New Castle Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order
Mayor Riddile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present	Councilor Mary Metzger
	Councilor Grady Hazelton
	Mayor Art Riddile
	Councilor Bruce Leland
	Councilor Graham Riddile
Absent	Councilor Frank Breslin

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Town Planner Tim Cain, 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-2016-1.

Conflicts of Interest
There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes
Mayor A Riddile suggested combining agenda items E: MOU between BLM and the Town, and K: Funding Request, BLM Cultural Clearances, because he felt they related to one another.
Clerk Harrison said there were several additional agenda changes. First, she asked that items H and J be moved to the beginning of the agenda. She said that Attorney McConaughy was recovering from an illness, and staff felt that moving the two items done early could allow him to go home. Second, she said there was an additional proclamation for School Counselor Kristen Greenstreet who was a long time employee with Garfield RE-2. The proclamation could be added to the end of the agenda. Last she said that there was an additional funding request from the Chamber for the town-wide garage sale that could be added to item D. The council agreed to the changes. Administrator Baker asked to add a discussion to the end of the agenda regarding the 4th of July celebration. The council agreed to all the changes.

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda
John Lee – 320 Whitehorse – Mr. Lee presented a replica of the Pyro Memorial statue to the council. He said they intended to set the memorial in Grand River Park

on Labor Day 2016. He said they had raised over $65k, and had commitments for $85k. Mr. Lee thanked the council for jumpstarting the program. Mayor A Riddile asked when more Pyro hot sauce would be available. Mr. Lee was not certain, but said it was selling quickly.
Mayor A Riddle said that Garfield County had donated $5k to the memorial and had received their replica the previous morning.
Mr. Lee told the council and audience the website was www.pyromemorial.org and left some flyers for those who were interested.
Garfield County Commissioner Mike Samson offered his congratulations to the councilors who had been recently elected. He noted that there were two of his former students on the council.
Commissioner Sampson thanked the council for the kindness they had shown him in the past two months during his illness. He also thanked the staff at Grand River and Valley View hospitals for their great care of him.
Commissioner Samson offered his assistance if the town needed anything. Mayor A Riddile said he thought the relationship between the county and town in the last few years was the best it had ever been, and he thanked Commissioner Samson. Commissioner Samson invited Mayor A Riddile to the quarterly Mayor's meeting.

Items for Consideration

Proclamation Honoring Lee Price
Mayor Art Riddile read the proclamation into the record. The council thanked Lee Price for his service to the New Castle community.

Sylvia Duchscher Thank you
Mayor A Riddile introduced himself to Miss Sylvia Duchscher, and asked her to explain why she was present. Miss Duchscher said it was because she did a clean-up. Mayor A Riddle told the council and audience that six-year-old Miss Duchscher had organized a clean-up of Alder Park Trail, but that there had been so many volunteers, they were able to do the park as well. He presented a stuffed animal and card with movie tickets to Miss Duchscher, and thanked her for a great job. Miss Duchscher's mother, Stacey Duchscher, thanked Public Works Director John Wenzel and the entire town for their assistance. She said that at the very first phone call the town said yes, and sponsored the clean-up by providing trash bags and grabbers, printing flyers and disposing of the garbage.

Discussion/Decision: Waste & Recycling Contract
Town Planner Tim Cain described the two RFPs that were received, one from Waste Management and one from Mountain Waste. He noted some of the things that still needed to be included, but ultimately, recommended that the council award the contract to Mountain Waste.
Councilor Leland said that the Climate Action Advisory Commission had recommended items to be part of the waste and recycling contract, three of which he agreed with. The first was that Mountain Waste should bear the cost of putting a brochure in the town utility bill. Second was to expand the education outreach regarding recycling as well as information about extra and special pick-ups. Third was to provide information for the town newsletter.

Councilor Leland said that Planner Cain recommended a three-year contract with two renewals, rather than the five-year contract proposed by the company.
MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to offer a three-year contract to Mountain Waste, renewable for two one-year periods thereafter. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion and it passed on a roll call vote: Councilor Metzger: yes; Mayor A Riddile: yes; Councilor Hazelton: yes; Councilor G Riddile: yes; and Councilor Leland: yes.
Attorney McConaughy said that staff would prepare the contract. The actual contract would be on the consent agenda at the next council meeting. Attorney McConaughy disclosed that Mountain Waste was his client on unrelated matters and that they had waived any conflict and understood that he was representing the town only to prepare the contract.

Discussion Regarding Council Seat Appointment Process
Administrator Baker said there was a June 1 deadline for interested persons to submit their letters of interest for the open council seat. The June 7 meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. so the council had time to interview each of the applicants. Councilor Leland said he and Mayor A Riddile had been speaking with Administrator Baker and Clerk Harrison about how the selection process should be conducted. There will be six councilors voting. If there are two applicants, the process will be simple. If there are four or more applicants, it will become more complicated. The successful candidate must receive four votes. The process will be as follows:
Three or fewer applicants, each councilor will vote by ballot, the ballots, which have each councilors name on it, will be handed to the town clerk who will then read aloud the number of votes for each applicant. If there are four or more applicants, each councilor will vote for two applicants, and the top two from that vote will be the finalists.
Attorney McConaughy said that the method outlined by Councilor Leland worked, and if anyone got four votes, then the voting would be over. If no one applicant got four, then the process would narrow down who the top contenders were. Someone on the council could also make a motion and if there were four in favor, that worked as well. Councilor Leland clarified that someone could be appointed to the council seat by motion or by ballot, and Attorney McConaughy agreed.

Consider Authorizing Mayor to Sign Letter to Governor Regarding HB1309
Attorney McConaughy told the council that the letter was requesting the governor to veto house bill 1309 that required municipal courts to have public defenders standing by at first appearance situations. It was an unfunded mandate from the state that would require significant expense, and he did not believe it was constitutionally required. The Colorado Municipal League was suggesting that municipalities write letters to the governor asking for a veto.
MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the letter to the governor regarding HB1309. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion.
Discussion: Councilor Leland said that he had learned that requests for public defenders in the New Castle court was so rare that the expense would be extraordinary if the town had to have a public defender on standby. Because court was held monthly, if a person needed a public defender the case could be continued

to the following month, which gave the town time to have a public defender present. Mayor A Riddile said that serious cases went to district court anyhow.
The motion passed unanimously.

Consider Request for Funding from Chamber of Commerce for Movie Night and Town-Wide Garage Sale.
Administrator Baker said that Ms. Terri Knob had been resurrecting the Chamber for more than a year, and she was making progress. The town encouraged community involvement and Ms. Knob had new events she wished to explain. He also said that the money the Chamber was requesting would pay for a projector and screen for the movie night.
Terri Knob, New Castle Chamber of Commerce board member, previously the Chamber President. Ms. Terri Knob told the council that she had a great volunteer group for community events and the movie nights that had put on previously had been very successful. They had ordered a larger screen to accommodate more attendees, and the first event would be on July 4, 2016. The next events will be at Elk Creek Elementary school in August and September. The movies will be free, but they will sell concessions to fund speakers and other equipment that they would borrow until they can afford to purchase their own.
Administrator Baker asked Ms. Knob to explain the garage sale.
Ms. Knob said the chamber had done a town-wide garage sale in 2015 that was very successful. One of the things they had done was work with the Thrift Store across the river, and they encouraged people to donate left over items to the thrift store. Last year a trucking company donated semis to each of the thrift stores in the county, and items that could not be sold were shipped to Denver. The trucking company removed all their semis several weeks earlier. The majority of items left at the thrift store the year before was garbage, so they are considering a dumpster. The cost of a dumpster is $400.00. They tried to get Mountain Waste to donate the dumpster but they would not. Administrator Baker suggested that the council consider adding special events to the new waste and recycling contract. Mayor A Riddile asked if staff could contact Mountain Waste and ask for a reduction in the cost of the dumpster. Administrator Baker said a motion to approve up to $400 would be good, and staff would try to get the cost reduced or eliminated.
Councilor Leland said the chamber events were great and he supported them. He said he although the events were wonderful, but felt that the chamber should focus actively serving the town businesses.
MOTION: Councilor G Riddile made a motion to approve a $400.00 contribution to the family movie night, and up to $400.00 for a dumpster for the garage sale. The funds to come out of the special events line item. Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Approving Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of New Castle and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Consider Funding Request: BLM Environmental and Cultural Clearances

