SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 09, 2026

SPRING LAKE PARK CITY HALL at 5:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
   - A. Canvass of November 3, 2026 General Election Results
     1. Review of Official Election Returns
     2. Determination of Mayoral Election Tie by Lot, if Necessary
     3. Resolution 2026-52, Canvassing the Returns and Declaring the Results of the November 3, 2026 General Election and Determining the Result of a Tie Vote for the Office of Mayor
3. **REPORT**
4. **ADJOURN**

Individuals with disabilities needing auxiliary aid(s) may request assistance by contacting the City Clerk at 1301 81st Avenue NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432. Ph.763-784-6491 at least 48 hours in advance.

One or more City Councilmembers may participate in this meeting remotely using interactive technology, in compliance with the Minnesota Open Meeting Law (M.S. §13D.02).

Memorandum

Spring Lake Park
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To: **Mayor Nelson and Members of the City Council**
From: **Daniel R. Buchholtz, ICMA-CM, Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer**
Date: **November 5, 2026**
Subject: **Canvassing of November 3, 2026 General Election Results**

The City of Spring Lake Park conducted its General Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, to elect one Mayor for a four-year term and two City Councilmembers for four-year terms.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 205.185, subdivision 3, the City Council is required to serve as the Canvassing Board to review the election returns and officially declare the results. State law requires the canvass to occur between the third and fourteenth days following the election.

The unofficial results of the November 3 election reflect a tie in the mayoral race and a narrow margin between the second- and third-place candidates for City Council. These circumstances require the Canvassing Board to carry out its statutory responsibilities, including determining the outcome of the mayoral tie.

Under Minnesota law, the City Council, acting as the Canvassing Board, is responsible for the following:

- Review Election Returns: Examine the official election returns and canvass report to verify the votes reported for each candidate and identify any discrepancies requiring correction.
- Certify Election Results: Formally canvass the returns and declare the candidates elected based on the official vote totals, as required by Minnesota Statutes § 205.185.
- Resolve Tied Elections: When two or more candidates receive an equal number of votes for an office, determine the successful candidate by lot, as required by Minnesota Statutes § 205.185, subdivision 3(c).
- Address Recounts: If an eligible candidate requests a recount, ensure that the recount is conducted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 204C.36 and certify the recount results.
- Complete Election Certification: Direct the City Clerk to certify the election results to the Anoka County Auditor and issue certificates of election when authorized by law.

The canvassing process is an administrative responsibility established by state law. The Canvassing Board is responsible for accurately determining and certifying the results of the election. It does not have discretion to disregard valid election returns or substitute its judgment for the votes cast by residents.

Mayoral Election Tie

The unofficial election results indicate that Mayor Robert Nelson and Halyn Roth each received 1,401 votes.

Minnesota Statutes § 205.185, subdivision 3(c), requires the Canvassing Board to determine the result of a tied election by lot.

If the official canvass confirms the tie, staff will conduct a random drawing of the candidates' names during the public meeting. Both candidates' names will be placed on identical slips of paper, folded uniformly, and placed in a container. One name will be drawn, and the individual selected will be declared the successful candidate, subject to any subsequent recount or election contest.

The drawing will be conducted by the Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer in the presence of the Canvassing Board. The process and outcome will be documented in the official meeting minutes.

The determination by lot is required by state law and is not a discretionary selection by the City Council.

City Council Election Results

The unofficial results for the two City Council seats are as follows:

Candidate	Votes
April Moran	1,470
Eric Julien	1,039
Kenneth Wendling	1,022
Perry Korzenowski	831

The 17-vote difference between Eric Julien and Kenneth Wendling falls within the statutory threshold for a publicly funded recount under Minnesota Statutes § 204C.36, subdivision 1.

A recount is not automatic. An eligible unsuccessful candidate must submit a written recount request to the Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer within the statutory deadline.

Recount Procedures

Minnesota Statutes § 204C.36 provides eligible unsuccessful candidates the opportunity to request a recount following the canvass.

For the November 3 General Election, written recount requests must be received by the Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2026.

If a qualifying request is received, a recount is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at the Anoka County Courthouse. The recount will be conducted in accordance with Minnesota law, with the results subsequently presented to the Canvassing Board for certification.

A recount may result in a change to the vote totals and, potentially, the outcome of an election. Accordingly, the results of the canvass and mayoral drawing remain subject to applicable recount and election-contest procedures.

Canvassing Board Meeting

The Canvassing Board will meet on Monday, November 9, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at Spring Lake Park City Hall.

The Canvassing Board will review the official election returns and determine the results of the November 3, 2026, General Election. If the official returns confirm a tie in the mayoral election, the City Clerk will conduct a drawing by lot in the presence of the Canvassing Board, as required by Minnesota Statutes §§ 204C.34 and 205.185.

Following the drawing, the Canvassing Board will consider a resolution canvassing the election returns and declaring the successful candidates for Mayor and City Council. The resolution will incorporate the official vote totals and identify the mayoral candidate selected by lot.

The canvassing process is a statutory responsibility of the City Council. The determination of a tied election by lot is required by law and is not subject to the discretionary preference of individual Councilmembers.

The meeting is open to the public, including candidates, their representatives, and members of the media.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council, acting as the Canvassing Board:

1. Review and canvass the official returns of the November 3, 2026, General Election.
2. If the mayoral election remains tied, determine the successful candidate by lot in accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 205.185, subdivision 3(c).
3. Adopt the resolution canvassing the election returns and declaring the successful candidates for Mayor and City Council.
4. Direct the City Clerk to certify the election results and complete all required statutory procedures.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 763-784-6491.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-52

RESOLUTION CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026, GENERAL ELECTION AND DETERMINING THE RESULT OF A TIE VOTE FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR

WHEREAS, the City of Spring Lake Park held its General Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, for the purpose of electing one Mayor for a four year term and two City Councilmembers for four year terms; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 205.185, subd. 3, the City Council, acting as the Canvassing Board, met on November 9, 2026, to canvass the election returns and declare the results of the election; and

WHEREAS, the Canvassing Board has examined the election returns and determined that the votes cast for the offices of Mayor and City Councilmember are accurately reflected in the official canvass report attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the official canvass established the following results for the office of Mayor:

For the Office of Mayor (Elect 1; Four Year Term Ending 1/6/2031

	P-1R	P-1A	P-2	Total
Bob Nelson	28	579	794	1,401
Halyn Roth	32	666	703	1,401
Write-In	0	5	7	12

WHEREAS, the official cavass established the following results for the office of City Councilmember:

For the Office of Councilmember (Elect 2; Four Year Term Ending 1/6/2031

	P-1R	P-1A	P-2	Total	
Eric Julien	24	423	592	1,039	*
Kenneth Wendling	23	485	514	1,022	
April Moran	34	653	783	1,470	*
Perry Korzenowski	14	336	481	831	
Write-In	0	8	25	33	

WHEREAS, the canvassed results establish a tie between Robert Nelson and Halyn Roth for the office of Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §§ 204C.34 and 205.185, subd. 3(c), require the Canvassing Board to determine the result of a tied election by lot; and

WHEREAS, the Canvassing Board conducted a public drawing by lot on November 9, 2026 resulting in the selection of _____ as the successful candidate for Mayor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Spring Lake Park, Anoka and Ramsey Counties, Minnesota, acting as the Canvassing Board, as follows:

1. The Canvassing Board hereby approves and adopts the official canvass report for the November 3, 2026 General Election, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.
2. The Canvassing Board hereby declares _____ the successful candidate for the office of Mayor, as determined by lot pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§ 204C.34 and 205.185, subd. 3(c), subject to any recount or election contest authorized by law.
3. The Canvassing Board hereby declared April Moran and Eric Julien the successful candidates for the two Councilmember seats, subject to any recount or election contest authorized by law.
4. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 204C.36, an eligible unsuccessful candidate may request a recount by submitting a written request to the Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer no later than 5:00pm on November 16, 2026. Any qualifying recount shall be conducted in accordance with Minnesota law, and the results shall be certified by the Canvassing Board.
5. The Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer is hereby directed to certify the canvassed election results to the Anoka County Auditor and complete all required election reporting.
6. The City Clerk shall issue certificates of election to the successful candidates following expiration of the applicable election-contest period, or resolution of any recount or election contest, as required by Minnesota Statutes § 205.185, subdivision 3(b).

The foregoing Resolution was moved for adoption by Councilmember.

Upon Vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

And the following voted against the same:

Whereon the Mayor declared said Resolution duly passed and adopted the 9th day of November, 2026.

APPROVED BY:

_____
Robert Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Daniel R. Buchholtz, City Administrator