



CITY OF LE SUEUR
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Allison Watkins, Recreation Manager
Richard Kucera, Public Services Director

SUBJECT: Golf Simulator for Community Center

DATE: For the City Council Meeting of Monday, July 25, 2022

PURPOSE

To discuss the possibility of installing a golf simulator in one of the racquetball court rooms at the Community Center.

SUMMARY

Councilmember Huntington has requested that this item be brought back to Council for discussion. Staff originally brought this to Council on May 23, 2022, at which time the subject was tabled. Staff believe this is a unique item that would attract customers, increase usage of the Community Center, and generate additional revenue.

In 2021, racquetball court A was scanned for entry 311 times; racquetball court B was scanned 339 times. These scans do not necessarily represent usage of the racquetball courts. These scans may be users walking by scanning the doors and not going in. Even if each scan is a valid use, this constitutes less than 1 use per day, per court.

Staff continue to research activities that could be added to one of the existing areas of the Community Center that would add revenue to the facility. The possibility of repurposing one of the racquetball court rooms rose to the top of our list. Indoor golf simulators are very popular nationwide and especially in colder climates like ours.

While doing this research, staff verified that there are many different styles of simulators. Staff believe the TwoVision from Golfzon would be the most effective for drawing users. This is mainly due to the ability of the green to move to simulate the lay of the ball, its capability to record your play so you can view later to check your skills, and its ball return system. The system also allows users to play other users around the world and can store all player data.

The estimated final cost is \$111,000.00 for this unit. The City would look at a municipal lease or similar option to finance the purchase over three (3) years. The estimated annual cost would be \$39,998.69 (\$769.21 per week / \$109.89 per day).

Preliminary rates would be \$50.00 per hour for non-prime hours and \$60.00 per hour for prime hours. With these rates, we would need to have one (1) hour at non-prime time and one (1) hour at prime time each day to make the venture profitable.

In discussion with the supplier and construction contractor, if the Council were to approve the purchase and installation tonight, there is confidence that the unit would be ready for use by the end of September 2022.

ACTION REQUESTED

Staff recommends that City Council approve staff pursuit of installation of a TwoVision golf simulator from Golfzon, to be placed in one of the racquetball court rooms.