Administrator Baker told the council that the discussion was a follow-up of the April 19 item regarding a partnership between the BLM, Castle Valley Ranch HOA, Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA) and New Castle Trails. Administrator Baker said that north of the Colorow Trail, there were approximately 400 acres with unapproved soft trails that the BLM would not consider formalizing until cultural and environmental surveys had been completed. He said the BLM did the survey work themselves, but their budgets for 2015, 2016 and 2017 were already done, and the earliest budget monies would be available for the surveys would be 2018. On average, the surveys cost $50 per acre, or $20k. The surveys could be done during the summer 2016. He said that the entire 400 acres may not need to be surveyed, and that New Castle Trails will look closer at it.
Administrator Baker told the council that there were several requests. First, that the council authorize a partnership to fund the cultural and environmental clearance surveys in partnership with New Castle Trails and RFMBA, who would donate $2,500.00 with the town contributing $17,500.00. Castle Valley Ranch HOA agreed to donate $3,750.00 in 2016 and $3,750.00 in 2017 to do actual trail work or to provide signage, either for parking or on the trails themselves, which is critical to the BLM's requirements. The funds could also be used as match money for a LiveWell mini-grant for trail signs, which was how the town recently afforded 20 new trail signs.
Mayor A Riddile felt that the efforts to improve the trails systems were great economic enhancers for the town and he was excited about the possibilities.
Administrator Baker said that Jen Haywood and Kit Axelson were part of the group of homeowners that assisted in the realignment of the Alder Park open space trail the week before. Administrator Baker said he wanted to state for the record that the town was committed to the alignment that was developed with the homeowners.
Councilor Leland verified that RFMBA believed that once the Lakota access was available, it was likely the mountain bikers would use that access rather than the Alder Park access, so there would be less traffic at Alder Park.
Mayor A Riddile asked where the $17,500.00 would come from. Administrator Baker said that Finance Director Layton had suggested creating a Trail Planning & Construction line item because the town was beginning to have more trail expenditures, and a line item would help the council to budget it for next year, but for 2016 it was not budgeted. He said it was possible that there could not be enough savings in the 2016 budget to cover the $17.5k, but there was $750K in reserves. He said that the funds would need to be dispersed in late spring, early summer. He also said that if the BLM's contract surveyor could not complete the work during the summer, Attorney McConaughy knew someone who could complete the cultural and environmental surveys.
Councilor Hazelton asked what the urgency was for the bandit trails on the BLM when there were trails in New Castle that the town was working on, and the BLM would do the surveys in three or four years. Administrator Baker said that there was no guarantee the BLM would complete the surveys in a few years. In addition, it was an economic development opportunity, and there was a community of people willing to help build the trails. It was taking advantage of an opportunity that presented itself. Councilor Hazelton asked if they believed the opportunity would be available in four years, and Administrator Baker and Councilor G Riddile said there

was no guarantee it would be. Councilor G Riddile said by contributing the $20k, it made a statement to the BLM that the town was committed.
Bronwyn Rittner, 111 N 3rd Street. Ms. Rittner said that the trails were already existing, and being bandit or illegal trails, they were not necessarily up to the appropriate standard for soft trails. The trails were unmanaged, and she felt that was something that should be addressed. She felt it was an opportunity for the BLM to accept a managed trail system where the citizens on both sides of the issue could speak. She felt that a managed trail program would make people on both sides happy. Unmanaged, the trails could be shut down by the BLM completely, and she did not feel that was something anyone truly wanted. It was an opportunity for the town to show the BLM that they were interested in proper management of the trails, and since the trails were there anyhow, it was time to make a statement that it was the right time to partner in managing the trails for everyone's benefit.
Councilor Hazelton asked Brad Gates, Castle Valley HOA President, why the HOA was willing to earmark money towards the trails, but not towards the research. Mr. Gates said that it was difficult to spend homeowners money on something outside the town, something that does not directly benefit citizens within Castle Valley Ranch(CVR). The HOA Board committed to signage that originates and terminates within CVR.
Adam Cornely, 151 Little Bear Peak. Mr. Cornely said he understood Councilor Hazelton's concern, but felt that if the town did not allocate funding and begin the process of legalization right away, then the citizens who use the trails could be prohibited from using them until 2018 or later. Technically, no one was allowed to be up there. He said in his opinion, providing the funding would place New Castle at the forefront of trail development in the county. It would place New Castle on the map.
Councilor Hazelton said he was not against the trails, but he was looking at it from a taxpayer's standpoint, and wanted to make certain it was money well spent. He felt everyone had made some valid points and he appreciated the input.
Dustin Dodson, 187 Blackhawk Drive. Mr. Dodson felt it was an opportunity for the town and the taxpayers. He said the many people who were present in the audience that were not regular participants in town council meetings which obviously showed the support the people had for trails. He felt each person present represented twenty more people, which would show the taxpayers and other communities what they valued. The town was also pursuing senior housing, which was catching energy as well. The trails met a need for the next generation who would eventually sit on council. He felt it would be a good move for the town. Mr. Dodson said he was not convinced that $17.5k was too much to ask from the taxpayers considering the cash on hand. He said he would not consider it venture money, it was securing the future and would be symbolic of what the town stands for: Health, wellness, activity, and it would continue the tradition of New Castle as well as push the agenda forward.
Councilor Metzger said she had received a letter from Jenny Cornely, but she did not understand if Mrs. Cornely was looking for more bike paths in town or if she referring to something else like paths for kids. Mr. Cornely said that children's riding trails were part of the effort, both in town and in the BLM. He said there was a big vision of trails for everyone, and that the council would be seeing him again.
Troy Tritschler, 500 Honeysuckle Drive. Mr. Tritschler said his home was directly adjacent to the Alder Park open space trail as well as directly in front of the parking

lot at Alder Park. He said he had spoken to the neighbor across the street who was the only other home closer than he was to the trail. Mr. Tritschler said that the original trail that was put in socially was a fall-line trail, an erosion hazard that sloughed mud onto the street during rain. The fall line trail was also an eyesore, and not very attractive. He felt the new trail had caused a lot of buzz because the mountain bike community that had instigated it. He felt that if the society for wildflowers or dog walkers that had instigated the trail, there would have been less objection. He said that if the old trail was eliminated, the new trail line was much more attractive and easier to maintain. Mr. Tritschler said no one should get hung up on bicycles because they would be there regardless of what is done with the trail. Switchback trails are much easier to maintain, they were more interesting to walk, and they would work to control the speed of bicycles. In addition, it would preclude the occasional motorcycle.

Mr. Tritschler said the trails on the BLM were something people wanted, expected and needed, and had taken upon themselves to put in. He felt the BLM trails were high-quality soft trails, but they were on government land without permission. The other issue was that the trail used to access the BLM was ridiculously steep. Mr. Tritschler felt this was an opportunity to step in and adopt and manage the trails. This created a good product that enhanced people's lives rather than creating a nuisance.

Mike Pritchard, Executive Director, Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association. Mr. Pritchard thanked the council for attending the recent events. There had been a great presentation on better living through trails. Those who had attended the school understood the theory of good trails, and were excited about the future. Mr. Pritchard said that the BLM's national recreation strategy called "Connecting with Communities" and was about partnerships with groups like RFMBA and New Castle Trails and local towns. The acreage that was being considered for the environmental and cultural study was identified by the BLM as an Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA) during their recent Resource Management Plan. It will be a focus for recreation. The funds requested was the beginning of a planning process that he was confident the community would support and assist with, and he expected the trails would be used and loved far into the future. Mr. Pritchard said the trails could not be put on a map until they had been cleared. He agreed that there was some risk that they would not be cleared, but he had a group of people with high hopes and willingness to close those trails that were unacceptable. He also expected that the community would respect the wildlife closure of the trails during the winter season. Mr. Pritchard said nothing could be done without the town's support, and the environmental study was the way to get started. He said RFMBA was excited to partner with the town.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to allow up to 17,500.00 for the BLM Environmental and Cultural Clearances; and to direct the Mayor to sign a letter to the BLM, making the offer of partnership; and for the Memorandum of Understanding to be delivered to the BLM. Mayor A Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Councilor Leland told the audience that there would be an article about trails in the next town newsletter, and that the town was doing everything they could to make New Castle a trail town.

The audience thanked the council for their efforts.

Administrator Baker said that Attorney McConaughy had used an MOU from a few years ago and had modified some of the language, but was language the BLM had approved in the past. He told the council that the MOU was neither a fiscal or fund-obligation document, but was something the BLM needed for the environmental assessments. He asked the council for their authorization to send the MOU to the BLM without the Mayor's signature; to allow the BLM to review it and amend it if necessary. He said the MOU would come back to the council for approval.
MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve the MOU between the Town of New Castle and the BLM. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Update: Trails Planning – Greg Russi
Mr. Greg Russi greeted the council. He told them that the town had received a $65k State Trails Planning Grant for a 4.1-mile section of trail from New Castle to the Canyon Creek interchange. Mr. Russi said that he would come back in the summer to talk with the council, community and stakeholders in preparation for a robust public process. He introduced Town Engineer Jeff Simonson who he had been working with to complete the study funded by the grant. Engineer Simonson showed the council maps that indicated three different possible trail alignments, and described in detail the various concerns and possibilities in each. One of the next steps will be to coordinate with Glenwood Springs regarding the portion of the trail they are working on, extending from Glenwood to New Castle. The idea was to connect to the Rio Grande and the Glenwood Canyon Trails. Mr. Russi said he had been working for several years on the trails projects, including supporting Glenwood Springs with a Federal Lands Access Planning (FLAP) Grant money. The project was two pedestrian bridges on the west of Glenwood Springs to connect into the canyon. He felt they could pick up the 2-mile section of trail from South Canyon to New Castle, but the cost estimate came that was way out of line with what everyone thought they would be. Nonetheless, Mr. Russi asked that the council still sign the letter of support for the Federal Lands Access Grant.
Larry Dragon, LoVa Trail Executive Director. Mr. Dragon said that he had spoken to Glenwood Springs and clarified that they would not have to foot the entire bill for the section of trail, but the $20m price tag made them back off. Glenwood Springs intended to move forward with the FLAP Grant excluding the two-mile section from South Canyon to Canyon Creek.
Mr. Russi said the New Castle section was from New Castle to Canyon Creek, and he believed that they would be shovel-ready in September. Councilor Leland said that once the section to Canyon Creek was complete, it would put pressure on Glenwood to finish their sections.
Mr. Russi and the council discussed the various agencies that he expected to be part of a collaborative group who would oversee construction and maintenance of the proposed trails. These included Glenwood Springs, Garfield County, RFTA and New Castle, and likely the other municipalities in the county. New Castle would be responsible for operations and maintenance on the New Castle section, but he expected that other sections of the trail would be cared for by the collaborative or RFTA. There would need to be dedicated funding for the maintenance, perhaps from sales tax, or a bond or a RFTA tax. Mr. Russi said the Rio Grande Trail had 1 ½ full-time employees for forty-two (42) miles of trail. It cost roughly $100k plus

materials for maintenance per year. Mayor A Riddile said RFTA would have their retreat on June 8, and they will be discussing the LoVa Trail regarding the Garfield County needs assessment completed by RFTA consultants. Mr. Russi displayed a planning map regarding accessibility and trail gaps that needed to be addressed. He indicated several areas in New Castle. Mr. Russi, staff and the council discussed each of those gaps and what could or was being done to complete them. The council also discussed how a bike lane could be done on Main Street to make biking safer and more accessible for the citizens.
The council thanked Mr. Russi for his hard work on the Trails Group.

Consider Request for Funding from LoVa Trail – Larry Dragon
Mr. Larry Dragon presented a lengthy power-point show that detailed the LoVa Trail Projects. After the power-point presentation, Mr. Dragon and the council discussed the possible advantages to using existing infrastructure for the trail, such as the Frontage Road in Silt rather than attempting to build a trail around Davis Point. He asked the council to consider a donation of $4,500.00 towards the LoVa budget. Mayor A Riddile asked what the money would be used for, and how it would benefit the town. Mr. Dragon said the funds would be used for minimal operating expenses such as staff, insurance and travel expenses. He said LoVa had been successful in getting RFTA on board. Additionally, Mr. Dragon felt that LoVa was the driving force behind the 16 in 2016 trails grant. He said LoVa's mission was to complete the trail, essentially working themselves out of a job. In the next six months, Mr. Dragon said LoVa would identify grant monies for construction for New Castle and he would be presenting at the RFTA board retreat. He also represented New Castle at the Governor's Inter-Agency Trails Council. Mr. Dragon said that LoVa had lost some funding from other agencies, and their efforts had unfortunately reflected that loss of staff and funding. He said that LoVa would be approaching the City of Rifle for additional funding as well.

Mayor A Riddile said that the staff memo recommended approval of a $4,500.00 contribution to LoVa. He asked where the funds would come from. Administrator Baker said it would come from the Trail Construction line item, which was currently unfunded. The account would be used to track expenses. Councilor Leland said the money would have to come from reserves.
Councilor G Riddile said that he felt the money would go towards advocacy in 2016, not necessarily planning. Councilor Leland said the council had been supporting LoVa for years.
Mayor A Riddile said he was thinking the council could grant the $4500, but they would not grant any more for a year. He felt the council would need to take a real serious look at progress in a year. He felt that hearing RFTA say they would discuss the LoVa Trail was encouraging.
MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve funding LoVa trails in the amount of $4,500.00
Councilor Leland seconded the motion and it passed with Councilors Hazelton and Metzger voting no.

