night to Unite events in August and encouraged residents to mark next

year's date. Chief Antoine stated that Detective Imig handled 11 felony cases, one gross misdemeanor, and three forfeiture cases for the month.

Chief Antoine gave an update on his activities. He stated that he attended several meetings and trainings, including the Hennepin Tech law enforcement graduation and Regional Police Chief meetings, and reported a successful juvenile justice compliance check. He provided updates on hiring a new officer, progress on Tyler system training, and an upcoming proposal from Alexandra House. He also reminded the public that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and encouraged engagement with Alexandra House's programs and volunteer opportunities.

**9. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS** - None

A. Resolution 2026-43, Adopting Proposed 2026 Taxes Collectable in 2027

Administrator Buchholtz explained that the proposed preliminary 2026 property tax levy for collection in 2027 is $5,270,704, setting the maximum levy amount for 2027. He noted the levy reflects the preliminary general fund budget and represents a 5.79% increase from the prior year. He stated that the amount can be reduced in December but not increased, and staff recommended approval to properly establish the levy ceiling.

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve Resolution 2026-43 , Adopting Proposed 2026 Taxes Collectable in 2027.

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

B. Resolution 2026-44 , Cancelling or Reducing Bond Levies - 2026-2027

Administrator Buchholtz explained that the resolution authorizes a $185,275.50 reduction in the 2027 property tax levy related to the 2024 City Hall renovation bond. He noted that because sufficient funds are already available, auditors can reduce the required levy amount accordingly. He noted that if the resolution is not approved, the full amount would be added to the levy.

Motion made by Mayor Nelson to approve Resolution 2026-44, Cancelling or Reducing Bond Levies - 2026-2027.

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

C. Resolution 2026-45, Authorizing Reimbursement of Project Expenditures from Bond Proceeds and Partial Transfer to Bond Proceeds to the 2024 G.O. CIP Bond Debt Service Fund

Administrator Buchholtz reported that two accounting transfers are needed as the City Hall renovation project nears completion. He explained that $267,177.69 in earlier project expenses will be reimbursed to the building maintenance fund using bond proceeds, and an additional $547,609.09 in unused project funds will be transferred to the 2024 bond debt service fund for future principal and interest payments. He noted that a small balance will remain for any final project costs and recommended approval of the resolution.

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve Resolution 2026-45, Authorizing Reimbursement of Project Expenditures from Bond Proceeds and Partial Transfer to Bond Proceeds to the 2024 G.O. CIP Bond Debt Service Fund.

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

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Resolution 2026-36, Accepting Donation from Keith Schweiger for Police Department Flock Camera Program

Motion made by Mayor Nelson to approve Resolution 2026-36, Accepting Donation from Keith Schweiger for Police Department Flock Camera Program.

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

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Authorization to Issue Request for Proposals for Professional Auditing Services

Administrator Buchholtz requested authorization to issue an RFP for professional auditing services beginning with the 2026 fiscal year. He noted the city last issued an audit RFP in 2013 and that the new proposal would establish a five-year contract with optional one-year extensions. He emphasized that the request is a routine rebid, not due to any problems with the current auditor, who is welcome to submit a proposal.

Motion made by Mayor Nelson to approve Authorization to Issue Request for Proposals for Professional Auditing Services.

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

**12. REPORTS**

A. Attorney's Report - None

B. Engineer's Report

Report accepted as presented.

C. Administrator Report

Administrator Buchholtz reported that Optimize Physical Therapy will hold an open house on Saturday after relocating to a former Rise building.

**13. OTHER**

Mayor Nelson encouraged residents to attend the upcoming Alexander House gala supporting domestic abuse and sexual violence prevention efforts.

Councilmember Wendling reminded the public that the Lions Pancake Breakfast will be held on October 25 at the high school and encouraged residents to attend and support the event.

**14. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer