STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: February 24, 2026

Subject: Aston Park Tennis Center Rate Increases

Staff Resource(s): Chris Corl, Director of Community Regional Entertainment Facilities
Laura Loftis, Tennis Center Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Fees and Charges Manual to increase fees at Aston Park Tennis Center, and approval of an associated budget amendment of $12,100 account for additional anticipated revenue.

Background:

- Aston Park Tennis Center is a General Fund division of the Community & Regional Entertainment Facilities department.
- Rates have remained unchanged at the tennis center since 2018.
- Inflation in operating expenses and labor costs have led to the need to increase rates for the upcoming tennis season.
- Staff benchmarked pass rates with five other clay court sites in the southeast; two in Charleston, SC, two in North Carolina and one in Atlanta, GA. Proposed rate adjustments are in line with benchmark tennis centers.
- Staff has communicated with the Asheville Tennis Association the intent to raise fees and has been met with support.
- Approximately 65% of participants in the annual Asheville Open Tennis Championships are visitors from outside of the Asheville area; Asheville Open entry fees are in line with other similar sized tournaments throughout North Carolina.
- The following fees are proposed for increase;
    - Annual Passes ($50 increase) *No fee increase for passholders 22 and under.
    - Ball Machine rental fees ($5 increase)
    - Asheville Open Tennis Championships entry fees ($5 increase)
- Annual pass sales occur in March and April each year, adjusting the 2026 fee and charges manual will allow changes in fees to take effect in the upcoming tennis season.
- On average annual pass fees are increasing by 13%
- Staff anticipates $12,100 in additional revenue generated by these increases.
- Additional revenue will be utilized to support the ‘on court’ experience; increasing available clay and other maintenance materials needed throughout the playing season.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- NA

Council Goal(s):

- A Thriving Local Economy
- A Clean and Healthy Environment
- Fiscally Resilient City

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Helps ensure general fund support of the facility remains consistent with previous budget years.

Con(s):
- Increases in annual pass fees may result in some pass holders electing not to renew their pass.

Fiscal Impact:
- This increase will result in approximately $12,100 in additional revenue to the General Fund annually, beginning in FY 2025-26.

Suggested Motion:
- Motion to adopt an ordinance amending the FY 2025-26 Fees and Charges Manual to increase fees at Aston Park Tennis Center, and approval of an associated budget amendment of $12,100 account for additional anticipated revenue.

Attachment(s)
- Ordinance
- Budget Amendment

ORDINANCE NO. _____

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 FEES AND CHARGES MANUAL

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Fees and Charges Manual, Aston Park Tennis Center section is hereby amended to increase the following charges to the fee schedule:

Description of Revenue

Fees related to operations of Aston Park Tennis Center.

Fee Schedule

Asheville Open TennisChampionships Entry Fee	Adult	Junior
Entry Fee, 1st Entry (Adult	$70	$50
Entry Fee, Each Additional Entry (Adult)	$50	$15
	Non-Annual Passholder	Annual Passholder
Ball Machine Rental Fee	$20	$15
	City Resident	Non-City Resident
Tennis Center Annual Passholder Fees		
Child (Age 0-17)	Free	Free
Youth (Age 18-22)	$199	$299
Adult (Age 23-64)	$449	$549
Senior (Age 65+)	$349	$449
Family	$649	$849
Senior Family	$549	$649

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effective upon February 24, 2026.

Read, approved and adopted this 24th day of February, 2026.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

That Section 1 of the City of Asheville Annual Operating Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $12,100 in the General Fund for the fees related to operations of Aston Park Tennis Center. Funds are anticipated to be covered with additional collected revenue:

GENERAL FUND

Revenues:

Aston Tennis Center Fees	$12,100

Appropriations:

General Fund Operations	$12,100

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this 24th day of February, 2026.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney