

Effingham Park Board Meeting

August 4, 2025

5:30 pm

The regular meeting of the Effingham Park Board was held on Monday, August 4, 2025, at 5:30 pm at the Ron Diehl Center at 1906 South Fourth Street.

Present:

Russ Sehy, President

Kevin Palmer, Vice-President

Matt Dasenbrock, Commissioner

Jeff Ungrund, Commissioner

Manny Wei, Commissioner

Jeff Althoff, Director

Carole McDevitt, Recording Secretary

Absent: Anita Broom, Treasurer

Secretary's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of treasurer, Anita Broom, Althoff presented the following bills for the month of July greater than \$100.00 for payment.

Stillwater Mulch	\$1,105.00	Interstate Batteries	\$109.98
Walmart	1,359.01	Kirby Risk Corporation	118.86
Menards	1,615.84	Effingham Equity	121.76
Thoele Plumbing Inc.	2,045.00	Effingham Sewer Service, Inc.	140.00
Entec	3,050.00	Barlow Lock & Security, Inc.	200.00
Chase Credit Card	8,496.96	ULINE	236.25
Effingham Striping Service	2,890.00	Rural King	244.15
Effingham Striping Service	2,970.00	Bushue Background Screening	276.00
Effingham Striping Service	655.00	Great America Financial Serv.	306.33
Effingham Striping Service	450.00	Midwest Tractor Sales	438.40
Wild Foam Adventures	669.00	Sutter Disposal	450.00
Hark's Home Maintenance LLC	2,110.63	Delta Dental of Illinois	651.32
The Arena	1,620.00	Burford Electric, Inc.	748.86
Rock's Advanced Ato Care LLC	442.50	Tropical Snow	576.00
Tucker Accounting Service, Inc.	528.50	Trophies Unlimited	765.96
Verizon Wireless	818.24	Dittamore Implement	872.12
Effingham Asphalt Company	824.25	South Central FS, Inc.	920.54
WEX Bank	955.72		

He noted that the four bills to Effingham Striping were for restriping the parking lines in all of the parks. The majority of the payment to Chase Credit Card was for supplies and concessions for the Adventure Camp which will conclude at the end of this week. Attendance at the camp was 120-150 participants each week. Charge for each child from Unit 40 was \$100.00. Hillary Kopplin will present a full report at the next board meeting. The \$1,620.00 payment to the Arena was for a day trip to the trampoline park for Adventure Camp attendees.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report and pay the bills was made by Dasenbrock, second Ungrund, All Ayes.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Review Closed Session Minutes

Boad members reviewed a list of closed session minutes dating back to March 7, 1974. Since almost all closed session minutes are related to personnel or purchase of property Althoff recommended that they remain closed.

A motion to keep all executive session minutes closed was made by Sehy; second Wei; All Ayes.

Director's Report

Althoff noted that baseball and softball season has ended.

Fall Programs

Soccer season begins next week with the following good numbers.

Little Kickers	4yr – K	97
Midfielders	1 st - 2 nd	83
Striker	3 rd - 4 th	54
Challenger	5 th - 6 th	31

Flag Football

B League	2 nd - 4 th	127 (high number)
A League	4 th - 6 th	46 (little low)

Althoff suggested letting 4th graders choose which league they want to join.

Volleyball – will be held at the Ron Diehl Center starting in September.

Setters	3 rd - 4 th	36
Hitters	5 th - 6 th	21

Registration is still open. Leagues will begin with instruction.

Working on After School Program

Althoff said he has been notified that due to funding restrictions Unit 40 would like their after school program to be held this year at Hendelmeyer Park as part of the park district program. The school would bus students to the park from which they would be picked up by parents or designated persons. At least 20 Unit 40 students would need to sign up for this program.

Facility Update

Skate Park – The project has been put out for bids which are due August 18. Althoff hopes the bids to install concrete ramps on the edges of the park will be under \$100,000.00. So far \$4,000.00 has been raised to complete this project.

Community Park Tennis Courts – Plans are being put together to bid out work to resurface the tennis courts at Community Park which are in need of major repair. Cost could be close to \$200,000.00.

Workman Sports Complex – Currently work is being done to regrade the field around the north side of the Complex to create enough slope to help the area drain better. The area could be used for soccer fields.

Althoff listed the following projects that need to be done in the near future.

1. Replace lights on the first ball diamond at Hendelmeyer Park.
2. Replace fencing at some of the 11 ball diamonds
3. Asphalt the parking lot at Hendelmeyer Park
4. Replace or renovate the Kluthe Swimming Pool
5. Add more pickleball courts. This sport has become increasingly popular and will soon become a high school sport. More courts will be needed.

Board members suggested putting together some ideas for improvement projects, and prioritize five main projects that could be undertaken in the next five years.

It was noted that a high priority decision that needs to be made now regards the Kluthe Pool. Althoff said he will ask Greg Grunloh, Associate Principal of Holabird & Root, to come to the next board meeting to discuss the three options they have explored for the pool. Board members have asked that concentration be placed on creating a splash pad on the site of the current pool. Dasenbrock said there are people who really appreciate the pool, which is a service to the community, but the pool is now losing too much money and needing too many costly repairs. There are a lot of electrical issues in the pump house. Althoff isn't sure the pool could open next year in its present state.

Board members would like to be able to use the current bath house as part of a renovation which would save a lot of money.

To help finance park projects Althoff referred to the \$750,000.00 in general obligation park bonds being received each year. About \$440,000.00 this year is used to cover debt certificates related to the Workman Sports Complex. This is year 10 of a 15 year pay off schedule for the Complex. The original loan was \$6 million. The remainder is used each year to pay for facility improvements and projects. Althoff said, "We stretch our dollars and we get a lot of compliments".

Commissioners' Comments

Dasenbrock said the Ham City Jam skate tournament held July 19 at Hendelmeyer Park was a big success.

Palmer reiterated the importance for board members to begin investigating 5 or 6 projects and their costs that they would like to see added to the park district. He said information about these projects could be relayed to the public to give local entities a chance to consider subsidizing a project they like.

Palmer asked board members to bring a suggestion for a project to the next board meeting.

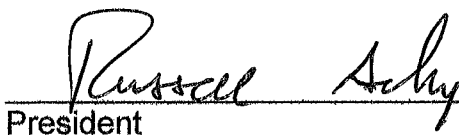
A motion for adjournment at 6:15 pm was made by Palmer; second Ungrund; All Ayes.



Director's

Date

9-8-25



President

Date

9-8-25