OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a joint work session of the City Councils of Spring Lake Park, Blaine, and Mounds View was held on August 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Blaine Fire Station No. 3, 11920 Ulysses Street NE, Blaine, Minnesota.

These minutes reflect the Spring Lake Park City Council's record of the joint work session.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Blaine Mayor Tim Sanders welcomed the participating councils and called the joint work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Spring Lake Park City Council Members Present: Councilmembers Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff, Lisa Dircks, April Moran and Mayor Nelson. Spring Lake Park Staff Present: Administrator Daniel Buchholtz.

Also present were elected officials and staff representatives from the Cities of Blaine and Mounds View, SBM Fire Department personnel, and ICS representatives Chris Ziemer and Kristin Duerr.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. SBM Fire Department Facilities Planning

Chris Ziemer and Kristin Duerr of ICS summarized the SBM Fire Department facility condition assessment and space-needs study. Duerr stated that Fire Stations 1, 3, 4, and 6 are operational, well maintained, and structurally sound, but are aging and require continued capital investment. The assessment identified approximately $3.2 million in ten-year capital needs. She noted that the existing stations also lack adequate space for modern decontamination, sleeping and shower facilities, firefighter wellness, administration, storage, training, community use, and future staffing growth.

Ziemer reviewed the preliminary concept for an approximately 44,748-square-foot East Side Fire Station near Lexington Avenue and 125th Avenue NE in Blaine. The concept includes six apparatus bays, administrative and duty-crew spaces, modern decontamination and gear-storage areas, firefighter wellness facilities, training space, community meeting space, and capacity for future expansion. ICS estimated the project at approximately $36.18 million, with design beginning in 2027 and occupancy anticipated in late 2028.

Deurr noted that Ehlers prepared a preliminary financing scenario based on a $36.97 million, 20-year bond issue. Spring Lake Park's 8.5% share was estimated at $3.14 million. The estimated monthly tax impact was $5.96 for a $325,000 homesteaded property and $6.49 for a $350,000 homesteaded property.

Councilmembers discussed future expansion, firefighter decontamination and health needs, east-side response coverage, staffing and equipment requirements, construction-cost

escalation, and the financial effect on the member cities. Chief Retka stated that the facility is intended to meet long-term needs and that the duty-crew model has improved response times and reduced equipment requirements, but the existing stations are operating at their practical limits.

The councils expressed interest in continuing to refine the station program, project costs, financing structure, and community-engagement approach. No formal action was taken.

3. ADJOURN

Blaine Mayor Sanders thanked the participating councils, staff, consultants, and SBM Fire Department representatives and concluded the joint work session.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer