

## **Effingham Park Board Meeting**

July 2, 2025

6:30 pm

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The regular meeting of the Effingham Park Board was held on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Ron Diehl Center at 1906 South Fourth Street.

### **Present:**

Russ Sehy, President

Jeff Althoff, Director

Kevin Palmer, Vice-President

Anita Broom, Treasurer

Matt Dasenbrock, Commissioner

Carole McDevitt, Recording Secretary

Jeff Ungrund, Commissioner

**Absent:** Manny Wei, Commissioner

### **Secretary's Report**

**A motion to accept the secretary's report was made by Palmer; second Ungrund; All Ayes.**

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer, Anita Broom, reviewed fund balances as of APRIL 30, 2025, the end of the fiscal year. Corporate fund net income year to date was a negative \$386,846.18 compared with a positive \$97,986.88 at this time last year. The negative balance was due to payments totaling \$424,122.01 made to Rink Management for Workman Sports Complex operations.

Recreation fund year to date net income was \$161,500.49 compared with \$68,913.05 at the end of April last year. Revenue from program fees, sponsorship fees, and concessions was considerably higher this year.

Pool net income for the 12 months ending April 30, 2025, was a negative \$45,223.57 compared with a loss of \$69,454.74 last year.

April 30th balance in the Workman Sports Complex Account is \$124,930.55. Lease payments received each month from the hospital are deposited in this account and used to fund maintenance on the Workman Sports Complex building which is owned by the park district.

Broom reviewed fund income statements for the month of MAY 2025. Corporate fund revenue was \$29,507.53 of which \$29,421.86 was for program fees. Total expenses were \$53,012.19.

Recreation fund revenue was \$57,536.13. Net income was \$13,716.50. Pool fund net income for May was a negative 13,108.63 mostly due to the purchase of pool chemicals for \$11,755.22

The following bills for MAY greater than \$100.00 were reviewed for payment.

Doehring, Winders & Co. LLP	\$1,200.00	Designs Unlimited	\$3,700.00
Rural King	1,158.14	Verizon Wireless	216.81
South Central FS, Inc.	1,532.41	Entec	398.45
Rock's Advanced Auto Care LLC	1,538.79	Sandberg Phoenix	409.50
WEX Bank	1,562.65	Stillwater Mulch	410.00
Walmart	1,661.12	Sutter Disposal	450.00
Burford Electric, Inc.	2,990.00	Wolke Nursery	486.00
Chase Credit Card	3,000.00	Lake Land College	143.24
Spear Corporation	3,160.85	Designs Unlimited	3,734.76
Designs Unlimited	3550.14	K&W Golf Carts	4,000.00
Great America Financial Services	120.25	Entec	7,190.00
Great America Financial Services	145.12	Chase Credit Card	9,013.17
Tucker Accounting Service, Inc.	183.00	Designs Unlimited	531.74
Richardson Bros. Greenhouses, Inc.	599.37	Designs Unlimited	620.71
Heartland CocaCola Bottling Co.	689.48	Menards	681.91
V Three Studios LLC	765.00	Spear Corporation	865.22

Broom presented the following bills for JUNE greater than \$100.00 for review and payment

Spear Corporation	\$10,890.00	RentX	\$104.00
F & C Concrete	18,800.00	Lake Land College	116.35
Entec	13,225.00	Barlow Lock & Security, Inc.	130.00
Midwest Tractor Sales	10,619.00	Bahrns Equipment, Inc.	176.74
Courts & Cracks	17,150.00	Stillwater Mulch	202.50
Holabird & Root	16,000.00	Kim's Ice Cream, LLC	216.00
Jamie Summers	1,508.00	The Bean Stalk Boutique	395.00
Lorenz Supply Co.	1,104.84	The Bean Stalk Boutique	168.00
Megan Tylka	3,650.00	RentX	230.00
Bahrns Equipment	3,500.00	JD Enterprise	260.00
Entec	1,260.00	Designs Unlimited	380.00
Designs Unlimited	1,518.33	Stillwater Mulch	410.00
Conserv FS	1,757.00	John Deere Financial	437.99
V Three Studios LLC	1,795.00	Sutter Disposal	450.00
South Central FS, Inc.	2,641.64	Menards	504.06
Designs Unlimited	3,181.74	JEDCO Sales, Inc.	598.74
Hark's Home Maintenance LLC	3,427.86	Effingham Asphalt Co.	722.00
Designs Unlimited	5,161.40	JEDCO Sales, Inc.	726.85
Thoele Plumbing Inc.	5,496.00	WEX Bank	803.61
Conserv FS	9,294.35	Sandberg Phoenix	829.50
Effingham Sewer Service, Inc.	140.00	Zions Bank – ILL. Corporate	500.00
Great America Financial Services	249.81	Tucker Accounting Serv. Inc.	210.00
Heartland Coca Cola Bottling Co.	481.45	Vandalia Electric Motor SRV.	544.22

Regarding the payment of \$16,000.00 to Holabird and Root, it is for the feasibility study of the three options related to the current Kluthe pool. Palmer suggested they focus on a splash pad on the same site as the current pool. It could cost \$2 million to refurbish the pool. Other board members agreed.

**A motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills was made by Dasenbrock; second Sehy; Four Ayes/No Nays.**

### **Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

### **Passage of Budget/Appropriation Ordinance #322**

**A motion to adopt Ordinance #322, the 2025-2026 Budget/Appropriation Ordinance of the Effingham Park District, Effingham County, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, was made by Sehy; second Palmer; Four Ayes/No Nays.**

The amount budgeted is \$4,686,238.47. The total appropriation is \$9,101,076.58.

### **Capital Improvement Projects**

#### **Skate Park**

Althoff said renovation of the middle section of the park is complete. Work is ready to begin on installing concrete ramps on the edges of the park to replace the metal ramps which are not as stable and safe. All of these upgrades should make the park in good shape for 30 years. The project is being put out for bid now. Skaters are looking forward to the big Ham City Jam skate tournament to be held on Saturday, July 19, the day after the Effingham Jam Barbecue in downtown Effingham on Friday night.

To alleviate the parking congestion between the skate park and the pickleball courts, it was suggested that an asphalt road could be constructed through the area and back to the ball diamonds.

### **Director's Report**

#### **Retention Pond**

Althoff distributed renderings of a retention pond the city plans to install just northeast of the Workman Sports Complex and the Harmony Playground. Trees and rock will be added around it along with a paved path for walking and fishing. The pond will tie in to a proposed additional parking lot. Althoff said he found out from IPARKS that posting "No Swimming" signs will cover liability. He is excited about the prospect of adding this attraction to Evergreen Hollow Park.

Althoff noted that construction of the road from Maple Street to North Fourth Street near the entrance to Santa Fe and Santa Maria Ave. is well underway.

Ungrund suggested that getting access to Maple Street from the road leading to the pavilion and baseball diamond could help alleviate traffic congestion during soccer and ball games.

## **Storage Shed**

Althoff said the city would like to build a storage shed for Christmas Lights set back to the edge of the woods to the right of the basketball courts near the small fry diamond at Community Park. The current storage area is a long way from where the lights are installed. This location would be a lot more convenient. The building would be 100'x 50 'x 32' high. Althoff said the only problem is that this would be the tallest building in the park. There would, however, still be room for eight pickleball courts in this area.

Jeremy Heuerman, Director of Public Works, in discussion with Althoff, said the Christmas Light display has become a big attraction with more features, many of them large, being added each year. A larger and more conveniently located storage area is now needed. He said that on some nights as many as 3000 people have been through the display. The city council is asking for the park district's permission to construct the storage shed. Park board members would like to see public restrooms added to the building. Althoff said Jeremy told him that public restrooms would be included.

It was the consensus of board members to give approval for the city to build the storage shed at the described location with the stipulation that restrooms would be included. Althoff said the park district's relationship with the city is good.

## **Update on Facilities and Programs**

### **Adventure Camp**

Althoff said Adventure Camp is going strong in partnership with Unit 40. Campers go to the Kluthe Pool from 9:30 – 11:30 in the mornings and then go inside the Ron Diehl Center.

### **Leagues**

There are two more weeks left in league play. Small fry leagues will continue until the end of July. Althoff noted that the diamonds at Hendelmeyer Park are used a lot. He said the number of travel teams have increased a lot in the last few years resulting in fewer players for park district leagues. Ungrund suggested there might be more park district teams if each team includes only one age, like a six year old team and a seven year old team. Abilities would be more even. Althoff said he thinks this would work better with boys than girls.

## **Workman Sports Complex**

Althoff distributed copies of a detailed report from Trophy Fitness. He said he is very happy with the direction the complex is going under Trophy Fitness's leadership. As of May the park district is no longer having to pay the monthly management fee of \$8,000.00 to Trophy Fitness. When revenue becomes greater than expenses the park district will receive a percent of the profit.

Current memberships are 1873, total members 3513, and revenue for June \$90,363.20. Revenue for the first six months of 2025 is \$66,482.05 higher than the first six months of 2024. Board members would like to receive reports of expenses.

**What's next:** WBL Registration is open  
Volleyball Clinic July 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>

### Commissioners' Comments

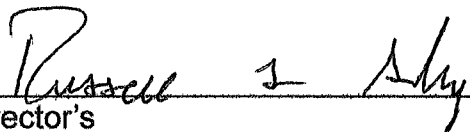
Dasenbrock referred to the second pickleball tournament to be held in August at Hendlemeyer Park. He suggested that some of the money received from the tournaments could be used to help fund projects such as replacement of the gazebo with a pavilion, improved restrooms, a watering station, etc.


Palmer suggested that park board meetings be changed to a date and time more convenient for all board members.

**After discussion a motion to change park board meeting dates to the first Monday of each month at 5:30 pm, was made by Palmer; second Dasenbrock, All Ayes.**

Palmer said he would like for Attorney Phil Lading to come to a board meeting to discuss laws for park districts and insurance coverage for park board commissioners. Broom said she would include a folder from IPARKS about coverage.

**A motion for adjournment at 8:15 pm was made by Palmer; second Dasenbrock; All Ayes.**

  
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Director's Date 8-4-25

  
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President Date 8-4-25