

Effingham Park Board Meeting

March 2, 2026

5:30 pm

The regular meeting of the Effingham Park Board was held on Monday, March 2, 2026, at 5:30 pm at the Ron Diehl Center at 1096 South Fourth Street.

Present:

Russ Sehy, President

Kevin Palmer, Vice-President

Mattt Dasenbrock, Commissioner

Manny Wei, Commissioner

Jeff Ungrund, Commissioner

Jeff Althoff, Director

Carole McDevitt, Recording Secretary

Absent: Serena Buzzard, Treasurer

Greg Sapp, Effingham Daily News

Secretary's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

Althoff said he and treasurer Serena Buzzard, along with Sara Mette and Hillary Kopplin, have been working to get the district's financial records up to date. He said it has been helpful to change to the accounting software Quick Books which is more affordable and user friendly than Sage. Direct deposit of payroll for employees is being set up instead of using an outside agency.

Althoff presented the following bills greater than \$250.00 for the month of February, 2026, for review and payment.

Always Hard Concrete	\$23,000.70	Spear Corporation	\$4,541.80
Spear Corporation	4,022.48	IMRF Expenses	3,610.41
Heuerman Bros. Trucking LLC	2,571.25	South Central FS, Inc.	1,696.96
Chase Cardmember Services	1,814.63	Sandberg Phoenix	1,638.00
Thoele Plumbing Inc.	1,161.00	Ameren Illinois	1,547.48
Capital One Trade Credit	935.92	Ameren Illinois	753.83
Northside Ford Lincoln	718.60	WEX Bank	722.36
John Deere Financial	673.90	Delta Dental of Illinois	667.65
IGS Energy	582.96	RecDesk, LLC	473.00
Effingham Builders Supply	581.27	Sherwin Williams Co.	434.30
Rock's Advanced Auto Care LLC	416.03	Ameren Illinois	422.16
Tucker Accounting Service, Inc.	411.00	Ameren Illinois	383.79
City of Effingham Water Dept.	301.28	Ameren Illinois	296.07
Ameren Illinois	286.42	Verizon Wireless	273.45
Ameren Illinois	344.02		

The payment of \$23,000.70 to Always Hard Concrete was the 2nd payment for Phase 2 of the Skate Park, leaving a final balance due of \$15,333.50. The two payments to Spear Corporation were for repairs at the Workman Sports Complex pool.

A motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills was made by Ungrund; second Palmer; All Ayes.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Board Meeting Dates

Board members discussed scheduling meeting dates later in each month so that financial reports from the previous month will be available.

A motion to reschedule park board meeting dates for the second Monday of each month at 5:30 pm beginning April 13, 2026, was made by Sehy; second Ungrund. Five Ayes/No Nays.

Director's Report

Spring and Summer Program Enrollment

Registration for Spring Soccer is closed. All three leagues are full with significantly more players than last year.

Registration for baseball and softball leagues is open for two more weeks. Numbers are lower at this time than last year but are expected to increase before the deadline. Start date is March 21.

A new league for youth pickleball and Jr. High pickleball is being offered to see if there is interest in this league. Projected start dates are March 31 and April 2.

There is again great interest in T-Ball. So far 126 have registered. Last year the final total was 163. Start date is May 30.

Althoff said he is worried about registration for Baseball Prep League for 12 – 13 year old players. So many of that age are playing on travel teams which schedule a lot of games.

Jr. Babe Ruth League will not be held this year because most of these players are on travel teams.

Althoff said the Softball Senior League will probably not be held this year because of increasingly low interest.

Registration is open for Adventure Camp which begins May 26th and ends August 3rd. The park district is in negotiation with Unit 40 to coordinate their programs.

Althoff said Jim Raddatz and his maintenance staff have been working hard to clean up all areas of the parks to be ready for spring activities. The two baseball diamonds will be open as soon as possible for the high school teams to begin practice. Other diamonds will be open in April.

Skate Park - Phase 2

Althoff said employees of Always Hard Concrete have been working very hard every day and even after dark to get the new concrete ramps installed and ready for play. The weather has not cooperated. It is hoped they can finish by next Wednesday. Many skateboarders are anxiously waiting.

Dasenbrock asked about progress toward the next planned projects. Althoff said bids have not yet been put out for asphaltting the Hendelmeyer parking lot. He said Greg Grunloh of Holabird and Root is working on an aerial layout of the Kluthe Pool area to help with a decision regarding the three previously discussed options.

Commissioners' Comments

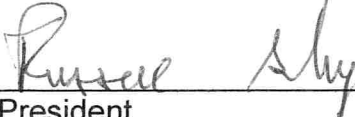
Wei said the Special Needs Group has been enjoying pickleball at the Ron Diehl Center indoor courts on Thursdays at 6:15 pm.

Palmer would like to get a meeting set up with city commissioner and park board representatives to discuss ways to benefit each other.

A motion for adjournment at 5:05 pm was made by Ungrund; second Dasenbrock; All ayes.


Director

Date 4-13-26


President

Date 4/13/26