

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the special meeting of the Spring Lake Park City Council was held on February 24, 2025 at the City Hall, 1301 81st Avenue NE, at 5:30 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Ken Wendling

Councilmember Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff

Mayor Robert Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilmember Lisa Dircks

Councilmember April Moran

STAFF PRESENT

Attorney John Thames, Administrator Daniel Buchholtz

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Xcel Energy's ARR to VOS Transition – Impact on Spring Lake Park and Next Steps

Administrator Buchholtz provided an overview of Xcel Energy's request and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's order to transition the value of solar energy produced at the City's subscribed solar gardens from the Applicable Retail Rate (ARR) to the 2017 Value of Solar Rate (VOS 2017). He noted that this transition will significantly reduce the City's anticipated electricity cost savings from its participation in the solar gardens owned by United States Solar Corporation (US Solar). He stated that US Solar continues to challenge the order on appeal, arguing that it is unlawful.

Attorney Thames stated that US Solar is requesting the City to serve as a class representative in its litigation against Xcel Energy. He provided an overview of the potential benefits and drawbacks of serving in this role and noted that US Solar will cover all of the City's legal costs.

MOTION by Mayor Nelson to allow the City to serve as a class representative in support of US Solar's litigation against Xcel Energy and to authorize the Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer to execute the engagement letter with Stoel Rives LLP, the firm representing US Solar and the City in this matter.

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

3. REPORTS

Administrator Buchholtz provided a brief update on the A/V install for the City Council Chambers, Multipurpose Room and Training Room/EOC.

4. ADJOURN

Motion by Councilmember Wendling to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46pm.

Robert Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Daniel R. Buchholtz, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer