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# Salem adding pickleball court

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SALEM — Pickleball is coming to Salem.

After discussing the possibility of the addition in prior council meetings, Salem Town Council approved the purchase of the materials necessary to construct a single court for \$630.

"It's going to be on the existing tennis court, and we're going to work one end of it for now," Salem Mayor Lynn Towe said. "We might add another one down the road, but we're not going to do two at the same time so we can accommodate those who want to play tennis and those who want to play pickleball. As big as the sport is, this is what we can do to accommodate them."

Residents had visited an October meeting asking council for a court for pickleball, a paddle sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis and table tennis.

"Last month we dis-

cussed whether we were going to repaint the tennis and basketball courts this year or make a new addition of pickleball here at Salem," Salem director of operations Ryan Hardin said. "We wanted a month to mull over that, and I got to meet with Mayor Lynn Towe briefly about that. What we're looking at right now and what works after we've done the cleaning is we're going to try and add the single pickleball court this year."

No specific completion date was given for the construction of the court.

Hardin said the estimated cost of \$630 includes "nets, painting and storage."

"It's not on budgeted funds and it will need to come from the town's reserves to accomplish that," he said. "We're doing one court versus two and see how it goes. Ultimately in the next couple of years when we resurface the tennis courts, we'll just redo it all."

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