MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Mark E. Biberdorf, Town Manager

COPY TO: Heather Taylor, Assistant Town Manager
Greg Walker, Parks & Recreation Director

DATE: February 29, 2024

SUBJECT: Discussion of Additional Tennis Facilities in Fletcher

I had previously shared that a local benefactor had reached out to some of Council regarding about the possibility of adding additional tennis courts in Fletcher. Buster Brown who is a former tennis pro and was involved in starting the Asheville Racquet Club has expressed interest in contributing toward the construction of additional tennis facilities. In particular, he was looking at expanding our court facilities at Bill Moore Community Park (BMCP).

A meeting was recently set up with Buster Brown, the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and myself to discuss the possibilities for additional tennis courts at BMCP. Among the issues that were discussed were the following:

- Looking at adding a minimum of four additional courts to be built adjacent to the current courts at BMCP.
- The current stormwater treatment permit allows for an additional 10,578 SF of impervious surface to be built.
- Building four additional tennis courts or a quad would require approximately 24,600 SF of impervious surface.
- If these facilities were added, there would likely need to be improvements made for auxiliary parking at the back of the park to accommodate peak periods of use.
- The approximate cost to build a quad tennis facility is $300,000, not including permitting or additional costs associated with expanding the stormwater permit.
- Mr. Brown has indicated that he would be willing to contribute $25,000 - $50,000 toward the cost of the project.
- Programming would be coordinated by our Parks & Recreation Department and local schools would be encouraged to use the facilities help promote the sport.
- Alternative locations for this facility were also discussed including the former Southern Tee property and the area south of Town Hall.

If Council is interested in further discussions for this potential facility, then this would need to be a part of the upcoming budget discussions.

I will be prepared to discuss this in greater depth at the Agenda Review meeting. If Council should have any questions in advance of the meeting, please let me know.

MEB/meb