

**Agenda**  
**New Castle Town Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 5, 2015, 7:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Present	Councilor Means Councilor Metzger Mayor Gordon Mayor Breslin Councilor Stuckey
Absent	Councilor Riddile Councilor Leland

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Town Planner Tim Cain, Town Engineer Jeff Simonson, and Town Attorney David McConaughy.

**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**

There were no conflicts 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 – present for agenda items  
Consultant Planner – present for agenda items  
Consultant Engineer – present for agenda items

**Items for Consideration**

**Downtown Group Project Idea: Street Art on Town-Owned Lot at 6<sup>th</sup> & Main**

Town Administrator Tom Baker told the council that at the last Downtown Group meeting, Susan Ruggles brought some art work she had created. She was proposing it be placed in the corner of the town-owned property at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Main Street. Administrator Baker said Ms. Ruggles and her husband had moved to New Castle about a year ago, and were very involved in the community. The art pieces had been created by Ms. Ruggles, her daughter, granddaughter and son-in-law.

Ms. Ruggles told the council that the empty lot looks a bit sad, and because there was no water on the lot for landscaping, she thought the flower and birdhouse art would brighten up the area. Ms. Ruggles said if the town approved it, the library would be interested in having children paint the flower petals as part of the project. She said she was not asking for funding, but donations would be welcome. Ms. Ruggles asked if Public Works would be willing to dig the holes and place concrete to set the flower and birdhouse posts. Public Works Director John Wenzel said they could pour concrete for the posts. Council and staff discussed how the posts could be set or secured.

### **Downtown Group Project Idea: Painting Wooden Picnic Tables in the Downtown During the June 1, 2015 Clean Up Day**

Administrator Baker told the council that the second part of the Downtown Group discussion was painting the wooden picnic tables in the downtown area. He felt that there were only one or two wooden tables, and did not know how they would need to be prepped to take paint. Administrator Baker asked the council authorize the street art, and allow him to speak with Patti Ringer about prepping the wooden table for paint. Mayor Gordon said Councilor Leland had voiced some concern about the colors that would be used, that they should not be too whimsical. Administrator Baker said he and Councilor Leland could review the colors together.

Councilor Stuckey agreed that the colors should reflect New Castle's heritage.

**MOTION: Mayor Gordon made a motion to allow Administrator Baker and Councilor Leland to look at the tables and choose colors, as well as authorizing the street art. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Councilor Metzger asked when the new bus shelters would be installed. Administrator Baker said it depended on the work schedule, and the actual work that needed to be done to install the shelters. Councilor Metzger felt that the street art shouldn't be installed until the shelters were in place.

### **~~Consider an Agreement with Warrior Acquisitions Regarding the Road Warranty Work Tabled Per Warrior Request~~**

#### **Discussion: Walters Lane/Castle Valley Boulevard Intersection**

Administrator Baker said that he and Councilor Metzger had discussed the intersection. Engineer Simonson and SGM had done a study in 2012 and developed a list of potential remedies. Since that time, a radar speed sign had been installed and crosswalks painted on the roadway. Some lane striping had also been done and flop-down pedestrian signs installed. He said there have not been any accidents in the intersection since the radar speed signs were installed two years ago.

Administrator Baker asked for some discussion from the council on how to proceed, keeping in mind that everything will change once the roundabout is built. Councilor Metzger asked if a date was set for the roundabout.

Administrator Baker said that CDOT had provided the town with a report in regard to roadway funding that could come to the town should devolution take place. The devolution area is from Elk Creek to Bruce Road, and the funds will be a little more than one million dollars. The roundabout project will be two million dollars.

Administrator Baker said the funds from CDOT could be spent on the roundabout, but the town would also need to purchase an additional plow truck and perhaps staffing for the maintenance of the road.

Councilor Metzger asked what determined the need for a roundabout. Engineer Simonson said that there needed to be accidents that warranted change. One of the reasons that is was difficult to get funding from CDOT for the pedestrian bridge was because there were no warrants or accidents. He said it seemed counter-productive because we were trying to prevent accidents with the project. Attorney McConaughy said that the Castle Valley and Lakota development agreements refer to a trigger, Traffic Level of Service D, which Engineer Simonson said was much worse than was likely to happen in New Castle. He agreed that there were traffic issues with cars backing up on the interstate off-ramp, and that will trigger a warrant within two to five years.

Councilor Metzger asked how likely it was that there could be a crosswalk at the Highway 6 and Castle Valley Boulevard intersection. Administrator Baker said he contacted the regional district manager, Dave Eller, and asked for an update on the discussions from February. He said Mr. Eller had not yet responded. Engineer Simonson said he spoke with Zane Znamenacek, the Region III Traffic Engineer, and he identified the need to provide ADA compliant curbing for the crosswalks. The town would need to budget for the improvements, and Engineer Simonson said it could be as much as \$15k.

Administrator Baker said that Engineer Simonson had some ideas that were probably financially manageable for the town, and he suggested that staff could bring the topic back to the council with some cost estimates.

Councilor Breslin suggested they speak with Rue Balcomb, who heads up the HOA for the shopping center, and see if the HOA would agree to limiting traffic in and out of the shopping center. They could make the west driveway an entrance only, and the east driveway an exit only.

Engineer Simonson said that the improvements that the town had already done made things much better and there had not been an accident in two years.

Administrator Baker said staff would bring it back to the council with a budget for the various components.

**Mayor Gordon made a motion at 7:39 p.m. to go into Executive Session (1) for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b); regarding property acquisition. Councilor Breslin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Executive Session concluded.

At the end of the executive session mayor Gordon made the following statement:

"The time is now 8:29 p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were: Councilors Means and Metzger; Mayor Gordon; Councilors Breslin and Stuckey; Town Administrator Baker, Town Engineer

Simonson, Town Attorney McConaughy and Town Clerk Harrison. 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.

### **Consent Agenda**

Minutes of the April 21, 2015 meeting

April Bills of \$510,839.42

**MOTION: Councilor Breslin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Means seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

### **Staff Reports**

Town Administrator – Administrator Baker told the council that Councilor Leland was absent because he has the flu, but he wanted to thank everyone for the flowers for his father.

Administrator Baker said that on May 7, the Colorado Public Health Department will do a compliance evaluation inspection of the wastewater treatment plant. The inspection is standard practice when the operator in charge changes. Staff was prepared for the inspection.

Administrator Baker said Deputy Clerk Mindy Andis provided an update on Xpress Bill Pay. In the first two weeks, twenty-five people had signed up for online bill pay, and twenty-four of those had gone paperless, and he felt it was a good response. Clerk Harrison said staff was happy with the response, particularly because the online payment option had yet to be advertised to the citizens, and that the response came only from speaking to customers on the phone.

Administrator Baker said several staff members had attended the oil and gas symposium. One of the interesting topics was how to budget for the severance payments each year. They were told to expect a sixty-one percent decrease in severance tax funds, and a four percent decrease in the mineral leasing funds. The council had budgeted \$225k for 2015 mineral lease and severance payments, so it should be comfortable for the town this year. Increases were projected for 2016 and 2017. Administrator Baker said that in the past the town had signed a lease with the Atkinsons for East Elk Creek water. Aaron Atkinson was reluctant to sign a lease in 2015 with the town because he was upset regarding the \$13k cost they incurred to clean up their property in CVR, which affected their triplex project.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison told the council that she and Administrator Baker met weekly with Terri Knob about the Chamber of Commerce, and she had given an update. Thus far, there are 40 members; the Chamber has been providing welcome totes to new residents; The Craft/Trade show had over 500 attendees and Mr. T's did great business and wants to host the event in future years. The Garage Sale had gone well and there were a lot of people who came to New Castle because of the ad in the newspaper. Ms. Knob said they would do the garage sale event again next year. Last, the Chamber will put a newsletter in the monthly utility bill highlighting various chamber members.

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 Program – nothing to report

RFTA – nothing to report

AGNC – Councilor Breslin said the AGNC was still following up on their protest of the state legislature taking over three hundred million dollars from the severance tax fund to balance the state budget. He said that the bills for contractor liability and now tires were both killed.

## **Council Comments**

Councilor Means said that in regard to the special council meeting held on April 24, 2015, he had not attended that meeting because he recused himself so there would be no question about appropriateness.

Councilor Metzger said she had participated in the town-wide garage sale and it was phenomenal. She said there were lots of people about and it was fun.

Councilor Metzger said she wanted to discuss the Committee Calendar at the next council meeting, because she felt it was confusing. Clerk Harrison agreed to place the discussion on the next council meeting.

Councilor Metzger asked what was happening with the roads in Lakota. Administrator Baker said that Warrior had declined to pursue the town's offer. He said he knew they were soliciting bids for the project.

Councilor Breslin asked if the town should consider notifying businesses of town events so that the businesses were prepared for the visitors in town. He also thought the Chamber could offer coupons, and everyone could benefit.

Councilor Breslin suggested that the town consider placing rest areas on the town trails.

Councilor Breslin said that many fire stations had visitor hours and community outreach, and he felt that Colorado River Fire did not have much in the way of an outreach program. He asked if the council would be okay with him contacting the Fire Chief Mike Morgan to discuss it. The council agreed.

Mayor Gordon said that the Lions Club will be placing a picnic area on the Jolley Trail in the summer.

Councilor Stuckey said that Town Arborist Lisa DiNardo had visited with him about his Aspen trees, and she was wonderful. He wanted to acknowledge her and her abilities.

Mayor Gordon told the council that he was very happy with the way the council worked together.

Mayor Gordon said the oil and gas symposium was very good, and there were many topics discussed. He said there was a lot of information and he wished everyone could have attended. Administrator Baker commented on the global thought processes involved and the impressive people who spoke. Mayor Gordon said that the CEO of Grand River Hospital spoke about culture, teamwork and collaboration.

Administrator Baker said that the town staff was making great effort and strides to improve customer service, and all the department heads have invested in the idea. The council agreed that the staff was doing a great job. Mayor Gordon said there

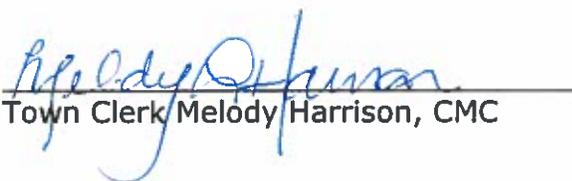
were a couple films shown that they could get from the county if the council was interested. Administrator Baker said he would find them.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Leland

  
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Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC

