

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM-FY23

Applicant: Fairhaven Pickleball Association, Fairhaven Board of Public Works  
Submission Date: October 13, 2021

Kenneth W. Pottel  
22 Wampanoag Drive Fairhaven MA  
508-280-3150  
fairhavenpickleball@gmail.com  
Project Location: Livesey Park (North Fairhaven)  
Amount Requested: \$240,000

Open Space  
Community Housing  
Historic Preservation  
 Recreation

Town Committee If Applicable: Board of Public Works,  
Project Name: **Livesey Park Pickleball Court Project**  
Project Location/address: Livesey Park, 8 Glenhaven Ave. North Fairhaven  
Amount Requested: \$ 240,000

Submitted by: Kenneth Pottel, Alfredo Valle, Joyce Pottel, Debra Almeida and Sean Powers

Estimated Date for Commencement of Project: July 2022 estimated  
Estimated Date for Completion of Project: August 2022 estimated

## **Project Summary:**

The Fairhaven Pickleball Association is requesting funding for 6 Pickleball Courts at Livesey Park in North Fairhaven for the amount of \$240,000.

Livesey Park is an expanse of 11 acres. The proposed project would cover 12,169 square feet, approximately 2.5% of the 11 acres, and support all Fairhaven residents, especially the aging population. The proposed courts would be connected to the tennis and basketball courts adding another activity to the existing recreational complex. Photos and an overall layout of the proposed project are included. (**Attachment 1**)

This project is with the support from The North Fairhaven Improvement Association, and in collaboration with, as well as, supported by the Board of Public Works. (**Attachment 2**) Additionally, in order to offset the carbon footprint of the project, and in collaboration with the Fairhaven Tree Warden, the plan includes the planting of 3 trees.

In July of 2020, a group of 8 Fairhaven Town residents formed the Fairhaven Pickleball Association. The association offered free clinics to the community and our numbers grew rapidly. Clinics are run by volunteer instructors from the Fairhaven Pickleball Association. Today, as a result of this rapid growth, we have over 150 members in our organization. Each week, we continue to have new members join. We have a Playerlineup Website which allows members to sign up for scheduled play on a weekly basis. Pickleball is a sport that appeals to all ability levels and all age levels. It is social, physical, cardio, and is easy to learn. This is why more and more Fairhaven residents are embracing pickleball. (**Attachment 3**)

We currently have very limited use of the Cushman Park Courts which have blended lines. The Fairhaven Junior Tennis Program occupies the courts five to six nights a week which limits our ability to use the courts. We have observed the courts at Fort Phoenix on some days having large numbers of players making for long waiting times. During the past 14 months, the number of pickleball players playing in Fairhaven has substantially increased from the original 8 to over 150 members. In addition, we have another 50 players who have not joined but play pickleball with us. We do welcome everyone to our organization but do not require people to join. During the summer, we had over 100 players playing each week. We have had over 40 participants playing on Sunday mornings at both Cushman Park and Fort Phoenix. We sponsor Open Play every morning of the week and every evening except Saturday evening. We will continue to offer free clinics to citizens who want to learn. This will only result in our numbers continuing to rapidly expand.

In the last few years, communities across the state have used CPC funds to facilitate the building of pickleball courts. These are: Abington, Chatham, Agawam, Belchertown, Belmont, Boxford, Eastham, Easthampton, Marshfield, Mashpee, Nantucket, Randolph, Sandwich, Sudbury, Wellfleet, Westford, and Yarmouth. Fairhaven would become the first municipality to build dedicated municipal courts in Bristol County.

**Master Plan:** The Town of Fairhaven's Master Plan states that Livesey Park will have a priority for additional recreation projects. Our proposal for the building pickleball courts is well aligned with this goal.

Based on our ability to raise funds, we believe we will be able to contribute significantly to the cost of maintaining the courts. We are incorporated by the state of Massachusetts as a non-profit organization.

Our members represent a diverse group of players. The age range is from 20 to 80. We plan to offer Juniors from grades 4-7 the opportunity to learn to play. The sport of Pickleball appeals to a vast population. We also include and welcome players with physical disabilities.

The playing of pickleball is becoming more and more widespread in Fairhaven and has had a positive impact on our community. This sentiment is expressed by a sampling of quotes from our pickleball membership. (**Attachment 4**)

Fairhaven residents have been signing up for our free clinics in record number. We believe that by next summer we will have over 200 adults participating in our program for playerlineup, free play and league play as well. The continued rapid growth of pickleball in our community demonstrates the need to build 6 new Pickleball Courts in town. (**Attachment 5, Figures 1**)

**Work Plan:** If we are successful in receiving funding we would work closely with the Board of Public Works and with the contractor on the construction of these courts. We would anticipate that the courts would be completed during the summer of 2022.

1. the area will be excavated to be paved with the topsoil (loam) being removed
2. install and level four to six inches of Process Gravel
3. install three inches of Bituminous Asphalt in two courses
4. install Pickleball posts and nets with center strap
5. apply color coatings (three coat system)
6. lay out and paint Pickleball lines (2 inches wide)
7. install four-foot-high black vinyl chain link fence around the perimeter with gates on three of the four sides
8. loam and seed disturbed landscape area 64 feet by 34 feet

#### **ATTACHMENT 1: Pickleball Court Layout**



Court layout six courts: Dimensions of five courts is 160 feet by 64 feet. The dimensions of the sixth court are 64 feet by 34 feet.

The final cost of this project will be reduced as a result of the BPW being the Project Administrator, doing the seeding and loam, and providing for the nets and installing them.

Contractor estimates for the building of the pickleball courts ATTACHMENT 7.

**ATTACHMENT 2: Letter of Support**

**North Fairhaven  
Improvement Association**

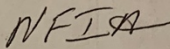
267 Adams St, Fairhaven, Ma 02719

North Fairhaven Improvement Association  
267 Adams Street  
Fairhaven, Ma 02719

To whom it may concern,

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 members from Fairhaven Pickleball came and spoke to the North Fairhaven Improvement Association (NFIA). They outlined proposed plans for the installation of five pickleball courts at Livesey Park in North Fairhaven. The pickleball members in attendance were enthusiastic and gave personal accounts praising the sports growth in popularity along with social and health related rewards. The NFIA members present were able to ask questions and at the end of the meeting voted unanimously in support of the proposal to place five pickleball courts at Livesey Park.

Sincerely,



North Fairhaven Improvement Association

[northfairhavenimprovementassoc.weebly.com](http://northfairhavenimprovementassoc.weebly.com)

**ATTACHMENT 2: Letter of Support**

*Town of Fairhaven  
Board of Public Works*

*5 Arsene Street  
Fairhaven, Massachusetts 02719  
TEL. 508-979-4030  
FAX. 508-979-4086  
bpw@fairhaven-ma.gov*



September 29, 2021

Ken Pottel  
President  
Fairhaven Pickleball Association  
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Re: Board of Public Works Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Pottel:

By means of this correspondence, please be advised that at their August 9, 2021 meeting, the elected Board of Public Works, acting in their roles of Park Commissioners, unanimously voted to support and lend assistance to the creation of Pickleball courts at Livesey Park.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent D. Furtado". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Vincent D. Furtado  
Public Works Superintendent

**ATTACHMENT 2: Letter of Support**

5-OCT-21

From: Don C. Collasius Fairhaven Tree Warden

To: Whom it may concern

Re: Town of Fairhaven Pickle Ball Trees

I have been approached by Ken Pottel in regards to planting 2-3 trees in Livsey Park Fairhaven Massachusetts. This is in order to offset the loss of some grassed area which will be removed in the construction of Pickle ball Courts in the park. I understand that no trees will be removed in order to construct the park. Also that best practices will be employed to protect existing trees from damage due to soil compaction and equipment damage during construction.

I am very much in favor of this proposal and would be happy to purchase and plant said trees at the approximate cost of \$300 per tree.

I am hoping its 3 rather than 2.

This planting comes at a fortuitous time as several trees in the park are being removed due to decline.

Thank you,

Don Carlos Collasius

Fairhaven Massachusetts Tree Warden

508 922 1222



### ATTACHMENT 3: Boston Globe Article

## **Pickleball is growing at an almost unprecedented rate in the history of American sports**

**It took a while to reach Massachusetts, but the latest paddle and ball craze is here. And like everything with the boomers, the problem is where to put them all, not to mention the younger generations they're now infecting with pickleball mania.**

By [Billy Baker](#) Globe Staff, Updated September 24, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

In April, when the Cape Ann YMCA opened its brand-new facility in Gloucester, it was the culmination of 10 years of hard work and planning, and the state-of-the-art building had everything. Or so the Y thought.

“The second we opened, we had people asking why there was no pickleball,” said Tim Flaherty, the executive director. “I honestly don’t even think it was mentioned during the long planning process, but immediately there was this huge demand.”

So the Y got three portable nets, set them up on the basketball court a few hours each week, and — like everything to do with pickleball nowadays — it took off like wildfire.

If you are not currently a pickleball fanatic, you probably know someone who is, because it is growing at a rate that is almost unprecedented in the history of American sports, and it’s not just for retirees anymore.

There were 4.2 million players in the United States last year, according to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association, a 21 percent increase from 2019, with nearly 30 percent of “core” players under the age of 35. And there are indications that this year could see an even bigger jump, because after conquering the rest of the country, it has finally arrived in the Northeast in a big way.

For the uninitiated, pickleball is a paddle sport that is often described as sitting halfway between tennis and Ping-Pong. It’s played on a badminton-sized court, usually by pairs, using a perforated plastic ball and paddles that are made of wood or composite.

It has been around since the mid-1960s, improvised by three dads in Washington state — using a Wiffle ball, some Ping-Pong paddles, and an old badminton net — after their kids got bored on a family vacation. And for a good long while, it was mostly an obscure game in the Pacific Northwest, until it eventually made its way to the Sunbelt, where it became popular with retirees, but still lived mostly under the radar. Then about five years ago, it took off, for three main reasons, according to Stu Upson, the CEO of USA Pickleball.



it is easy to learn and far less physically demanding than tennis, so if you're reasonably coordinated, you can be playing a competitive game after an hour of instruction. It is social, and the smaller court lends itself to chatting. And its small footprint means you can set up a net and play just about anywhere — from driveways to schoolyards — which helped it boom during the pandemic when people were looking for safe ways to get outside with friends.

Everywhere you look, pickleball spots are popping up and then filling up. Last year, USA Pickleball's database of "places to play" was growing by more than two per day, and it still wasn't enough. Beginner classes sell out quickly, with long waiting lists. Municipalities and recreation centers are struggling to keep up, usually by adding pickleball court lines to existing facilities, such as basketball and tennis courts (you can fit four pickleball courts on a single tennis court).

Many towns have already constructed dedicated pickleball courts, and many more are in the works. And there are private entrepreneurs getting into the game, such as Pickles in Hanover, which has six indoor and four outdoor courts and bills itself as "Where pickleball fanatics gather to dink and drink." Others are capitalizing on the increasing popularity of the game with younger generations, such as PKL, which opened a pop-up space this summer with four courts (as well as shuffleboard and cocktails) at Assembly Row in Somerville.

"It was the boomers' best-kept secret, but now it's out," said Katie Coakley, 33, the senior director of operations for PKL, who said the facility draws crowds of millennials and their older cohort Gen Z in the evenings, and Gen X on weekend mornings, when they come to play with their kids (and perhaps sip a cocktail while their kids play).

It was such a success that Coakley said PKL recently signed a lease for a 22,000-square-foot space in the Cole-Hersee Building on Old Colony Avenue in South Boston, where this spring it will open an indoor venue featuring five pickleball courts, two bars, and a full restaurant.

But the boom is not without conflict, as basketball and tennis players are not exactly thrilled with having to share their courts (or lose them entirely when they get converted to full-time pickleball courts). When the Tennis Channel recently covered a professional pickleball tournament for the first time, there was much scoffing online from tennis purists.

On a recent night at the Cape Ann YMCA, an introductory pickleball class ran into a slight delay after a basketball player threw a tantrum when the pickleball nets were wheeled out, muttering about how he pays good money to be there and shoving a net out of the way so he could keep shooting.

Eventually, the man left and Kelly Canniff, who has been the driving force behind the pickleball surge on Cape Ann, was able to begin the class. She's the boys' tennis coach at Rockport High School, and said she began to notice her players were thrilled when it rained, and she brought the boys into the gym to play pickleball instead.

“It’s just more fun and more laid back,” she said. “And there’s this incredible social advantage of being together on a small court. It’s community building and community friendly.”

Canniff helped persuade the Cape Ann YMCA to add hours for pickleball, and attendance has been growing by the day, mostly retirees who have quickly become hooked.

“I can honestly say that pickleball changed my life,” said Frank Tripoli, a 70-year-old from Salem who is a regular at Canniff’s games. “I got too old for basketball, and it feels like a miracle to find this. It’s exercise, it’s fun, and it has a mental component to it that causes you to think. Think of all the money we’d save on Medicaid if we got all the seniors up and playing pickleball.”

#### ATTACHMENT4: **Quotes from Fairhaven Pickleball Players**

How do I love Pickleball? Let me count the ways. I began 4 years ago at 66 with NO background in any related sport. The camaraderie of players helped me learn and improve. The exercise has brought energy and vitality. The play increases my brain focus, stress relief. I've met and played with players of all levels and ages and the diversity is inspiring. And my favorite gift of PB is the laughter: when you make a shot, miss a shot, meet someone new and need to work out the style of play, adjust to a 'bad' day of play, get pumped by a good day, engage the wind, sunlight, sparrows.... I LOVE IT ALL

MB Soares

I have found a sport I can actually play at my age, and with my physical limitations. Pickle ball is great for all ages but is especially great because the scale of the court, and playing doubles, decreases the area each player needs to cover. I would also like to say the Fairhaven Pickle ball group has been very welcoming. They provide instruction for new players at no cost, encouraging more and more people to try the sport. Thank you Donna Poyant

"I have been playing pickleball for over three years. There are several reasons why I love this sport and why it is growing so rapidly.

1. It can be played by virtually anyone. The very young to the very old including people in wheelchairs. (I have personally played against two wheelchair players)
2. There is no advantage in men vs. women. It is not a power sport.
3. The learning curve is pretty quick.
4. The cost to get involved in the sport is very reasonable.
5. It is very addictive. Once you start playing you want to play more.
6. The sport encourages teamwork and community. After each game all four players met at the net and tap paddles and thank each other for the game."

- Dan F

As a full time caregiver for a wife with Alzheimer's Disease, Pickleball has become a life line for me. It provides exercise, socialization, fresh air and stress relief all in one place. Finding an outlet in playing Pickleball has truly help me maintain my physical and mental wellbeing.

- Joseph Carey

"Pickleball in Fairhaven is my terrific choice to stay in shape and meet new friends who have been great ambassadors for the town itself. The Association is very well organized so no one is left wondering about where to play and when. I highly recommend any proposal to add to the number of pickleball courts as our numbers are growing like crazy and waiting to play is not a "fun" sport like being out on the courts is."

- Karen M

“I have enjoyed pickleball in Fairhaven immensely. It is well organized and welcoming. The instruction and clinics are top notch. I live alone and pickleball has increased my sociability with other community members. Pickleball has increased my physical activity as well. It is a positive moderate sport for active and aging seniors as well as all ages. I would welcome more places to play.”

- *Jane F*

“Due to the continued constraints of the pandemic, Pickleball has given me a healthy outlet both physically and mentally getting me outdoors in the fresh air worry free!”

- *Debra A*

“Pickleball is perhaps the single-most sport in Fairhaven that draws new people together for healthy exercise. Pickleball truly connects the residents of this community without regard to age or experience. More courts would benefit everyone.”

- *Diana E*

“It is a sport for all ages, it does not require setting up your own team or people to play with. All are welcome and able to play. Just show up and start playing.”

- *Newton E*

“As a novice player, just introduced to the game this year, I so appreciate the patience and kindness of the other players and in particular those better than me that are still willing to play with me and help me to learn and improve.”

- *Anonymous Lady*

“I started playing pickleball about a year ago in the heart of the COVID-19 pandemic and it has positively transformed my life. Having recently retired, playing pickleball year-round outdoors (yes, even in the heart of the New England winter!) has helped me to get more physically fit and also make many new friends. I’ve witnessed the same positive impact on the many other people from our community that have started playing pickleball during the same period. What a great physical and social activity to strengthen our community!”

- *Ray S.*

“I have “discovered” the game of Pickleball over the past few weeks and would like to add a few comments:

- It’s fun
- Brings people of all ages together. It’s a connection not just to Fairhaven residents but the surrounding communities.
- Helps better utilization for the town parks. Many times you pass a park during the weekday and weekend and it’s empty.
- The socialization factor is great. It’s a community within a community.
- it’s affordable. (\$20/yr.) without the expensive monthly fees from clubs.
- You can play year-round. So there is no interruption in the wintertime.
- Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in America today so to increase courts in Fairhaven we will be able to keep up.
- Even though Pickleball is open to all ages it lets seniors improve their health in a safe way. Living longer with a quality of life is a goal for all seniors.
- Having more courts in Fairhaven will allow opportunities for new young players to “discover” the game too!
- Pickleball is a community building foundation that prevents seniors from being isolated and it’s a great way to build strong relationships.
- Residents who own homes in Fairhaven pay property taxes every year to benefit all in the community. By increasing their quality of life they can pay future property taxes to the town of Fairhaven.” - Dave

I don’t have too much time to exercise between work and family. Pickleball is a fun way to get moving! I look forward to it each weekend. Justin B

*“You can run, or not;*

*You can move, or not;*

*You can sweat, or not;*

*Pickleball will fuel your complete fire!*

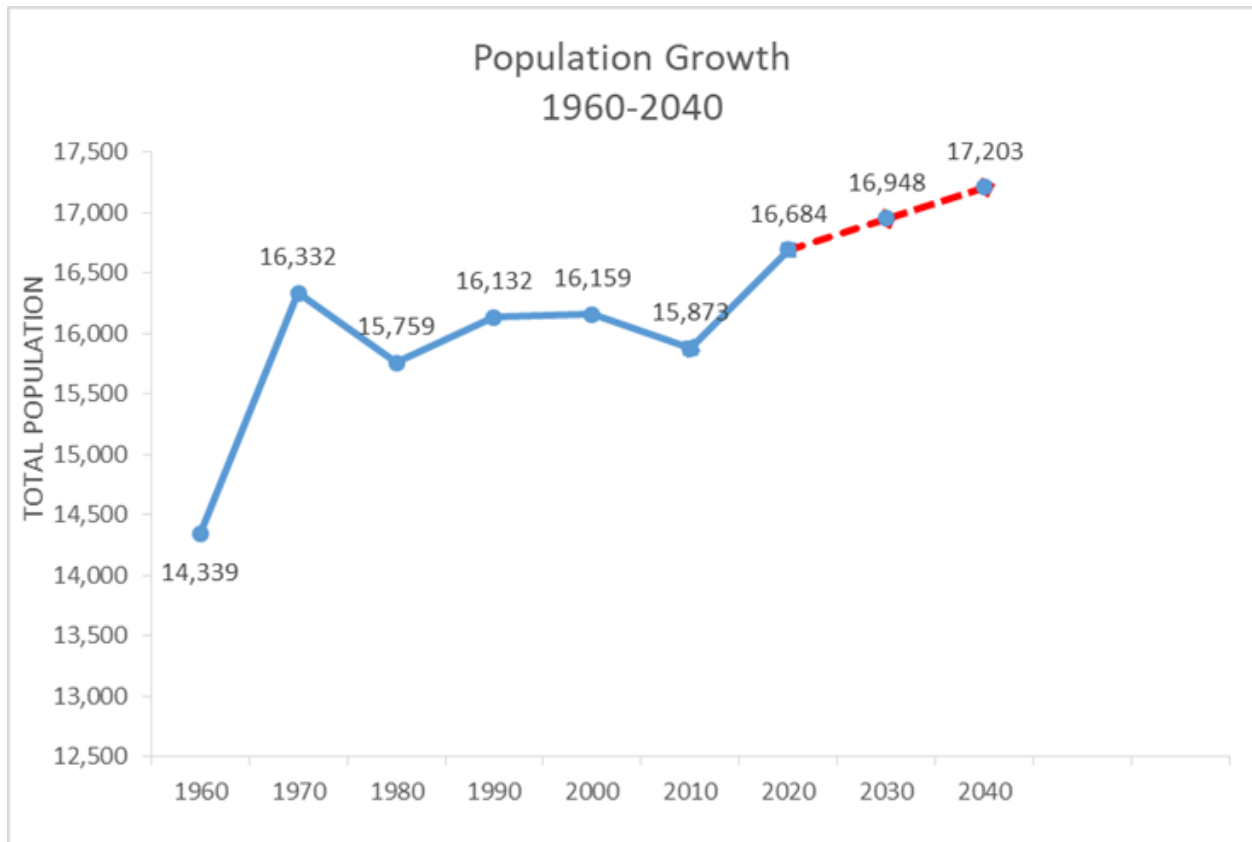
*It will make you laugh; it will make you feel welcome. And before you realize it, you have signed up for your next game! You are in it! Welcome to the Pickleball community!”*

*-Al V*

## ATTACHMENT 5: Population Growth Trend

The growth of Fairhaven's total population from 1960 to 2010 is presented in Fig. 1. As shown in the data, the town's population grew rapidly between 1960 and 1970, dipped slightly in 1980, before leveling off to 2010. Fig 1 also shows the area's projected population to the year 2040.

Fig. 1



Source: U.S Census Bureau

The regional population projections assume a positive growth for Fairhaven in the next decades. Such a trend will hinge mostly on the town's residential and economic development, including its capability to draw younger childbearing couples and active workers into the area. Along with this assumption is the anticipated demand for open space and recreational offerings that the town will have to meet.

**Figure 1: As prepared by the Open Space and Recreational Planning Committee, Fairhaven (2017-2024)**

## ATTACHMENT 6: Recreational Resources and Needs

The rapid residential development growth over the last 10 years has put a great strain on the Town's existing recreational resources. As the population of Fairhaven has increased, so has the need for new recreational facilities.

- Will more than one age group use the project?
  - Absolutely. Pickleball by its very nature is a family, cross-generational sport.
- Can the project be used by more than one activity (multiuse)?
  - At the present time, no. The markings on the courts identifying boundaries are pickleball specific.
- Would more than 12 participants normally use the project at once?
  - Yes. Pickleball can be played as singles or doubles teams, therefore 2 -24 players could be accommodated at one time.
- Would more than 20 participants normally use the project at once?
  - Yes. Pickleball can be played as singles or doubles teams, therefore 2 -24 players could be accommodated at one time.
- Is this project the first of its kind in the town?
  - As dedicated municipal courts, yes. The courts in Cushman park are primarily tennis courts with privately funded pickleball markings which can become confusing.
- Is this project the first of its kind in the county?
  - As dedicated pickleball courts, under municipal control, yes.
- Can participants unsupervised by an adult use the project?
  - Yes. Unsupervised participants can play the sport. As a matter of fact, participants that may not be adept at tennis, basketball, baseball or skateboarding may be perfectly adept at playing pickleball given the smaller court size, low cost of entry into the sport, and simplicity of the rules.
- Are grants available to help pay for the construction? If so, has application been made for the grant?
  - No known grants are available to offset the cost of construction.
- Does the project include considerations for additional parking?
  - No additional parking is included in the 6 pickleball court proposal. FPA believes there is ample parking.
- Can the project be used more than 1 of the four seasons per year?
  - Yes. The courts will have multi-seasonal use.
- Does the project match the surrounding areas character?
  - Yes, as noted, the addition of the pickleball courts is consistent with and actually enhances the use of Livesey Park.
- Does the project include all normal safety considerations?
  - Yes. Use of 4-foot chain link fencing will segregate the courts and keep pickleball play safe.
- Does the project meet all building and safety codes?
  - Yes. The court will meet building and safety codes as designated by the United States Pickleball Association, the governing agency for pickleball in the United States.
- Is the project accessible by pedestrians and/or cars?
  - Yes. The central location of the Livesey Park provides accessibility to the courts by not only pedestrians and cars, but also bicycles.
- Does the project take advantage of connections to other resources?
  - The pickleball courts would leverage the current parking lot, as well as the chain link fence of the basketball court. Additionally, it welcomes the current users of the park by offering a new sport to play.



# ATTACHMENT 7: Court Building Estimates

Lawrence-Lynch Corp.  
 PO Box 913  
 Falmouth, MA 02541  
 Phone 508.548.1800  
 www.lawrencelynch.com




<b>To:</b> FAIRHAVEN PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION	<b>Contact:</b> Ken Potter
<b>Address:</b> Fairhaven, MA	<b>Phone:</b>
	<b>Fax:</b>
<b>Project Name:</b> Fairhaven Pickleball Courts	<b>Bid Number:</b>
<b>Project Location:</b> Linsey Park, Fairhaven, MA	<b>Bid Date:</b> 6/28/2021

Item #	Item Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price
<b>Alternate</b>					
Alternate #1	Add Additional Pickleball Court	1.00	LS	\$39,000.00	\$39,000.00
<b>Total Price for above Alternate Items:</b>					<b>\$39,000.00</b>

Item #	Item Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price
<b>Base Bid</b>					
1.1	Excavate To Subgrade	420.00	CY	\$38.85	\$16,317.00
1.2	Furnish And Install 6" Of Dense Grade	500.00	TON	\$63.06	\$31,530.00
1.3	Fine Grade & Compact	1,500.00	SY	\$2.22	\$3,330.00
1.4	Furnish And Install 3.5" Hot Mix Asphalt	310.00	TON	\$120.58	\$37,379.80
1.5	Furnish And Install Net Posts With Sleeves	8.00	EACH	\$2,090.00	\$16,720.00
1.6	Furnish And Install Center Strap With Anchors	4.00	EACH	\$165.00	\$660.00
1.7	Furnish And Install Nets	4.00	EACH	\$330.00	\$1,320.00
1.8	Court Surfacing And Line Painting	1,500.00	SY	\$11.00	\$16,500.00
1.9	Furnish And Install 4" Fence With (3) Gates	500.00	LF	\$62.00	\$31,000.00
2.0	Loam And Seed Disturbed Landscape Areas	1.00	LS	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
<b>Total Price for above Base Bid Items:</b>					<b>\$162,256.80</b>

**Total Bid Price: \$201,256.80**

<p><b>ACCEPTED:</b>                  The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and hereby accepted.</p> <p><b>Buyer:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Signature:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Date of Acceptance:</b> _____</p>	<p><b>CONFIRMED:</b>                  Lawrence-Lynch Corp</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p><b>Authorized Signature:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Estimator:</b> James Ruberti                  508-548-1800 jruberti@lawrencelynch.com</p>
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