MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Mark E. Biberdorf, Town Manager MEB

COPY TO: Heather Taylor, Assistant Town Manager
Jabbo Pressley, Public Works Director
Josh Queen, Parks & Recreation Director

DATE: February 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Update on Tropical Storm Helene Recovery Efforts

I wanted to provide a brief update on storm recovery efforts in Fletcher. In terms of damage to Town facilities, Bill Moore Community Park remains the primary focus as this is where most damage occurred to Town property. Staff has been working with FEMA to properly set up all eligible project components for reimbursement at this site. FEMA has also started their inspection process to view the damaged facilities in the field to ensure proper documentation on their end.

Status of Repair Work at the Park

The Town recently bid out a large portion of the repair work at the park. This included repairs to the baseball ballfields, multi-use courts, and the dog park. Patton Construction was selected as the lowest responsible bidder at a special called meeting that was held on February 21. Their bid came in at $323,500. We are presently working on getting a contract executed with them and a timeline put together for the start of work.

Town staff is also working with our engineering firm to develop cost estimates and bid specification documents for the remaining repair projects. This would include repairs to the bridge, the streambank near two areas of the greenway trail, and the electrical panels located at various locations in the park. We are planning to have this bid out later this spring.

Assistance with Debris Removal

Henderson County is continuing to provide debris removal services on a county-wide basis. This service is also available to Town of Fletcher businesses and residents. The County however is dealing with an enormous of amount of debris that is estimated at 1.5 million cubic yards. They are approximately 30% complete in the collection and removal process. This understandably will still take well over a year to complete.

In an effort to be responsive to citizen requests for debris removal, the Town resumed brush collection services earlier this month. Public Works is currently depositing brush piles next to their facility and the County's contractor is hauling it away. This process has worked well. To date, Public Works has collected 271 brush piles or approximately

2,200 cubic yards of vegetative debris. Stumps and large logs have not been collected as we do not have the equipment to handle this. However, the vast majority of storm related vegetative debris has been collected in Town. Public Works is expecting to complete this work by of the end of the first week of March.

FEMA Reimbursement

The Town has received its first reimbursement in the amount of $36,057 for completed work at the park. This project included the trail repair (inside the park) and the mulch for the playground. Other reimbursements will follow as we complete and submit this to FEMA.

If Council should have questions on this report prior to the Agenda Review meeting, please let me know.

MEB/meb