

or adding more benches, said Jeff Bowman, director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs. If the irrigation system failed or another kind of course emergency occurred, funding would be stretched thinner. And if not enough golfers play this winter, funding for the golf course could decrease further.

“I’m not in the panic mode, but I’m in the ‘we’re really watching our pennies’” situation, he said.

The mayor balked at negative talk and staunchly defended the course and its condition.

We understand that.

We also understand and appreciate those speaking up on behalf of course improvements and making a good thing better.

Piñon Hills is a beautiful and unique course that is world-renowned. People from other parts of the country equate Farmington with Piñon Hills, so it is worth noting that some of the cart paths are in need of a touch-up and the restaurant furniture could be better, as City Councilman Jason Sandel argued.

Sandel pointed out that improvements as simple as an awning shade for the patio are not being considered.

Piñon Hills is supposed to rely mostly on revenue from people who pay individual greens fees to play 18 holes, Bowman said. The price varies depending on where a golfer lives.

Despite the costs of green fees, the city should find a way to pay for upgrades at the golf course. There should be a nice restaurant and the facility should be maintained so it can continue to compete with other quality golf courses across the country.

There is nothing wrong with calling attention to any prize, including the crown jewel.