

**Village of Hennepin
Regular Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees
Hennepin Village Hall
627 E. High St., Hennepin, IL 61327
February 18th, 2026**

The Village Board of the Village of Hennepin met in Regular Session.

February 18th, 2026

President Buffington called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Quentin Buffington - President, Diana Brandstatter – Clerk, Jessica Leighton - Treasurer

Roll Call: **Present - Trustees:** Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr

Also

Present: Village Engineer – Bill Shafer, Ken Giordano
Street Supervisor – Scott Mennie
Republic Services Representative – John DeBernardi

MOTION: **Amanda** **Second: Cyr**
To Approve the January minutes with a revision pointed out by Trustee Scaggs
Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: **Niewinski** **Second: Scaggs**
To Approve the January financial report and warrants paid.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: **Scaggs** **Second: Boggio**
To Approve Bills to be Paid.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: **Scaggs** **Second: Niewinski**
To Approve a donation request to Putnam County Community Center for \$200.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-Boggio, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried.

There was no public comment.

Village Engineer, Ken Giordano, reported to the Board that the bids for the sidewalk project had come in favorably, approximately \$30,000 below the estimate. Discussion has begun with NCICG to expand the project, ideally without the need for rebidding. The thought was to bring the sidewalk from the new parking lot, north to across from the end of the new sidewalk on Third St. NCICG is working on getting permission from the state to expand the work for the grant. **Giordano** stated that he has provided NCICG everything they need to request the change. If the state does not grant permission, the Village must put the extra work out for bid, which would probably result in higher costs for concrete and potentially not have the funding completely pay for the project. **Giordano** is hoping to have the answer and more information by the March Board meeting.

MOTION: **Cyr** **Second: Liles**
To Approve accepting the bid from Ladzinski Cement for the Parking Lot project for \$24,512.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

Giordano explained the process for estimating the MFT resolution amount, noting that allotments anticipated to be received by the end of the year can be included in the projected available funds. A conservative figure of \$90,000 was arrived at for the resolution.

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Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Officer, Larry Brown, presented his 2025 Building Permit report, noting that not many permits were issued. He stated that the value was greater than 2024 due to the 2 new homes being built. It was also noted that the report does not include the fiber installation, just structures.

President Buffington discussed the Illinois River City & Towns Initiative Membership, stating that he and **Trustee Boggio** had sat through a slide show concerning the organization. **Buffington** stated that it is a mayor led organization, for communities along the Illinois river, to create an independent and influential voice for the Illinois River Region at the state and national level. The Ottawa mayor, a founding member, asked **Buffington** if Hennepin would be interested in joining. **Boggio** said he doesn't think Hennepin will ever see any direct benefit from the organization. **Buffington's** opinion is to try it for a year and see what develops. The membership fee is \$500 a year. The Board discussed the matter at length, followed by a motion to proceed.

MOTION: Scaggs Second: Niewinski
To Approve joining the Illinois River City & Towns Initiative for a year at a cost of \$500.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

President Buffington brought up for discussion putting the Village's John Deere 997 Lawn Mower out for bid. After much discussion it was decided to proceed with the sale.

MOTION: Cyr Second: Scaggs
To Approved putting the John Deere 997 Lawn Mower out for bid, with a reserve discussed.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

President Buffington began discussion on purchasing a golf cart/maintenance cart for the Street Department. It was decided to go with the 2020 Club Car from McNabb Motorsports.

MOTION: Scaggs Second: Cyr
To Approve an expenditure of \$6300 for a 2020 Club Car with utility box for the Street Department from McNabb Motorsports.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

President Buffington discussed a website service proposal from Michael Sabatini, of 1 on 1 Media Solutions. The current webmaster, Sarah Wright, will be giving up the position. As shown on an email from Sabatini, he is proposing a monthly fee of \$200, with the first two months at \$350 each for updates.

MOTION: Scaggs Second: Niewinski
To Approve Michael Sabatini, of 1 on 1 Media Solutions, proposal of \$200 per month for website maintenance services, with first two months costing \$350 each.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

President Buffington continued a discussion from January's meeting, concerning a texting service for the Village called TextMyGov. After much discussion, the Board decided to proceed with the 3yr plan.

MOTION: Cyr Second: Liles
To Approve a 3-year plan, at \$2000 per year, with TextMyGov, a texting plan for residents.
Roll call vote: Ayes-Niewinski, Boggio, Goetz, Liles, Scaggs, Cyr
Nays-none, Absent-none, Abstain-none
Motion carried unanimously.

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President Buffington informed the Board that some of the baseball lights have water intrusion, as they were incorrectly installed. Seven surge protectors and drivers have already been purchased to rectify the lighting problems, but another 13 at \$200 each are needed, plus other hardware. **Buffington** stated that he would like to get a range approved for the expense. He also noted that Marquis would donate the 100-foot lift to do the job.

President Buffington also mentioned that the HBA is doing a 4th of July decorating contest, including business and residential categories.

President Buffington asked **Trustee Cyr** to compose an ad for a Street Maintenance worker for publication. In addition, he asked **Trustees Niewinski** and **Scaggs** to be on the hiring committee when it is time for interviews.


Diana Brandstatter, Village Clerk