

**New Castle Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 7:00 p.m.  
Community Center**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Meeting Notice**

Town Clerk Melody Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC-2015-1.

**Conflicts of Interest**

Councilor Stuckey stated that he had a conflict with the discussion regarding the Warrior / Lakota Road Work.

**Agenda Changes**

There were no agenda changes.

**Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

There were no citizen comments.

**Items for Consideration**

**Planning Exercise Regarding Place Value & Developing Criteria for Strategic Investment**

Town Administrator Tom Baker told the council that he wanted to summarize the notes from the presentation on Place Value and have an additional conversation with Mr. Clark Anderson to focus the outcomes for the council.

Mayor Gordon said that he felt the presentation by Clark Anderson was very good, and thought the town was already performing many of the items discussed.

**Warrior / Lakota Canyon Ranch Discussion Regarding Road Work**

Councilor Stuckey left the meeting room at 7:10 p.m.

Administrator Baker reminded the council that Walter Bolen had contacted him and asked if the town would be willing to take over completion of the warranty work project, and that council had requested to hear from Town Engineer Jeff Simonson and Public Works Director John Wenzel. Administrator Baker said that he had spoken to Town Attorney

David McConaughy who felt that his concerns could be handled further along in the process should the council wish to take the project over.

Engineer Simonson told the council that the remaining work would still cost between \$250 and \$300k. He said that where there would be additional cost to the town in the day-to-day management of the project, which would be approximately sixteen percent of the project cost. That equaled about \$50k in addition to the \$300k.

Public Works Director John Wenzel felt that the work already performed by the contractor and sub-contractors, and the subsequent disputes between them may affect the town. He thought it would help the town to have a very clear understanding of all the potential costs to complete the project.

Engineer Simonson added that there would be some costs associated with going out to bid as well. He said Warrior would assume the very same costs if the town decided not to take on the project.

Administrator Baker said that the work needed to be done, regardless if the town or Warrior does it. Schedules and estimates of the remaining work had already been completed. There were some staff concerns of liability or risk to the town. Administrator Baker said that should the council decide to take over the project, he felt there were two things the town needed to consider. First, whether there was enough money in letters of credit from Warrior to cover the cost of completing the project. Second was for those letters of credit to cover any lien-waiver processes at the end of the project.

Administrator Baker asked for direction from the council.

The council and staff discussed the issues briefly. Administrator Baker clarified the issues brought up by council and staff, and said it will be brought back to the council at the April 7, 2015 council meeting.

Councilor Stuckey returned to the meeting room at 7:34 p.m.

### **Alder Drive Repair Update**

Director Wenzel told the council that the water coming up through the pavement on Alder Drive had been a problem for some time, and Public Works has made several attempts to alleviate the problem. He said that the department had purchased perforated, concrete tubes which will catch the water and drain it towards the shoulder. He said they will begin the installation of the tubing once the asphalt plants open and they can repair the road.

### **Water Treatment Plant – Grant Update & Issues**

Administrator Baker told the council that Engineer Simonson and Director Wenzel had been working with Interim Utilities Supervisor Daniel Becker, Randi Lowenthal and Administrative Assistant Debbie Nichols to put together a DOLA grant application for expansion of the water treatment plant. The project is between 1.3 and 1.6 million dollars. The application deadline is April 1. He felt that they would finish by Friday. Engineer Simonson explained there were new EPA regulations that the town water treatment plant did not meet, and he felt it put the town in a very good position to receive the grant.

Administrator Baker reminded the council of the presentation on water fluoridation they heard at the last council committee meeting, and said that staff felt some of the information regarding the costs was not as accurate as it could have been. In addition, staff wanted to provide the council with information from an operational standpoint. Director Wenzel said the fluoride debate has gone on for decades. Many water operators

questioned fluoridation of an entire water system when the majority of that treated water is not ingested. As much as ninety-five percent of treated water goes on landscaping, or down the drain. The costs of fluoridation in a small community such as New Castle is more expensive, approximately \$14k annually.

Engineer Simonson said his firm was doing a study for Snowmass Village to determine if fluoridation is worth the costs. For New Castle, adding fluoridation to the water treatment plant will cost approximately \$30k just to install the equipment, in addition to the annual costs. Also, there are concerns regarding employees exposure to the materials.

Director Wenzel said that pure fluoride is not added to the water; rather, the materials that are delivered are industrial by-products that are hazardous to the operators. Once the compound is added to water, it dissolves and becomes more inert and less toxic to the operators.

Councilor Means asked about the discrepancy between Dr. Millard's stated costs and what staff was quoting. Engineer Simonson said the cost quoted by Dr. Millard did not include installation of the equipment. Director Wenzel said he read the same CDC report Dr. Millard quoted, and that in that report, the annual costs for maintenance of a fluoridation system in a community of less than 5000 was \$3.00 to \$4.00 per person.

Engineer Simonson said his firm was invited to put together a 'white paper' on fluoridation for the American Water Works Association Conference this year.

**MOTION: Councilor Breslin made a motion to place a fluoridation discussion on the next council agenda.**

Discussion: Administrator Baker asked if the council wanted to wait until the white paper from SGM was available. Councilor Stuckey said he wanted to see the white paper report before making a decision.

**Mayor Gordon seconded the motion.**

Administrator Baker asked what information the council would like to see, and suggested that it may be an advantage to see the white paper because it would be unbiased.

Councilor Breslin suggested publishing a bibliography of fluoride studies and he offered to provide that bibliography. Councilor Riddile felt the council should wait for the white paper study.

**The motion failed with Mayor Gordon and Councilor Breslin voting yes, and Councilors Means, Riddile, Metzger, Leland and Stuckey voting no.**

Councilor Leland asked that Administrator Baker gather information, including the bibliography materials from Councilor Breslin, and the white paper study from SGM, and then the discussion will be scheduled once everything is ready.

**Update & Funding Request for Jolley Trail Spur Project**

Administrator Baker said he had met with Steve Anthony and David Hamilton to work out the details with Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers and Rocky Mountain Youth Corps for the Jolley Trail Spur project. He described the project briefly, including some changes to the location of the trails as well as a small change in the timeline. Administrator Baker said the project was going to require more funding. Garfield County will contribute \$5k. Steve Anthony will contribute \$1k. Administrator Baker said that the additional funding needed is probably between three and four thousand dollars. He asked that the council consider funding the project out of the Conservation Trust Fund, which has approximately \$10k in it that is not dedicated to any other projects.

**MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve \$4,000.00 from the Conservation Trust Fund as a donation to Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers. Councilor Means seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

### **Consent Agenda**

Minutes of the March 3, 2015 meeting

Resolution TC-2015-7- Supporting a DOLA Grant Application for Expansion of the Water Treatment Plant

Administrator Baker asked the council to authorize staff to fine tune the cost estimate numbers in Resolution TC-2015-7 as they come in, so that they equal a one-to-one match in the grant.

**MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to remove the resolution from the consent agenda. Councilor Means seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve Resolution TC-2015-7 with the understanding that the final figures will be adjusted in order to meet the grant deadline. Councilor Stuckey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. Councilor Breslin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

### **Staff Reports**

Town Administrator – Administrator Baker said he had spoken with Officer Walker who said that citizens can film the officers when they want, provided they do not interfere with the officer’s duties or cause any unsafe circumstance. The other exception is if the officers feel someone has filmed something that turns out to be evidence.

He said there have been active discussions between LaRoca and a developer on their property. Regarding the banners at New Hope Church, he understood that the elders of the church have authorized the Ross Talbott to look into the cost of permanent signs. Last, it appears that the residents are resolving their pigeon problems.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison provided the council with “Property of Town of New Castle” stickers for their iPads. She told the council that her Assistant, Ryan Muse had received his notary certification from the secretary of state. Clerk Harrison said the administrative office had purchased a laptop.

Town Planner – not present

Public Works Director – not present

### **Committee Reports**

Planning & Zoning Commission - nothing to report

Historic Preservation Commission – Administrative Assistant Muse told the council that five people had responded and indicated that they would be interest in participating in the residential historic building survey.

Economic Advisory Committee – nothing to report

Garfield County Weed Advisory Board – Councilor Breslin told the council that Parks Foreman Mike Callas would be doing a Russian olive clean-up along the river this summer.

He also said that he thought the town could better strategize the water use at the community garden, because he felt it had been over-watered last year.

Senior Programs – nothing to report

RFTA – Councilor Stuckey said that it looked as though RFTA would be proceeding with the access corridor and rail banking. The RFTA staff is looking into other options besides rail banking which would be good for the various towns involved.

GCE – Mayor Gordon said that Garfield Clean Energy had changed the board member responsibilities and the theme now was very conservative. He feels it will work out quite well.

### **Council Comments**

Councilor Metzger said she was on the Downtown Group, and they had been discussion adding bike racks to the downtown. She asked why there was two in the small park between the library and town hall. Director Wenzel said that was done at the request of the library for their LEEDS certification, but could one could be moved now.

Councilor Metzger said she had toured Castle Valley Ranch with Town Arborist Lisa DiNardo and Megan Pelky to look at dead trees in CVR that needed to be removed. She felt that Ms. DiNardo was a great resource. Councilor Metzger thought that next year there could be a town-wide tree clean-up, since New Castle is a Tree City.

Councilor Metzger asked if the town was committed to the Cultural Heritage Tourism sign, and Administrator Baker said the town was committed, and that the funds could not be redirected to other things. He added that the smaller signs Councilor Metzger was interested in placing around town were not very expensive. Councilor Leland said that the person hired to do the signs has had some personal emergency that has kept her away from work for an extended amount of time, and he was not sure if she was back yet or not.

Mayor Gordon said he spoke with Ms. DiNardo, and the tree that public works trimmed on C Avenue was a white cottonwood.

Councilor Riddile said that he felt that Lee Price, with his leadership and contributions to the town and to the River Center deserved to be honored, and he suggested a proclamation for a “Lee Price Day”. Councilor Riddile suggested May 31, 2015, which is the same day as the Volunteer Appreciation Day Picnic.

Councilor Means said that Ms. DiNardo had asked the seniors at the senior housing to assist planting trees on Arbor Day. Director Wenzel told the council that Eric Williams had donated two thousand dollars to the town for trees, and Ms. DiNardo had been coordinating with him because he had some specific requirements for those trees.

Councilor Breslin asked if it would be possible to remove some of the asphalt around the juniper tree behind Sam Garcia’s building. Director Wenzel said it had already been done. Councilor Leland said the Officers Walker and Burrows had volunteered to serve as costume judges at Spellebration the week prior. New Castle PD was the only agency who accepted the request to judge.

Mayor Gordon told the council that Hospice of the Valley had had four meetings in two weeks. They had looked at land in town, and found two parcels they liked. He felt there would be some kind of an answer by the end of the week.

### **Roll Call**

Present	Councilor Means
	Councilor Riddile
	Councilor Metzger

Mayor Gordon  
Councilor Breslin  
Councilor Leland  
Councilor Stuckey  
None

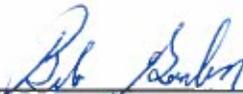
Absent

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Public Works Director John Wenzel and Town Engineer Jeff Simonson.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Mayor Bob Gordon

  
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Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC

