



CITY OF HAM LAKE

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**CITY OF HAM LAKE
CITY COUNCIL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

The Ham Lake City Council met on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 5:15 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Ham Lake City Hall located at 15544 Central Avenue NE in Ham Lake, Minnesota.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Brian Kirkham and Councilmembers Jim Doyle and Al Parranto

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilmembers Mike Van Kirk and Andrew Hallberg

OTHERS PRESENT: City Attorney, Mark Berglund; City Administrator, Denise Webster; Building Official, Mark Jones; and Deputy City Clerk, Dawnette Shimek

1.0 Call to Order

Mayor Kirkham called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

2.0 Discussion of Cannabis Cultivation

Attorney Berglund stated that staff has received inquiries regarding cannabis cultivation in the city. Attorney Berglund stated that the MPCA (Metropolitan Pollution Control Agency) has regulations on septic systems because cultivation uses a lot of water, pesticides and fertilizers that are harmful to a septic system. Building Official Jones added that most septic systems are a type 1; septic systems for cultivation would require more advanced septic systems such as a type 4 or 5. The Council also discussed concerns regarding odors emitted from cannabis cultivation. Attorney Berglund stated that the MPCA is working on air emissions for cannabis cultivation. The City Council discussed amending the City Code to include retail cannabis sales to not be allowed to operate within 500 feet of a religious establishment.

It was the consensus of the City Council to continue discussions on whether cannabis cultivation should be allowed following further review by the MPCA and amend the City Code to include retail cannabis sales be restricted within 500 feet of a religious establishment.

Motion by Kirkham, seconded by Parranto, to adjourn the workshop meeting at 5:48 p.m. All present in favor, motion carried.

Dawnette Shimek, Deputy City Clerk