

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
City Council Workshop
City Hall - Flex Meeting Area (Not Televised)
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

MINUTES
Wednesday, April 22, 2026
6:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM

B. ROLL CALL: GUSTAFSON_X_MAY_X_
 MIELKE_X_MOGEN_X_WASSENBERG_X_

STAFF PRESENT: LINEHAN_X_ JOHNSON_X_

C. POLICY ITEMS:

1. Meet & Greet with St. Anthony Police Chief Jeff Spiess and St. Anthony Police Department Officers

Linehan introduced members of the St. Anthony Police Department and provided an opportunity for the Council to ask questions and discuss department operations, challenges, and community policing efforts.

Chief Spiess shared that staffing and recruiting high-quality officers remain major challenges. SAPD has created a recruitment team, attends career fairs, and utilizes a cadet program to build a hiring pipeline. Retaining quality officers and maintaining a strong department reputation are priorities, though hiring can take one to two years.

Discussion focused on community visibility, proactive policing, and relationship building. SAPD noted residents appreciate seeing squad cars in neighborhoods, and officers proactively address speeding concerns, conduct apartment walkthroughs, and focus on higher-crime areas. The department also discussed partnerships with organizations such as Northeast Youth and Family Services to help connect residents with support services and reduce repeat calls for service.

Councilmembers discussed State Fair operations, including balancing parking enforcement with service calls. SAPD shared that parking citations can pull officers away from higher-priority calls and expressed interest in administrative citations as a potential solution. The department also discussed coordinated traffic enforcement efforts with Ramsey County and state agencies during the Fair.

The Council discussed theft trends, youth intervention programs, and efforts to connect residents with services. SAPD stated there are no significant crime trends currently standing out and emphasized a compassionate approach focused on long-term solutions.

Councilmembers also discussed automated ticketing and Flock camera technology. Chief Spiess stated that other agency's Flock cameras have been useful in solving crimes. SAPD does not currently operate its own system, and the Council agreed additional research would be needed before considering the technology further and that it was not an initiative to explore this time.

D. ADJOURNMENT: 6:58 PM


Councilmember Wassenberg motions to adjourn the meeting;
Approved 5-0

DISCLAIMER: City Council Workshops are held monthly as an opportunity for Council Members to discuss policy topics in greater detail prior to a formal meeting where a public hearing may be held and/or action may be taken. Members of the public that would like to make a comment or ask questions about an item on the agenda for an upcoming workshop should send them to mail@falconheights.org prior to the meeting. Alternatively, time is regularly allotted for public comment during Regular City Council Meetings (typically 2nd and 4th Wednesdays) during the Community Forum.

Dated this 13th day of May, 2026



Jack Linehan, City Administrator



Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor