

**New Castle Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 1, 2014, 7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

Mayor Breslin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present	Councilor Russi Councilor Riddile Councilor Metzger Mayor Breslin Councilor Gordon Councilor Leland Councilor Stuckey
Absent	None

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Human Resources Manager Mike Edgar, Town Attorney David McConaughy and members of the public.

Meeting Notice

Town Clerk Melody Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC-2014-1.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes

Clerk Harrison asked to add a proclamation for National Service Recognition Day to the consent agenda. The council agreed.

Citizen Comments on Item not on the Agenda

There were no citizen comments.

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney – nothing to report
Consultant Planner – not present
Consultant Engineer – not present

Items for Consideration

CR 335 Trail IGA

Town Attorney McConaughy explained to the council that the IGA had been presented to the Board of County Commissioners the week before, and the highlighted areas indicated their changes or additions to the document. He said the county had approved the IGA with the provision that town staff will have authority to approve the exhibit. Attorney McConaughy asked that the council also approve the IGA with the provision allowing staff to approve the exhibit. Town Engineer Jeff Simonson was working the exhibit, which was a survey of the trail alignment showing all the various parcels affected by the trail. Those included town properties, county properties and private properties. The IGA also had a deadline of June 1, 2014 for the town to obtain rights-of-way over the private properties.

Attorney McConaughy said the agreement included a \$6,000.00 annual maintenance cap for the town, which could be revisited if need be. He also said that he felt the mutual aid agreement between the New Castle Police Department and the Garfield County Sheriff should be updated to include the trail should there be a problem. The town will be responsible to design, bid and build the project under the town's procurement code, and the county will contribute up to \$900,000.00, and any expenses above \$900k will be borne by the town.

Councilor Russi asked about paragraph 6.a. where it said the town would pay the first \$150k, if that was something everyone agreed with. Attorney McConaughy said it was standard language in similar agreements. After a brief discussion, the council agreed the sentence should be changed to say 'incurred' rather than 'paid'.

MOTION: Councilor Russi made a motion to approve the Garfield County Pedestrian Trail IGA with the exception that the third sentence in paragraph 6.a. be changed from 'paid' to 'incurred', and providing staff the authority to approve the survey exhibit. Councilor Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Morgan Hill - Garfield County Health Department Fleet Idling Policy

Administrator Baker introduced Morgan Hill, Environmental Health Specialist with Garfield County Health Department. He explained that the county had implemented a No Idle Program, and that New Castle had adopted the policy as well. Ms. Hill gave a power point presentation that described the program in depth. The program included pledge cards that county staff members signed agreeing to be idle-free in county vehicles as well as in their personal vehicles. She offered to provide pledge cards for the council and staff, as well as signs that could be posted in town parking areas. Councilor Russi said they should try to get public involvement in the program. The council discussed what organizations might be interested in implementing the policy, and how information on gas savings could be calculated. They also discussed when idling was necessary and not, and what types of vehicles actually needed to idle. Councilor Russi said it had been a pleasure working with Ms. Hill on GCE. The council complimented Ms. Hill and thanked her for presentation.

Dana Wood - LiveWell - Get Movin' Challenge

Dana Wood, Garfield County Health Department, LiveWell Coordinator for Garfield County. Ms. Wood greeted the council, and passed out some exercise bands. She said that Garfield County was one of 24 LiveWell communities in Colorado and that she was

present to invite the council to become involved in the Get Movin' Challenge for 2014. The challenge will run from May 1 through May 30, challenging everyone to get at least thirty minutes of exercise for thirty days. People can sign up online to track their progress.

Ms. Wood said LiveWell now had money to provide mini-grants for healthy eating and active living projects. The Grant application deadlines were May 26, and August 12, 2014. The projects should reflect LiveWell's strategic goals which are available online. She said there were various programs available for education and assistance for healthy eating programs, including gleaning and community gardens. Ms. Wood said that LiveWell was also a partner with GCE. She encouraged the council to apply for grant funding.

Downtown Group Request

Patti Ringer greeted the council. She told the council she was involved in several upcoming events. The first was an outdoor gallery for kids, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The event will provide an opportunity for children up to the age of fifteen to have their paintings displayed outdoors. The completed works of art will be hung on the fence east of the Watts building on April 29 for the public to enjoy. She asked that if anyone had old picture frames they wished to donate to the Friends, and said she would be grateful for the donation. Next, Ms. Ringer said that several years ago, she had discussed with council the idea of placing a sculpture in the downtown area. Ms. Ringer said she had a commitment from Angela Meraz at Alpine Bank to fund an inexpensive piece. Ms. Ringer said the town was becoming more whimsical, and the piece she suggested was a two-dimensional, metal, paper-doll type figure sitting on a rock. She was hoping to locate a local artist or blacksmith to create the figure. Mayor Breslin suggested opening as a challenge to local artists.

Ms. Ringer told the council that the Downtown Group was encouraging the downtown merchants to spiff up their businesses, using bright paint colors and flowers. In keeping with that idea, the Group had developed several color schemes for new paint on the gazebo in Burning Mountain Park. She also asked if the council would consider providing \$300.00 for the paint. Ms. Ringer said that the \$300.00 will cover all expenses, and that volunteers will do the work. They intended to complete the paint project before the Volunteer Picnic on April 26. The council reviewed the colors suggested. Councilor Leland said he felt the scheme that included turquoise should not be considered because he thought more classic colors behind the miner's memorial would be more appropriate. The council agreed. Councilor Riddile asked where the \$300.00 would come from and Administrator Baker said the money will come out of the economic development fund, \$4000.00 of which is designated for the Downtown Group. They have only used \$1200.00. The council agreed that the Downtown Group could choose their favorite from the remaining color schemes. Administrator Baker felt that the Downtown Group could be allowed to choose the color schemes, excluding the turquoise, saying that the gazebo could always be repainted if it turned out to be not to everyone's liking. The council agreed.

MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve \$300.00 to the Downtown Group to paint the gazebo in Burning Mountain Park. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion.

Discussion: Ms. Ringer asked if council wanted to choose the color scheme, and the council said that the Group could choose, as long as they did not use turquoise.

The motion passed unanimously.

Garfield Federal Mineral Lease District Invitation to Present Capital Plans

Administrator Baker said that the town had received a letter from Garfield Federal Mineral Lease District (GFMLD) to come and present the town's long-term capital planning. He felt that the purpose was to help GFMLD to determine whether the grants they awarded were funding projects consistent with the long-term strategic plans of the various communities. Administrator Baker said it was an opportunity for the staff to describe to the GFMLD board New Castle's strategic planning process and to show them what the plan says and the implementation of the plan, so they can see the consistency of the town's grant requests. Councilor Russi said the GFMLD would be pleased to see that the town had actually accomplished several items on the strategic plan.

Administrator Baker agreed, and added that the current grants were for parking in the downtown and streets, both items that are part of the town's strategic plan. He asked that the council authorize the mayor to sign the letter accepting the invitation, and staff would then begin preparing a presentation.

Motion: Councilor Gordon to authorize the mayor to sign the letter accepting the GFMLD invitation. Councilor Stuckey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Breslin complimented Administrator Baker for being so involved with the town, in extracurricular activities such as the Downtown Group.

Councilor Gordon said they needed to be certain to follow up on the grant opportunity with LiveWell. The council discussed possible locations, accessibility, available raw water, fencing and planter boxes. Administrator Baker said he would follow up with Public Works to determine an appropriate location and the accessibility of raw water for a community garden.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the March 18, 2014 council meeting

March bills of \$ 350,828.62

Hongs Garden Liquor License Renewal

Proclamation proclaiming April 1, 2014 as National Service Volunteer Day

MOTION: Councilor Russi made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Town Administrator - nothing to report

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison asked the council how they wanted to handle the vacant council seat that will be created once Councilor Gordon is sworn in as Mayor on April 15. They decided to advertise the seat on the town website as well as the posting boards in town. Clerk Harrison said she had received one letter of interest from Graham Riddile, and had heard there were other interested parties. Regarding volunteer programs, Clerk Harrison told the council that on the National Community Service Corporation website there were grant opportunities for volunteer organizations. Although the submittal deadline for 2014 had passed, she said she would send information to the council for consideration next year. Last, she reminded the council that Councilor Leland had previously suggested that the money saved by canceling the election be used to have Deputy Town Clerk Andis and Clerk Harrison certified for the state SCORE system for

registering voters. Clerk Harrison told the council that she recently found out that the secretary of state only allowed county clerks to obtain SCORE certification, not municipal clerks. Until the SOS changed the policy, certification would not be an option.

Town Planner – not present

Public Works Director – not present

Council Comments

Councilor Metzger asked that Clerk Harrison RSVP for the CML lunch for her. Clerk Harrison said she would.

Councilor Metzger asked if Committee Reports could be added back onto the agenda. Clerk Harrison said she would do that.

Councilor Metzger said the decision had been made to place NWCCHT Sign in the pocket park between the library and town hall buildings

Councilor Leland told the council that the time capsule would be buried in Ritter Plaza, in the ground, with plexi-glass cover over it so that the branding logo was visible.

Councilor Metzger asked about the health and wellness plan for employees.

Administrator Baker said Human Resources Manager Mike Edgar still had the information, but that staff felt that council was not necessarily supportive of the idea, so it had been set aside. He agreed to bring information back to the council for their review.

Councilor Metzger said she felt that with two new restaurants opening soon, there should be a promotional event for all the restaurants in town. Administrator Baker said that the Friends of the Library were hosting a "Taste of New Castle" event in June.

Councilor Riddile thanked Administrator Baker and the town staff for all their compassion and care and effort to support the Sadler family after Chris's passing.

Councilor Leland updated the council on the progress of the new town website, saying that Ann was still working on adding content to the pages and once that was complete it will be ready to send to her partner who will do the technical portions of developing the website. The goal is to have the site operational at the end of April.

Councilor Gordon said he felt that the town should allow outdoor dining for the local restaurants without charging for additional tap fees. This would encourage patronage of the restaurants and help economic development. He thought a parking space near Elk Creek Mining Company could be used for outside seating, and that Hongs Garden could be encourage to provide some tables outdoors. The council agreed with Councilor Gordon. Councilor Russi said he had recently been in Stewart, Florida where they had allowed outdoor seating in parking spaces and it seemed to be very successful.

Councilor Russi told the council that although he would no longer be on council, he would like to volunteer his time to the town, perhaps assisting staff with grant and some economic or community development ideas. The council like the idea very much. Council Russi said one of the things he wanted to work on was local organic farming.

Councilor Russi also said that his neighbor, Graham Riddile, was in the audience, and said Mr. Riddile was interested in the council seat that will become vacant on April 15. He said he felt that Mr. Riddile would be a fine addition to the council if he was chosen.

Councilor Stuckey told the council that he was working on the redesign of the community center and thought that the building may lend itself to a solar array. He thought it may be worth investigating.

Councilor Russi reminded the council that they should make sure funds are being saved for the buy-out on the solar array on the public works building.

Mayor Breslin said that since he has lived in New Castle, there has always been a great sense of community and volunteerism. The RSVP Program is associated with Colorado Mountain College, and they maintain a database that could be utilized by New Castle volunteers.

Mayor Breslin gave Councilor Leland a pamphlet from the University of Colorado regarding their searchable database on research done on community culture, innovation, health and wellness. He thought it may be a good resource for staff and citizens alike. Mayor Breslin said he was very proud of the town council, they was they all have worked together and have accomplished over the years.

MOTION: Councilor Metzger made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mayor Bob Gordon



Town Clerk Melody Harrison

