

**New Castle Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 4, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall
450 W. Main Street**

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present	Councilor Means Councilor Riddle Councilor Metzger Mayor Gordon Councilor Breslin 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 and Police Chief Tony Pagni.

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

Councilor Stuckey said because the Warrior item had been discussed during the committee meeting, he no longer had a conflict of interest.

Agenda Changes

There were no agenda changes.

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no citizen comments.

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney – not present
Consultant Planner – not present
Consultant Engineer – not present

Items for Consideration

Consider Request from the American Legion for Donation to Support a Veterans' Memorial

Mr. Scalzo, of the American Legion, greeted the council. He told them he had been working on a project to build a memorial for local military members who had died in combat. The memorial will be located in Rifle adjacent to the existing memorials. The stone for the memorial will cost approximately \$5,000.00

Mr. Scalzo described the work that had been involved in locating and verifying the status of the veterans. He said the dedication of the memorial will take place on December 7, 2014.

Mr. Scalzo told the council that he was seeking a donation, would greatly appreciate any amount the council felt they could give.

The council thanked Mr. Scalzo for his hard work and dedication to the veterans of Garfield County. Mayor Gordon said they would speak with the finance director and would be in touch regarding a donation.

Mr. Scalzo thanked the council for their time and consideration.

Town Water Attorney Michael Sawyer gave the council a detailed history of the water rights on Elk Creek and East Elk Creek.

Councilor Leland made a motion at 7:33 p.m. to go into executive Session (1) for conference with Town Attorney for purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b); and (2) for purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e) concerning Water Case No. 14CW3003. Councilor Means seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Executive session complete, 8:23 p.m.

At the end of the executive session, Mayor Gordon made the following announcement:

"The time is now 8:23 p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were: Councilors Means, Riddile and Metzger; Mayor Gordon; Councilors Breslin, Leland and Stuckey; Town Administrator Baker, Human Resources Manager Edgar, Town Clerk Harrison, Police Chief Pagni and Town Water Attorney Sawyer. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record."

No concerns were stated.

Consider a Stipulation with Exxon Mobile, Water Court Case No. 14CW3003

The matter was tabled.

Consider Revisions to the Strategic Plan

Administrator Baker reviewed the various changes to the strategic plan. He asked the council for their input. Administrator Baker told the council he would bring the revised strategic plan to the next meeting for their review.

Progress Report – Warrior

The update on the progress of warranty work in Lakota was completed during the workshop prior to the council meeting.

Consent Agenda

October Bills of \$876,320.77

Minutes of the October 21, 2014 meeting

Kum & Go Liquor License Renewal

MOTION: Councilor Leland 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 told the council that her department had made a job offer and received an acceptance for the Administrative Assistant position. Ryan Muse, who some of the council may remember from several years ago because he was a member of the Climate Action Advisory Committee, would begin his employment with the town on November 10, 2014. She also told the council that staff there was a very nice thank you letter in the DropBox for Debbie Nichols' efforts for Senior Programs.

Town Planner – not present

Public Works Director – not present

Commission Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission – nothing to report

Historic Preservation Commission – nothing to report

Economic Advisory Committee – nothing to report

Senior Programs – nothing to report

RFTA – nothing to report

Council Comments

Councilor Breslin said the Chili Cook Off would be the first weekend in December.

Administrator Baker said that the cook off will be on Saturday, December 6. On the same afternoon there would be a dedication of Talbott Trail and Flat Tops Bridge, as well as the tree lighting. He said LaRue Wentz had offered to help organize the dedication ceremony. The BOCC, CDOT and DOLA will be invited to attend. The thought was to have the ceremony out on the bridge, but the details will be worked out later.

Councilor Breslin said that the staff has done so well in organizing Burning Mountain Festival, he had faith the cook-off would go well. Councilor Breslin felt that the council should be certain to thank the staff for their efforts. It was agreed that staff could be thanked at the employee appreciation party in January.

Councilor Metzger asked if there would be landscaping around bridge. Administrator Baker said the town had been required to spend an additional \$200k on the bridge project and had not included landscaping in the cost estimates, but the Public Works staff was working on some ideas that will come back to council at a later date.- have to come back to council for that

Councilor Metzger asked about the human resources position, how it would be handled. Administrator Baker said that the HR duties would be split three way between Clerk Harrison, Finance Director Layton and himself. There will be funds in the budget to have Mike Edgar come in periodically and help, and the Town will join Mountain States Employers Council who will provide assistance and direction if necessary.

Councilor Riddile said he read an article in the Post Independent regarding the high turnover in law enforcement in the area. He said the article was interesting, particularly because New Castle was not mentioned. He felt congratulations were in order for Chief Pagni on his new, permanent position. Now that the police department was fully staffed, he felt confident that it would continue with the new training opportunities, etc. that will be provided to the officers and hopefully increase morale.

Councilor Means suggested that the town consider placing information on the highway sign advertising the downtown restaurants.

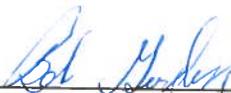
Councilor Means said there was a manhole on Castle Valley Boulevard that extended up beyond grade level. Although it was not in the actual roadway, he said that a vehicle could pull off there, hit the manhole cover and become damaged. Administrator Baker said he would have staff look at it.

Mayor Gordon said he had attended a mayor's meeting and there was a discussion about a situation between Holy Cross Energy and Xcel Energy in that they were not likely to assist one another in the event of a power outage. Mayor Gordon felt the two companies should work together. He said a letter endorsing cooperation between the companies would come to the council for their consideration.

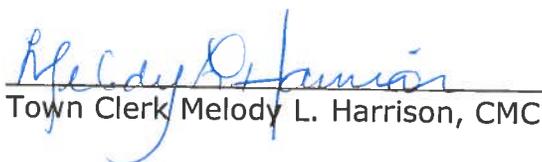
MOTION: Councilor Metzger made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Breslin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mayor Bob Gordon



Town Clerk Melody L. Harrison, CMC