Consider Motion to Begin the June 7, 2016 Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to begin the June 7, 2016 council meeting at 6:00 p.m. Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Proclamation for Kristen Greenstreet
Administrator Baker told the council that Jana Price, Principal at Kathryn Senor Elementary, requested the proclamation. The proclamation was to honor Kristin Greenstreet who had been a school counselor for 25 years.
Ms. Price also requested that Mayor A Riddile attend the assembly at the school and award the proclamation.
Mayor A Riddile read the proclamation into the record.

Request for Funding: Talbotts Freedom Celebration – Fireworks
Administrator Baker told the council that in 2015 the council gave $6,000.00 towards the fireworks for the Talbotts' Freedom Celebration. He said he believed they had been doing the 4th of July celebration for forty years. Russell Talbott had called and requested $3,000.00 for the 2016 celebration.
MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to donate $3,000.00 to the Talbotts for the July 4th Fireworks. Councilor Leland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Councilor G Riddile asked if Finance Director Lyle Layton could provide the council with a report on the budget. Administrator Baker said Director Layton did a quarterly report, so it would be available soon. He also said that the funding requests were quite unusual, but he felt that it was because there were so many events and projects moving forward in New Castle. Mayor A Riddile said he saw some benefit to the local economy with the funding requests.

Consent Agenda
Councilor Leland asked about the April 19, 2016 minutes in the packet. Clerk Harrison said that staff had reviewed the minutes, and felt that part of the Trails discussion needed clarification. She said the changes were redlined on pages three and four.
Minutes of the April 19, 2016 council meeting
Sports Park RFP
MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff Reports
Town Administrator – nothing to report
Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison said that she had received a letter of interest for the open P&Z seat that would be on the June 7 agenda. She also said she received a phone call from a woman whose son lived in town and he was disabled. She felt that the council should consider creating a reduced rate for water and sewer serviced for disabled people when they consider changing rates again. Clerk Harrison said she would be out of town Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for state track championships. She also told the council that she had received three letters of

interest for the open council seat from Jerry Touslee, Randy Fricke and Larry Dragon.
Town Planner – not present
Public Works Director – not present

Commission Reports
Planning & Zoning Commission – Councilor Metzger said P&Z had approved the church applications. Administrator Baker said that applications from the First Baptist Church would come to council at the next meeting.
Historic Preservation Commission – Councilor Leland said Dr. Laura Roper, who had spoken to the council previously, had purchased the building next door. She attended the HPC meeting to give the commission a brief look at some of the restorations they were considering. Councilor Leland said HPC had also named one of the hills east of Mt. Medaris, and were still working on names for the other two hills. HPC had also decided to apply for a grant for the residential survey of historic homes in town. Councilor Leland said HPC would likely come to council to request funding for an upgrade to the cemetery webpage, to make the page interactive.
Climate Action Advisory Committee – nothing to report
Senior Program – Councilor Metzger said that the annual BBQ will be June 21 at noon at Senior Housing, and everyone was invited.
RFTA – Mayor A Riddile said LoVa came up a few times at the RFTA meeting. He also said Markey Butler, Director of Hospice of the Valley, said that she had a person look at the Kuersten property, and they determined it would cost more than one million dollars to prep the site.
AGNC – nothing to report
GCE – nothing to report

Council Comments
Councilor Metzger said she had heard that the fire department was putting some properties up for sale – the one on Main Street, New Castle and one in Silt.
Councilor Metzger said that the Downtown Group's annual clean-up day would be June 13. The group was considering Roderick Lane as the focus.
Councilor Metzger asked when the marketing plan would be at council.
Administrator Baker said it would be June 7.
Mayor A Riddile said Councilor Metzger had a good idea that at the retreats, the council created goals, but within a few months, they lost sight of those goals.
Administrator Baker said that the documents tracked the goals and accomplishments over a period of years, and he offered to provide it to the council.
Councilor Leland said that he appreciated the work done by Administrator Baker and Councilor G Riddile in meeting with the residents who were concerned about the Alder Trail. The job they did was great. Councilor Leland also thanked Clerk Harrison for the business cards.
Councilor G Riddile said that the RFMBA event had been very successful, and that he appreciated everyone's hard work.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Art Riddile

Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC