

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council Regular was held on May 18, 2026 at Spring Lake Park Community Center, 1301 81st Avenue N.E., at 7:00 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor Goodboe-Bisschoff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mayor Robert Nelson

STAFF PRESENT

Police Chief Josh Antoine, Parks and Recreation Director Anne Scanlon, Attorney John Thames, Engineer Phil Gravel, Administrator Daniel Buchholtz

VISITORS

Halyn Roth	7914 Able Street NE	Spring Lake Park
Kristi Cobbs	8085 Jefferson Street NE	Spring Lake Park
Maddie Smith	11879 Alamo Street NE	Blaine
Maria Roe	11441 Hastings Street NE	Blaine
Adham Sumrain	6472 Riverview Terrace	Fridley

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA – None

5. DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR - None

6. PRESENTATION

A. Parks and Recreation High School Collaboration – Anne Scanlon

Parks and Recreation Director Scanlon reported that the department partnered with the Spring Lake Park High School business program on a winter–spring marketing project focused on increasing teen engagement in Parks and Recreation programs. She stated that

the students analyzed city demographics, social media use, and other key factors to develop recommendations that will support future outreach efforts. Director Scanlon introduced participating students Maddie and Maria, both graduating seniors, and Adham, an incoming senior.

Maddie, Maria and Adham presented their findings on declining engagement and enrollment in the Spring Lake Park Parks and Recreation programs and outlined recommendations to improve participation. They reviewed school demographics, noting that a majority of high-school students participating in community activities live outside Spring Lake Park, which affects outreach and program visibility.

The group assessed the current Parks and Recreation website and found it difficult to navigate, lacking clear branding, emotional appeal, and easy access to program information. They proposed a redesigned homepage and events-calendar mockups emphasizing stronger branding, clearer calls to action, and simplified navigation.

The students, to expand outreach developed sample social media posts for Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook, highlighting the use of hashtags, trending content, and visible program branding to increase visibility. They also recommended monthly direct-mail postcards with a QR code linking to registration, along with regular email communication such as newsletters, event reminders, and seasonal activity guides.

The students stated the key takeaways included the need to increase awareness of available programs, improve scheduling compatibility, strengthen school-based engagement, and enhance the city's overall social media presence to better reach teen and family audiences.

Director Scanlon commended the students for their effort and dedication in completing the program, noting it was the first initiative of its kind and will continue in future formats. She recognized their exceptional research, leadership, and contribution to strengthening community connections through Spring Lake Park Parks and Recreation. She highlighted the value of their insights on teen engagement and marketing strategies, thanked them for their professionalism and innovation, and concluded by presenting them with certificates of recognition.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes – City Council Work Session – May 4, 2026
- B. Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting – May 4, 2026
- C. Approval of April Claims List – General Disbursement #26-07 - \$477,228.16
- D. Revenue and Expenditure Report – April 30, 2026
- E. Statement of Fund Balance – April 2026
- F. Suburban Rate Authority – First Half Assessment
- G. Approval of Cooperative Agreement Regarding Public Safety Related to the 2026 3M Open between the City of Blaine and the City of Spring Lake Park
- H. Mayor's Proclamation – National Public Works Week – May 17-23, 2026

- I. Mayor's Proclamation – Memorial Day – May 25, 2026
- J. Contractor's License

Acting Mayor Goodboe-Bisschoff thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work.

Councilmember Wendling read the Mayor's Proclamation for Memorial Day.

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve Consent Agenda.

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

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Police Report

Police Chief Antoine presented his April 2026 report, noting that the Department responded to 733 calls for service, an increase from 699 in April 2025. He said School Resource Officer Smith, handled 30 calls at the high school and Park Terrace Elementary, along with 33 student contacts, 49 escorts, five follow-up investigations, and participation in several safety drills. He noted that Detective Imig managed 22 cases during April, including 16 felonies, and attended a three-day auto theft task force conference funded by a grant.

Chief Antoine recognized the Department's administrative staff in honor of Administrative Professionals Day on April 22, expressing appreciation for their essential work. He also summarized his own activities throughout the month, which included attending various county, law enforcement, and advisory board meetings; conducting officer interviews; teaching a mediation services course at Hennepin Tech; and participating in the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association event at the Capitol. He also attended the Minnesota ETI training conference in St. Cloud from April 13–16 and thanked the council for supporting that opportunity.

Chief Antoine reminded the public of an upcoming neighborhood watch meeting at City Hall and encouraged residents to sign up for the Everbridge Enhanced Emergency Notification System through the Police Department's webpage.

B. Parks and Recreation Report

Director Scanlon provided highlights from his report, noting recent collaborations with Spring Lake Park High School. He shared that students in the trades program constructed 14 raised community flower beds and are currently building a tabletop for additional park use. She also reported that Anoka County approved the 2026 CDBG grant funding for the Terrace Park building, totaling \$450,000 plus required compliance funding. She stated that this project will again involve partnership with the High School trades program.

Director Scanlon reviewed recent Parks and Recreation activities, noting that 32 classes were offered in April, including popular programs such as Mandala Rock, Das Dash Sports, North Metro Babysitting, and others. She stated that staff attended the Lions' pancake breakfast, where the department's booth saw significant community engagement. She reported on staff participation at the Circle Wisconsin convention and described it as a valuable, though fast-paced, professional development opportunity.

Director Scanlon stated that Earth Day was held on April 25. She noted that though attendance was low, future events will be scheduled on the actual Earth Day date to increase participation. She also noted her involvement in forming a cooperative committee with City of Mounds View to plan for the future of Lakeside Lions Park. She concluded by sharing Tower Days updates.

Director Scanlon reported that the City of Spring Lake Park is holding its first annual tree sale, offering a variety of larger shade and ornamental trees. She stated that orders are open through May 22, with pickup scheduled for June 6 at the City Hall parking lot. She highlighted the sale as an affordable opportunity for residents to replace trees lost over the years or add new trees to their yards, noting a \$50 price for the first two trees with adjusted pricing thereafter. He encouraged residents to take advantage of the program.

9. ORDINANCES AN/OR RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution 2026-22, Declaring Cost to be Assessed, Ordering Preparation of Proposed Assessment and Calling Hearing on Proposed Assessment – 2026 Street Improvement Project

Administrator Buchholtz reported that the city has identified the streets included in the 2026 Street Improvement Project: Plaza Boulevard, Theron Terrace, Center Drive, Sunset Road, and a portion of the Highway 10 frontage road near the traffic signal by Oak Crest. He said that bids for the project were opened on May 11, and the city received favorable results, with costs coming in lower than those estimated in the feasibility report.

Administrator Buchholtz said the low bid was submitted by Asphalt Service Technologies Corp. (ASTECH) at \$383,161, approximately 13 percent below the original estimate. He stated property assessments will be lower than initially projected. Administrator Buchholtz is requesting Council declare the total assessable amount to be \$432,208.47, which includes the assessable share of the base bid and engineering costs. He also asked the Council to order preparation of the final assessment roll. He said the proposed resolution includes these actions and sets the assessment hearing for June 15.

Motion made by Councilmember Wendling to approve Resolution 2026-22, Declaring Cost to be Assessed, Ordering Preparation of Proposed Assessment and Calling Hearing on Proposed Assessment – 2026 Street Improvement Project.

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

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2025 Annual Police Report

Police Chief Antoine presented the Police Department's 2025 Annual Report, noting that the document has been upgraded in format and thanking staff member Haley Morrison for her significant work on its production. Chief Antoine highlighted major accomplishments of 2025, including the department's full move into the newly renovated police facility early in the year. He acknowledged the challenges experienced during the renovation process and expressed appreciation to City staff, the Council, and the community for their support. He noted that technology upgrades and continued focus on officer retention and recruitment have strengthened department operations.

Chief Antoine reported that overall crime decreased for the fourth consecutive year, with nearly a 10 percent reduction. He attributed this to increased staffing and proactive policing. He stated that the patrol division expanded to 12 officers in 2025, and work continues toward adding a 13th officer for a captain position. He noted a new traffic safety patrol officer position was also implemented to address traffic concerns, monitor patterns, and manage speed trailers and signage. He stated that community outreach activities remained strong, including participation in Special Olympics events, Popsicles with Police, youth bicycle raffles, Hy-Vee steak dinners, and collaboration with the Fire Department on seasonal events and Night to Unite.

Chief Antoine stated that Investigator Bennett, who retired in early 2026, handled 297 cases in 2025, forwarding 83 of them for charging. The records division processed 6,000 reports and filed 937 citations. He noted that the Department's shift to administrative citations resulted in approximately half of those citations being resolved directly through the City.

Chief Antoine provided an overview of crime statistics for 2025. He said Group A crimes decreased from 387 in 2024 to 353 in 2025. He noted that Group B crimes decreased from 145 to 115. Chief Antoine stated that Officers conducted approximately 3,400 traffic stops. He stated that the Department logged 9,302 calls for service in 2025, a slight decrease from the prior year.

11. REPORTS

A. Attorney's Report – None

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

C. Administrator Report

Administrator Buchholtz announced that Senator Tina Smith has included the City's water tower rehabilitation project in her congressionally directed spending requests, noting that both Senator Smith and Senator Klobuchar coordinate to maximize project support. He said that the City requested \$1.5 million dollars for rehabilitation of both water towers, and inclusion on the Senate list is an important step toward potential congressional approval.

Administrator Buchholtz thanked staff and partners involved in the Community Development Block Grant application, including Director Scanlon from Parks and Recreation, Bruce Paulson of Stantec, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners, and the Anoka County HRA.

Administrator Buchholtz reported on outcomes from the recently concluded legislative session. He stated that a technical election bill now allows cities to opt out of the previous 46-day in-person absentee voting period and instead offer an 18-day early voting period, reducing staffing costs while maintaining voter access. He noted additional election law changes were enacted to enhance candidate safety, including a provision allowing candidates with legitimate safety concerns to keep their home address private on public filings, while still providing it to the City for eligibility verification.

12. OTHER

Acting Mayor Goodboe-Bisschoff reported that she attended the Coon Creek Watershed District meeting and noted that the City was featured in the District's annual report. She stated that the report highlighted the City's participation during Tower Days, including the work of the City street sweeper. She commended staff for the recognition.

13. 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 7:48 PM

Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff, Acting Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer