

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council Worksession was held on May 05, 2025 at the City Hall, 1301 81st Ave NE, Spring Lake Park, at 6:00 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ken Wendling
Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff
Councilmember Lisa Dircks
Councilmember April Moran
Mayor Robert Nelson

STAFF PRESENT

Public Works Director Linngren, Building Official Baker, Police Chief Antoine, Administrator Buchholtz

VISITORS PRESENT

Ken Kirchner, 7955 Van Buren St
Debra Mewhorter, 8039 Van Buren St

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Parking Ordinance Discussion

Administrator Buchholtz provided background on the proposed ordinance amendment to Section 7.08.020 of the City Code, which was prompted by resident concerns about parking near mailboxes interfering with USPS mail delivery, particularly in the 79th Avenue and Van Buren Street area. He explained that the Police Department found the existing ordinance language too vague for effective enforcement. He stated that in response to the Department's concerns, staff has proposed revisions to state that no vehicle shall be parked within 10 feet of either side of a curbside mailbox between 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM, Monday through Saturday, excluding federal holidays.

Chief Antoine and Administrator Buchholtz clarified that enforcement will primarily be complaint-based, though officers will cite violations if observed. Chief Antoine noted that violations will be issued as state citations rather than administrative tickets due to past inefficiencies and legal restrictions with administrative citation enforcement.

Councilmember Goodboe-Bisschoff inquired about communication efforts. Administrator Buchholtz stated that curbs would not be painted due to resource limitations. However, he said that outreach will include social media posts, newsletter articles, and coordination with the high school to educate students.

Councilmember Dircks inquired about the rationale behind the 6:00 PM end time, suggesting that USPS delivery in the area may occur later. Administrator Buchholtz agreed

to contact USPS to confirm local delivery hours and evaluate whether the end time should be adjusted.

Public comments were invited. Several residents expressed support for reinstating "No Parking During School Hours" signs along Van Buren Street and on 79th and 80th Avenues due to traffic, visibility, and access issues. A petition with 19 of 31 homes in favor was presented.

Councilmembers discussed the balance between neighborhood concerns and public access to streets. There was general support advancing the ordinance amendment and for studying the reinstatement of "No Parking During School Hours" signage on the specified streets.

Councilmembers also discussed reducing the snowfall parking restriction threshold from three inches to two inches to match actual plowing practices, which staff confirmed was the rationale.

CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL is to proceed with the ordinance amendment clarifying mailbox parking restrictions and updated snow removal thresholds, to study the re-establishment of "No Parking During School Hours" signage on Van Buren Street between 79th and 81st Avenues and on 79th and 80th Avenues between Able Street and Van Buren Street.

3. REPORT

A. Council and Staff Reports

Administrator Buchholtz reported on city-wide cyber-security upgrades, as required by CJIS requirements, to include stronger email encryption and filtering, multifactor authentication, and SEIM monitoring.

4. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer