

**New Castle Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 6, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

Mayor A Riddile called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present	Councilor Metzger
	Councilor Owens
	Councilor Hazelton
	Mayor Art Riddile
	Councilor Leland
	Councilor G Riddile
	Councilor Greg Russi (7:15 p.m.)

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Finance Director Lyle Layton, Finance Assistant Debora Guccini, Police Chief Tony Pagni, Administrative Assistant Debbie Nichols, Public Works Director John Wenzel, Town Engineer Jeff Simonson, Assistant Town Attorney Haley Carmer and members of the public.

Meeting Notice

Clerk Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC-2016-1.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes

Mayor Art Riddile told the council that he wanted to move the discussion regarding the council seat appointment and have the conversation immediately after the interviews. The council agreed.

Clerk Harrison told the council that Ryan Wilch had withdrawn his letter of interest.

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no citizen comments.

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney – present for agenda items.

Consultant Engineer – not present.

Items for Consideration

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Finance Report

Finance Director Lyle Layton asked the council if they had any questions regarding the August bills, and they did not. Director Layton passed out information regarding the recent severance tax distributions. New Castle had received less than expected.

Mayor A Riddile said there were four very impressive letters of interest from people who wanted to be considered for the open council seat. Unfortunately, only one person would be selected, but there were various other committees and groups they could pursue. He said that the term they were being considered for was for about fifteen months until April 2018.

Consider a Letter of Interest from Brandy Copeland for Appointment to Open Council Seat

Ms. Copeland greeted the town council, and thanked them for the opportunity to interview. Ms. Copeland said she had been with her current employer for 16 years and worked from home. She had been married for 14 years, and had a 12-year old who attended Riverside Middle School. She said she and her family loved New Castle, and thought the council was doing a great job. She also felt the recent new members of council were doing great. Ms. Copeland said she felt the growth in New Castle should be slow and steady to avoid big booms and busts. She felt that she was ready to be involved with the community, and that she was creative, hardworking, outgoing and easy to get along with and could provide the perspective from a typical, family-oriented citizen. She also felt she was not typical because she worked at home, and was always home and did not travel up-valley for work.

Ms. Copeland thought her skillset included the ability to see all perspectives. She felt that there could be more things for teens and tweens to do in town. She thought recreation was important, as well as keeping the small-town feel of New Castle. Ms. Copeland thought the trails efforts were great.

Ms. Copeland said that she and her husband used to live in Denver, but her husband had an opportunity to relocate to the mountain division of his company four years ago, so they were happy to take the opportunity to move to New Castle. The core values she felt that were important for the town were family, a marijuana-free environment and a safe, small-town feel.

Mayor A Riddile said that the council seat was not just two meeting per month, it included other committees, involvement in events and an encouragement to get out and about.

Ms. Copeland asked the council what the most challenging aspect of being on council was. Mayor A Riddile said managing the budget was a challenge: spending money wisely. He also said there was a terrific town staff of 30 people, and overseeing the staff was important. Mayor A Riddile said that the responsibility to the citizens, to maintain the health and safety of the town.

Councilor Leland said the time commitment was as well because each council person took on special projects in addition to meetings.

Consider a Letter of Interest from Greg Russi for Appointment to Open Council Seat

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Greg Russi greeted the council. Mr. Russi thanked the council, and told them he had been proud to have served for fourteen years on the council, and then in the last few years as a volunteer grant-writer for various town projects, the most recent being a collaborative group to write a grant to fund a trail segment through South Canyon. Mr. Russi said that was his first core value: a desire to collaborate. He said he believed that without collaboration, many efforts could fall apart, and that collaboration also provided everyone a voice. That was his second core value: everything in the first amendment. He felt democracy could not thrive without public participation. The town council had always been good about making certain people were heard, and had maintained a robust public process.

Mr. Russi said he felt that his values, along with the letter of interest was what he wanted to say. He said he was proud to work with all the council, and would continue as a volunteer. He said he had initially submitted his letter because the council had suffered a tragic loss in Frank Breslin, and he and Councilor Breslin's positions and policies were indistinguishable from one another, and he offered that political continuity and experience should he be appointed.

Councilor Owens asked what motivated Mr. Russi to get back on the council. Mr. Russi said there were things he wished to work on other than trails, and one was the continued development of downtown that replicated the successful model in Colorado. A good commercial stock for businesses mixed with residential in the downtown. A place where people could live, shop, eat and be entertained. Mr. Russi said he really wanted to be part of that development.

Councilor Hazelton thanked Mr. Russi everything he had done for the town over the years. He felt Mr. Russi's commitment was a good example.

Mr. Russi asked when the council retreat would be, and if the successful candidate would be included in the retreat. Last, he asked and when they would take office.

Mayor A Riddle said the retreat was scheduled for September 17, and of course, the new member would be invited. He said the new member would take office in an hour or so.

Consider a Letter of Interest from Brad Gates for Appointment to Open Council Seat

Brad Gates greeted the council. Mr. Gates said that the council had asked him a pretty tough question last time he interviewed for the council seat, and that was: Name some of your accomplishments while on the Castle Valley HOA. He said he had not answered that well, but said he was guilty of forming a good team and getting the team up and running. He felt the something like an HOA was definitely not something one person could accomplish alone. He said the HOA was successful in getting the new subdivision signs, winter holiday lights.

Mr. Gates said he was disappointed when Maud's on Main closed. He felt a business like Maud's was a good business model and was something that would have thrived up valley. The question for New Castle and the council was: Why could they not make it here? The council needed to answer that question. Indicating the aerial photograph of New Castle hanging on the wall behind the dais, Mr. Gates said that he thought part of the problem was Mt. Medaris, because he felt it was proving to be a barrier between the downtown and Castle Valley & Lakota. Keeping people in town was important. Another important item was he thought was to tie the LoVa Trail in to the pedestrian bridge on the south side of the river. Mr. Gates felt that he wanted to be part of the solutions for the downtown. Perhaps making the C Avenue Trail a hard surface would inspire people to come downtown.

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Councilor Leland noted that Mr. Gates had used the past tense when speaking about his tenure on the CVR HOA, and Mr. Gates admitted that he had tendered his resignation to the HOA. He said he felt everyone had a civic duty to do, and everyone should step up, but he felt that four years on the HOA was enough. He felt he had done what he could on the HOA and did not want that to become a personal agenda on his part. He felt he had done all he could. He apologized to the council for announcing his resignation during the interview, because that was not his intent.

Councilor Leland thanked Mr. Gates for all he had done to make the HOA a great board. Mr. Gates said he felt the HOA team was really good.

Councilor Metzger thanked Mr. Gates. Councilor Owens said the HOA definitely improved in the time he lived in Castle Valley.

Consider a Letter of Interest from Sara Malloy for Appointment to Open Council Seat

Sara Malloy greeted the council. She apologized for arriving late, because she had forgotten the interviews were happening. Ms. Malloy told the council that she was trained as a teacher. She felt her strengths were in people and communication, and her degree was in communication. Ms. Malloy said that if the council had noticed, her letter was dated April 23, 2016 because she wrote it when Mr. Riddle became mayor, and there was a vacant seat. Ms. Malloy said that she felt she represented a population of young families who were flooding New Castle. She believed the town already had the infrastructure in place in the downtown to support business, and stated that the closing of Maud's could have been more personal. A coffee shop and deli would be opening in the Maud's location which would be a great community booster. Ms. Malloy said she was present to represent the young families. She was also present to honor her father. She said she understood it was the responsibility of the council to choose a person whose strengths fit the dynamic of the team. Ms. Malloy said she brought her teaching portfolios, her philosophy of education and resume in case anyone wanted to see them. Councilor Owens invited her to read her philosophy, and Ms. Malloy did.

Councilor Hazelton said there were not many who could say they grew up in New Castle, and he asked her what she saw in the town that was a negative, and some that was a positive. Ms. Malloy said that she said she thought the number of parks in town – there seemed to be a park within walking distance of everyone, and she felt that met the needs of young families. The open spaces were places for people to be happy. Regarding negatives, Ms. Malloy felt that the old schoolhouse adjacent to Burning Mountain Park was a tremendous eyesore. She said she did not like taking her daughter there, because there was garbage, and barking dogs and characters coming and going from the building. She felt it was a bad influence on the downtown.

Ms. Malloy felt that the town was poised for great things.

Councilor Metzger asked if Ms. Malloy was currently teaching. Ms. Malloy said no, that she had a three-year-old at home and felt it was not right for her to work nurturing other people's kids, while someone else nurtured her child. She was home, and had decided to take on her father's business designing kitchens and selling cabinets.

Councilor Owens asked what her vision was for the downtown. Ms. Malloy said that she felt the town needed the infrastructure to support the trails system that was

making New Castle a destination place. The town needed a coffee shop; Bob's Bikes could be supported. She felt cute retail where people wanted to pop in and buy soaps would be good. Perhaps restaurants and retail, creating a walkable downtown. On her wish list would be a bed and breakfast and brewery.

Councilor G Riddile asked what Ms. Malloy thought as the low-hanging fruit was. Ms. Malloy said the trails system was it. Perhaps bike paths that families could use. Interconnected walkability.

Councilor Leland asked what the demographic she represented wanted from the council. Ms. Malloy said a meet-up place. A recreation center would be really nice. Mayor A Riddile asked how Ms. Malloy would find the time to serve on the council with a small child and starting up a new business. Ms. Malloy said she had asked herself the very same question. She said that she had a lot of respect for what the council did.

Councilor Leland explained the additional responsibilities that were possible, saying it took a lot of time. Councilor Owens said he has two small children and a full-time job, but said that if Ms. Malloy were determined and she had good family support, she could do it.

~~Consider Letter of Interest from Ryan Wilch for Appointment to Open Council Seat - Withdrawn~~

Mayor A Riddile thanked each of the applicants for their interest in serving on the town council, and said that there were other opportunities to serve on town committees if they were interested. He explained the voting process.

Clerk Harrison passed out ballots to each councilor.

Clerk Harrison counted the votes submitted and told the council that the top two candidates were Brad Gates and Greg Russi.

Clerk Harrison passed out the second ballot to each councilor. After counting the votes on the second ballot, Clerk Harrison told the council that their new member was Greg Russi. Mayor A Riddile thanked each candidate.

Clerk Harrison issued the oath of office to the newly appointed member of the town council, Greg Russi.

John Harcourt: Cub Scout Funding Request

Mr. John Harcourt greeted the council. He explained that the local cub scouts had been collecting food every year for their food drive. The first year they collected 2000 pounds of food, and the amount of food collected increased every year. Mr. Harcourt said that the community was so generous, he thought they must have reached some sort of record for donated food. He began researching it, and discovered that Durham, North Carolina held the record at 559,000 pounds collected in 24 hours. It equaled about one pound of food per person, based on population. Mr. Harcourt said the food his scouts collected equaled approximately 1.5 pounds per person in New Castle, and he felt they could submit to the Guinness Book of World Records a 'per capita' consideration, and see if they could set a world record for New Castle.

Mr. Harcourt said he had contacted 9 News and they would partner in promoting the effort, and advertise the challenge across the state. Mr. Harcourt said they would create banners and flyers to advertise the food drive.

Mr. Harcourt explained his scout pack's annual budget, including how much the raised with fundraiser events and how those funds were spent.

Mr. Harcourt asked the council if they would consider donating \$500 to help with the cost of posters, banners and flyers.

Mayor A Riddile said that Mr. Harcourt did a great job with the cub scouts and he should be proud of his pack.

Councilor Leland asked if the food they collected would go to the local Lift-Up (at the River Center), and Mr. Harcourt said it would.

Administrator Baker said the fund could come from the special events line item.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve a \$500 donation to Cub Scouts Pack 221 for the food drive. Mayor A Riddile seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilor Owens said that he felt that any group that contributed so much to the community deserved the funds to further their efforts.

The motion passed unanimously.

Funding Request: Public Information Officers/Incident Command System Conference

Administrative Assistant Debbie Nichols explained to the council that the Public Information Officers group began with the FEMA training in 2015. The PIO group will host a 1.5-day conference that would focus on the use of drones in emergencies. Admin. Asst. Nichols asked the council for \$500.00 that would help provide assorted bakery items for the welcome table on both mornings. The total cost for the breakfast will be \$2,200.00 for 300 people for both days. The food will come from Burning Mountain Bakery & Deli, which is the new restaurant in New Castle.

Admin. Asst. Nichols said that Tara Energy Partners and Garfield County would also provide funding for the event, and the registration fees would help offset the costs. Councilor Metzger asked if the towns of Silt and Rifle would provide funding, and Admin. Asst. Nichols said they would not. Councilor Metzger voiced concern that Silt and Rifle seemed to be uninvolved and that New Castle was providing funding for the event. She asked if the PIO Group was something Ms. Nichols was involved in on her own, or if it was work-related. Administrator Baker explained that the PIO Group was organized through the FEMA training the town staff had attended in 2015, and was work-related. He said the PIO Group was a critical element in the Incident Command System hierarchy, and the PIO Group was the most organized and met regularly.

Mayor A Riddile said that the PIO Group was extremely important and he felt the time would come where the town would have to be prepared for a major event. Councilor G Riddile agreed, and Admin. Asst. Nichols said that the PIO Group members included CMC, Carbondale Fire, Garfield County, Communications and the GarCo Sheriff, BLM, the US Forrest Service, Valley View Hospital, Grand River Hospital and CDOT. Mesa County, which was very organized, would provide one of the Guest Speakers at the conference. Admin. Asst. Nichols said that both Pitkin and Eagle Counties had been invited to the conference as well.

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Mayor A Riddile thanked Administrative Assistant Nichols for her hard work, and asked her to provide the council with an update after the conference.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve a \$500 donation to the PIO Group Conference. Councilor Leland seconded the motion and it passed with Councilor Metzger voting no.

Consider Police Department Organizational Development Proposal

Police Chief Tony Pagni said that since he had become chief, he learned how important it was to collaborate with other agencies. He felt that Administrative Assistant Nichols was not only learning public information officer skills, she was networking with agencies and people that would be vital should there be an emergency.

Chief Pagni told the council that he and Administrator Baker had been working for a number of months on 'teambuilding' within the police department. He said that in the ten years he had been with New Castle, the police department had vacancies and rollovers and loss of officers to other agencies. He said that for the first time in many years, the department was fully staffed with officers on the street independently. Chief Pagni also said he had pursued and completed the new police facility, upgraded equipment and increased training to assist with employee retention. Last, he said he wanted his officers to be a family, and feel they had opportunities for career growth, not just warm bodies to occupy a patrol car. In an effort to create the environment he wished to have in the police department, he had spoken to several resources, and settled on James Kent with the JKA Group. Mr. Kent submitted a proposal that was in the council packet. Chief Pagni asked the council for their direction on whether he should pursue the contract with JKA Group. Administrator Baker reiterated the progress Chief Pagni had made in the police department. He also said that he and the chief felt if the police officers were expected to be experts at community policing, that it started within the department. They felt the officers would benefit from the organizational development effort to further enhance the department's accomplishments. Administrator Baker said that the training had not been budgeted, but the costs would be tracked and included in the 2017 budget.

Mayor A Riddile said that Chief Pagni had done a wonderful job with the police department, and said everyone had heard great comments about the community policing effort, and felt the training would benefit the department and help with officer retention. The \$8,500 that the training would cost was less that it would cost to recruit and train new officers. Mayor a Riddile said he had ridden with all but two of the officers, and they all loved New Castle and their jobs. He also said there was incentives out there, such as signing bonuses with other agencies, which made it hard to retain officers. He felt that the money was small by comparison to the benefit. Councilor Owens said that statistically, it costs an organization thirty to fifty percent of salary to rehire a position.

Chief Pagni said he felt the training was a significant, perhaps vital step towards officer retention. He also said that the annual training budget for the department was about \$5,000, and because he had received grant funds from P.O.S.T. for training, he had not used the training budget.

Councilor Leland said his own thought about community policing was things that the officers could do, like working the crosswalk at the market. He had not thought

about what that meant internally in the department, what it meant to the department, and how the officers could help one another in their shared commitment to community policing. He felt the proposed training was a step in that direction. Chief Pagni said that several officers working together at a special event was an anomaly and that often times they worked alone, on duty, answering calls for service and solving their own problems. Then they end up in a group dynamic, four people with a chain of command, and the officers can be uncertain what their role is. The training is meant to help them understand their roles and to develop a harmonious relationship.

Councilor Owens asked if the organizational development training would be in addition to other support, and Chief Pagni said yes. Councilor Owens said that provided the salaries were competitive, people were generally willing to stay with a lower-paying position where they liked what they did and the people they worked with, so strengthening the team and environment was a great plan for retention. Councilor G Riddile asked if the training was the sustainability plan, or if it was meant to point out the greater path sustainability. Chief Pagni said that he felt it would point him in the direction of sustainability, but he did not yet know what the outcome would be.

Robert Haywood, lifetime New Castle resident and former council member. Mr. Haywood asked if the police salaries were competitive. He said the New Castle officers were great, and they loved where they were, but he was interested to understand if the town was taking care of the people who risked their lives to take care of the town. Mayor A Riddile said that the council looked at it every year, and Administrator Baker said they would look at it again. Mr. Haywood said when he was on council he had heard concern from the officers at the time that the salaries were not competitive. Administrator Baker said he and Chief Pagni would review the police department compensation again.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve up to \$8,500 for contract services with James Kent & Associates for Police Department Organizational Development. Councilor Owens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Awarding Water Treatment Plant Contract

Town Engineer Jeff Simonson reviewed the project bids for the council. He said that he and Public Works Director John Wenzel had thoroughly reviewed each bid, then followed up by interviewing the two lowest bidders, which were ConSy Construction and Mueller Construction.

Administrator Baker reviewed the costs of the project, noting that the bids had come in approximately \$238k higher than originally anticipated. He said that the reserve fund balance at the end of 2015, and after the audit was complete, was \$2.15 million. In addition, 2016 had been very strong in terms of new building. There were 28 new homes compared to the anticipated 14, which increased the tap fee revenues by \$100k. The projected 2016 year-end balance, if the project was fully funded, would be \$1.128 million, which still exceeded the council's target amount of \$1 million.

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There were a few hundred thousand dollars of costs that could be trimmed out of the project, but those things that could be eliminated would need to be done in the future and it would be more costly to do in the future.

Administrator Baker said that staff recommended approving full funding of the project.

Mayor A Riddile asked what soft costs were. Engineer Simonson said that they were inspection and testing during the project, and construction management. He also explained that the expansion of the water treatment plant would allow New Castle to build out Lakota Canyon Ranch and Castle Valley Ranch as they were master planned.

Councilor Russi asked if the mill passed some years ago could be used before rates were increased to offset costs. Administrator Baker said that staff had spoken with the town attorney last about about the mil levy, and that it would be readdressed before a rate increase was considered.

Mayor A Riddile asked when the project would begin. Engineer Simonson told the council that if the council approved, he expected he could have Mueller Construction under contract within a few weeks. The project would take 180 days. Cost overruns were not contemplated in the contract, but 5% was standard, and it was smart to anticipate them.

Mr. Bobby Haywood asked if the impact to the Elk Creek Subdivision had been considered. Engineer Simonson said the plant work would all be on site, and the only day there may be some disruption when the filters were delivered.

Councilor G Riddile asked if there was anything else in town that was high risk that the money could be needed for. Administrator Baker said that the council had projected two capital projects in the strategic plan over the next four years. For 2017-2018 was the raw water system, and for 2019-2020 was the South Side Interceptor. Both will require DOLA grants which is why they target reserve needed to be kept as high as possible, to ensure funding if needed.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to award the contract for the Water Treatment Plant Expansion to Mueller Construction Company in the amount of \$1,291,377.00 and instructed staff to prepare the contract. Councilor Russi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Town-Owned Land Request for Proposal

Administrator Baker refreshed the council's prior discussion regarding the two town-owned lots, one at 6th and Main Street, and the other at Kamm Avenue and Main Street. He said that there had already been interest in the Request For Proposal (RFP) as he had receive some calls. The council felt the proposed RFP was good, although Councilor Leland was concerned that similar to the Kuersten Property RFP, it was not very specific on what the town was looking for, though he was not certain was more specific language may be. Mayor A Riddile said that there was commercial/retail with residential listed, and he felt that was specific enough. Councilor G Riddile felt the project overview section of the RFP explained it well. Administrator Baker said he purposefully referred to the zoning code in the RFP so potential developers could read it and understand the zone district requirements and allowable uses. Councilor Russi felt that adding a sentence in the language encouraging proposers to read the code text, and the council agreed.

Administrator Baker said the RFP will be advertised on the town website and in the Post Independent, and will be sent to specific entities that had expressed interest in the properties previously.

Councilor Metzger asked if it would be appropriate to tell proposer that the council was interested in a replica of the historic train depot on the Kamm Lot, and the council agreed that it could, but they did not want to limit the development by requiring that design.

The council agreed that Administrator Baker should make the text changed, and issue the RFP.

Consider Ordinance TC-2016-6 – An Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Section 1.16.040 of the New Castle Municipal Code Regarding Cancellation of Elections (first reading)

Clerk Harrison explained that the town code had included some specific language related to cancellation of the election that was not in line with the recently changed statutes. The ordinance was merely bringing the town code in compliance with the Municipal Election Code.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance TC-2016-6, An Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Section 1.16.040 of the New Castle Municipal Code Regarding Cancellation of Elections on first reading. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed on a roll-call vote: Councilor Hazelton: yes; Mayor A Riddile: yes; councilor Leland: yes; Councilor Owens: yes; Councilor G Riddile: yes; Councilor Metzger: yes; and Councilor Russi: yes.

MOTION: Councilor A Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance TC-2016-6, An Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Section 1.16.040 of the New Castle Municipal Code Regarding Cancellation of Elections on first reading. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed on a roll-call vote: Councilor Hazelton

Mr. Haywood told the council that the stop sign on Midland Avenue, at 2nd Street was problematic in that many people did not stop. He was concerned that someone was going to be injured. He felt that there needed to be a solution, perhaps some speed reducer. He said that in Eagle they installed a diagonal pan, similar to a water pan, which slowed vehicles down, but did not interfere with snowplowing. Councilor Hazelton said he understood the concerns, and saw the issues because he lived on Midland Avenue. He felt there could be a neighborhood meeting to discuss the issues. Administrator Baker said he and Chief Pagni would organize it.

Consider Ordinance TC-2016-7 – An Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Chapter 10.20 of the New Castle Municipal Code Regarding Abandoned Vehicles (first reading)

Chief Pagni said the ordinance was a result of concerns brought to the council regarding storage on the Kamm Lot and other public properties. He said that in the process of getting people to remove their vehicles from the property he discovered some old code sections that were impeding the police department's ability to efficiently deal with abandoned vehicles because it required a court order. It also

was not in alignment with the Model Traffic Code. The ordinance was to clean up the municipal code to be aligned with the 2010 Model Traffic Code.

MOTION: Councilor a Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance TC-2016-7, An Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Chapter 10.20 of the New Castle Municipal Code Regarding Abandoned Vehicles on first reading. Councilor Owens seconded the motion and it passed on a roll-call vote: Mayor A Riddile: yes; Councilor Owens: yes; Councilor Russi: No; Councilor Leland: yes; Councilor Metzger: yes; Councilor G Riddile: yes; and Councilor Hazelton: yes.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the August 16, 2016 meeting

August Bills of \$513,352.71

City Market 3.2% Beer Liquor License Renewal

Resolution TC-2016-19 - Approving an MOU with the Bureau of Land Management

Support Letter for GWS Trails Grant Application

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

Staff Reports

Town Administrator – Administrator Baker said staff was considering the town Christmas party. It had been suggested that it could be at the Lakota Recreation Center or the Community Center because having it in a restaurant can get crowded. His concern was that it would end up being a lot of work for the staff, unless the caterer performed all the work. The council felt the Lakota Recreation Center was a good idea. Administrator Baker said he would come back to the council with the plans. Administrator Baker told the council that the RFTA Park and Ride opening ceremony would be the following morning at 9:30 a.m. The GFMLD and RFTA would attend, and the mayor would make some brief remarks. Administrator Baker told the council that Hannah Bihr in the Recreation Department was expecting, and would be reducing her hours to part-time. The department will be looking for a part-time person. Councilor G Riddile asked if the new Director, Sax Vue, could come to the next council meeting and speak to the council a little more about his goals and vision for the department. Administrator Baker said he would have Director Vue come to the next public works committee meeting. Administrator Baker said he would be mediating the CLEER/CORE Retreat on September 9 from 1pm to 3pm.

Last, Administrator Baker said staff had wanted to schedule time for council pictures. He asked the council if they wanted staff to bring in a professional photographer, or if Kim Rider could do it. The council felt Ms. Rider would do a great job. Councilor Leland asked that Clerk Harrison make sure to remind the council that photographs would be done so they could wear nice clothing.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison told Councilor Russi that she had an iPad for his use if he wished, and said she could provide him printed reference materials as well. Clerk Harrison told the council that there had been no write-in candidates, therefore Art Riddile was the only candidate for the mayor's seat. She said that because the election was coordinated with the county, and because there were ballot questions, his name would still appear on the ballot. Ballot content would be certified to the county by Friday, September 9. She said that because the county was running the

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election, it made it much easier for the clerk's office staff. Clerk Harrison told the council that there had been questions from the new councilors about complaints they had received about high water bills. She explained the process that her staff used to assist customers when they had high bills.

Town Planner -

Public Works Director -

Commission Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission - nothing to report

Historic Preservation Commission - nothing to report

Climate Action Advisory Committee - nothing to report

Senior Program - nothing to report

RFTA - meeting Thursday - Mayor A Riddile said there would be a short ceremony at the new park and ride the following morning. He also asked Councilor Russi if he would like to be the alternate for RFTA and he said yes.

AGNC - nothing to report

GCE - nothing to report

Council Comments

Councilor G Riddile said had received a phone call from Lucy Upson and he understood the other council members has as well. He said he did not know what to do for her. Administrator Baker said that Ms. Upson was complaining about the neighbors who run a home woodworking business. He said he wanted Planner Cain to address her concern and determine whether their business was within the code limitations. Otherwise, he felt there was not much else that could be done. There seemed to be no fix for the extensive complaints from Ms. Upson. He told the council that he would contact Ms. Upson the following day.

Councilor Leland said that the last newsletter was jammed with information, and that he already had enough for another newsletter. He felt it may be an advantage to begin publishing the newsletter every other month.

Councilor Leland said that there had been a time when the council would meet in other locations, such as the school or in Lakota and he missed it.

Councilor Leland asked clerk Harrison if they would consider committee assignments at the next council meeting, and she confirmed it.

Councilor Russi thanked Brandy Copeland for her attendance, and hoped she would consider a seat on another town committee.

Councilor Hazelton said he had a resident speak to him about their concern of the fire hydrants on 4th and 6th Streets being located so close to the planter boxes.

Mayor A Riddile said someone had come to a council meeting and voiced the same concern, and Public Works Director John Wenzel had explained that there was enough space for the hydrant to be used. Administrator Baker said he would follow up with Director Wenzel.

Councilor Owens said that he had received a call about the interchange bridge being rusty, and wanted to know who inspected the bridges. Administrator Baker said he would look into it. Councilor Owens said there was also graffiti on the bridge, and asked if there meaning to the images/letters. Chief Pagni said it was a small, local group of vandals. He said there was actually a felony graffiti case whose purported members were all under the age of fourteen, but he could not say for certain who else was currently tagging.

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Councilor Russi said that when he lived in NW Denver, they had a team that went out every weekend to paint over the tags. That let the groups know their tags would not last and it eventually they stopped tagging. He felt it might be something to consider for New Castle.

Councilor Owens asked if the police department had bicycle cops. Chief Pagni said they did have a couple bikes for the cops, but it was not a popular form of transportation because it make them too warm. They preferred an air-conditioned vehicle that also gave them increased mobility.

Councilor Owens asked about a lane reduction on Main Street. Administrator Baker said Councilor G Riddile was brainstorming the idea, because two bike lanes were probably needed on Main Street. He said he would pursue it if the council wanted him to. The council agreed.

Councilor Owens asked what the expectation was for council members for Burning Mountain Festival. Mayor A Riddile said he should come when he could.

Councilor Metzger asked if the P&Z seat had been advertised, and Clerk Harrison said it had been advertised, but she had not received any letters of interest for it.

Councilor Metzger asked Ms. Copeland if she would be interested, and Ms. Copeland said she would come to the meeting.

Councilor Metzger said she had run across the Main Street Program through DOLA, and wondered about it. Councilor Leland said the RREDC was going to include New Castle in the Main Street Program when they were still in existence, but even though the cost was lower, it was still too expensive for New Castle to afford.

Councilor Metzger thought the council should recognize Noreen Nolan for her hard work on the Community Market. Councilor Leland said he was working on a proclamation.

Councilor Metzger said she had read the newsletter and there was a council meeting date that was incorrect.

Mayor A Riddile said that the Town of Silt had installed a jumbotron near the roundabout and it was pretty neat.

Mayor A Riddile said that the Pyro Memorial Dedication would be at noon on Saturday. The statue was set, there were busses to move people from downtown to Grand River Park and back. - pyro memorial noon Saturday - statue is set - busses to move people

councilor Metzger thanked Mayor A Riddile for the efforts on the Pyro Memorial, and he said that it had been an unbelievable effort from many people.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Art Riddile

Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC

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