



City of  
**Blue Earth**

**CITY OF BLUE EARTH  
AGENDA  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022, AT 4:15 P.M.**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Old Business
  - a. Tennis Courts
4. New Business
5. Adjourn

**By Order of the Blue Earth City Council**

**City Administrator Mary Kennedy**

Post at City Hall Friday, April 15, 2022, through Monday, April 18, 2022

Distribute to Mayor & Councilmember, Media & File

TO: City Council  
FROM: Mary Kennedy, City Administrator  
SUBJECT: Tennis Courts  
DATE: 18 April 2022

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### **Tennis Court Subcommittee Recommendation:**

#### Committee Members

City: Wendy Cole, Russ Erichsrud, Ann Hanna  
Staff: Jamie Holland, Wes Brown, Mary Kennedy  
School: Lindsey Mensing, Kyle Zierke, Sara Hauskins  
Staff: Al Gieser, Rob Norman, Mandy Fletcher

**Component A:** 4x4 Tennis Courts located at the high school (\$1,056,550) + (~\$100,000 lights)

**Component B:** Putnam Park Full Reconstruction (\$779,050)

Total Estimated Project Cost = \$1,935,600

- School to repay 60% plus interest of Component A.
- City to repay 40% of Component A and 100% of Component B.
- City to finance entire project.

### **Parks and Recreation Committee Recommendation:**

Reconstruction of Putnam Park #1 Priority.

#### **4.4.22 City Council Counteroffer to School Board:**

- School to repay 70% plus interest of Component A.
  - City to repay 30% of Component A and 100% of Component B.
  - City to finance entire project.
- School to take on full maintenance responsibilities of the Tennis Courts after construction with no City obligation to maintenance thereafter.
- Blue Earth residents will have ability to use the courts at any time school is not using for official or formal purposes.

#### **4.11.22 School Board Response:**

- School to repay 60% plus interest of Component A.
  - City to repay 40% of Component A and 100% of Component B.
  - *This, given the committee put in the time and research and was recommending that.*
- 50/50 maintenance split of the courts, much like the current agreement at Putnam.
- Blue Earth residents will have ability to use the courts at any time school is not using for official or formal purposes, as was confirmed by Fletcher to the City Council last year.

- *Point reiterated if the school were to finance courts 100% on their own, they would not allow community use, similar to Wilson Field (football) in that they do not allow public use of that site as well.*

School board discussed City's Counteroffer, some talking points were simply clarifications, but other talking points were in regard to the concern for the changing cost breakdown and the school being fully responsible for maintenance.

Some of the concerns were in regard to equipment needed for proper maintenance, i.e. changing a bulb in a light post - currently Jamie and his crew handle that and the school doesn't have the proper equipment for it, as well as the school staffing of the custodial/maintenance department (reduced department a few years ago when the school went through budget reductions).