

**New Castle Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 3, 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 Riddile Councilor Metzger Mayor Gordon Councilor Breslin Councilor Stuckey
Absent	Councilor Leland

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Public Works Director John Wenzel and Town Planner Tim Cain.

**Meeting Notice**

Town Clerk Melody Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC-2014-1.

**Conflicts of Interest**

Councilor Stuckey said he had a possible conflict with an item that was going to be added to the agenda and would recuse himself.

**Agenda Changes**

Clerk Harrison told the council that staff would like to add two items to the agenda. The first was a discussion regarding the proposed Memorial for William Dubois. The second was a discussion item on an economic stimulus proposal. Clerk Harrison said that Youth Zone was unable to attend and the item could be removed from the agenda. The council agreed.

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

Mayor Gordon introduced Garfield County Commissioner Mike Samson. Commissioner Samson thanked the council for the Founders Day event the previous weekend and for honoring the Jolley Family. He said he felt the event was a great success and looked forward to it in the future. He apologized for not having mentioned some people in his comments. He thanked Councilor Bruce Leland for initiating the idea of Founders Day. He also thanked Administrative Assistant Debbie Nichols for organizing the event. Last, Commissioner Samson thanked Town Administrator Tom Baker for meeting with the Jolley Family, and for dedicating so much time and effort to the event. Commissioner Samson asked that the town keep in touch with the county regarding the extension of the town trails. Garfield County started the Youth Conservation Corps to assist

the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service and other areas with trails and outdoor projects, and Commissioner Samson felt they could help New Castle as well. Commissioner Samson asked if Mayor Gordon and Councilor Stuckey would be attending the meeting on the RFTA Corridor, and said that because it was controversial he wanted to be certain that all the RFTA board members would be attending.

Last, Commissioner Samson said that Oak Meadows, the subdivision located on the road to Sunlight, had been on the county schedule for some major improvements to their roads. Oak Meadows has asked the county to delay that work. Commissioner Samson said the county had shifted priorities, and County Road 335 will likely be improved in 2015. Commissioner Samson introduced Kelly Lord, one of his former students. He complimented the 4<sup>th</sup> grade class on learning about democracy and wished them success.

## **Items for Consideration**

### **Kathryn Senior 4th Grade Class Pedestrian Safety Proposal**

Mayor Gordon welcomed the 4<sup>th</sup> grade class from Kathryn Senior. He asked their teacher, Kelly Lord, to introduce them. Ms. Lord turned introductions over to the students. The student cabinet introduced themselves: 4<sup>th</sup> grade class Governor Ian; Judge Caleb; Alyses, House of Representatives; Kaden, House of Representatives; Maddie, House of Representatives and Dani, House of Representatives. Governor Ian thanked the council for their time. He said their class had been studying local government. As a class, they voted on changes they felt they wanted to see in their community. Governor Ian said that that intersection at Castle Valley Boulevard and State Highway 6 was dangerous, and they recommended that crosswalks be painted on the street, that flashing pedestrian signs be installed, that police supervision in the area be increased, and traffic stop light be installed. The council and the student government members discussed the safety concerns of the students. Mayor Gordon explained that the town was already in the process of discussing the issues with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), and hoped to have some resolutions soon.

**MOTION: Mayor Gordon made a motion to commit to improve the safety conditions at the Hwy 6 and Castle Valley Boulevard. Councilor Means seconded the motion.**

Discussion: Representative Alyses asked the council if there was anything the student government could do to help with the safety project. Mayor Gordon felt that the staff might be able to provide tasks for the students. Councilor Breslin thought town staff could provide maps of the intersection to the students who could perform an analysis and consider solutions. The council agreed.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The council answered some questions posed by the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students who were unable to attend the meeting.

### **Introduction: Mamie Wood, General Manager – Lakota Canyon Ranch**

Mayor Gordon welcomed Mamie Wood to the council.

Ms. Wood thanked the council and gave a brief background of herself and her career. The council asked when the clubhouse would be built. Ms. Wood said she did not have any control over when Warrior would begin building, but that she hoped it would be soon. She said she would let them know as soon as she knew.

The council thanked Ms. Wood for coming in.

### **Historic Museum Discussion – LaRue Wentz**

Ms. LaRue Wentz, from the New Castle Historic Museum greeted the council. She said she thought it would be a good idea to update the council regarding museum business.

Ms. Wentz told the council that the museum had a box of records from a women's reading club. Mary Riddile was going to go through everything and write a story about the women that she would give to the museum.

Ms. Wentz said the annual potluck will be held on March 28, in St. John's Parish Hall.

She said she has been working on a grant application to do improvements on the museum, and that the first small project will probably be restoration of the jail.

Ms. Wentz said the roof shingles over the kitchen area were disintegrating and she was working to replace those. The chimney cap will also be replaced.

The Lion's Club agreed to donate funds to the museum.

The Museum made \$115.00 selling cookbooks at Founders Day.

Ms. Wentz said the town public works department agreed to help with removal of an elm tree.

Ms. Wentz said that the museum would stay open during the hours of the Community Market in the summer because they often had visitors. They would also be hosting visitors from the elementary school.

Councilor Breslin asked how the transcription was going. Ms. Wentz said that Linda Holley had been transcribing cassette tapes to compact discs, but that they did not have anyone doing it right now.

Ms. Wentz said that on May 9, 2015, she and Maryann would be giving away trees to the residents of New Castle in honor of Arbor Day. The trees are obtained from the conservation district, and they have been giving them away for more than ten years. She invited everyone to come by and pick up trees. All the trees are grown from seeds harvested in Colorado.

Councilor Breslin asked if the grant she was working on was through the state historical society, and said that the town may be willing to help.

### **Downtown Group Update**

Administrator Baker introduced Jerry Touslee, who had offered to take over the transition of leadership of the Downtown Group now that Kathy Kopf has left.

Mr. Touslee greeted the council and said that he has lived in New Castle and been involved with the Downtown Group for about a year. He also coaches for the recreation department. He said the activities of the group will continue. The flower baskets will be installed again this year, and they are discussing dates for the cleanup day. They are working on new banners for the light posts as well.

Mr. Touslee felt that an improved sign strategy on the interstate would bring more people into New Castle. He also felt that bringing the town's history to life on the streets would be a good idea. He suggested that street signs showing old photos and describing events, could be placed around town to bring a more interactive experience to people. He felt that partnering with the museum and Historic Preservation Commission could accomplish this.

Mr. Touslee felt that New Castle was not necessarily a destination town, rather, a launching place for adventure, which could prove to be a good marketing tool. The council agreed.

### **LiveWell Grant**

Graham Riddile, 267 Castle Ridge Drive. Mr. Graham Riddile greeted the council, and said that he was present to ask for funding. The money will go towards the match portion of a LiveWell Grant. The grant funds will go towards an artistic bike rack competition, centered on downtown New Castle. Mr. Riddile said that he wanted to make bicycle awareness a priority, and to help promote a bicycle culture in town. The project tied in art in public places, and using LiveWell funds tied in the healthy community perspective as well. The library is contributing \$400, and the whole project is estimated to be \$4,000.00. He felt the project could also be tied into local history. Councilor Breslin said that perhaps the project could offer recognition for the artists to enhance an artist's reputation. Mr. Riddile liked the idea of offering recognition. He said they considered tying the recognition and unveiling into Burning Mountain Festival.

**MOTION: Councilor Breslin made a motion to approve a town contribution of \$850.00 towards the match for a LiveWell grant; to authorize the Downtown Group to contribute \$750.00 towards the grant, and to allow either the Town Administrator or Mayor to sign the grant application. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

### **~~Youth Zone~~**

Item removed from the agenda.

### **Founders Day Debrief**

The council agreed that the Founders Day event had gone very well. Councilor Metzger thought that in the future, there should be someone assigned to assist late guests in finding an open seat. She also thought that it may be a good idea to do some post-event publicity. The council agreed these were good ideas.

### **Grants Update**

Administrator Baker updated the council on the six grant applications that staff had in process.

### **Discussion regarding Proposed William Dubois Memorial**

Administrator Baker reminded the council that they had directed the Mayor and Councilor Riddile to meet with the Dubois Family as a first step in understanding what would be important for them. The family agreed to meet on March 20. Once the meeting has taken place, they will report back to the council.

Councilor Breslin said there was a very large group of alumni that could possibly contribute to the memorial idea. The council agreed that nothing should be done until they understood what the family was looking for.

### **Discussion Regarding Economic Stimulus Proposal**

Councilor Stuckey left council chambers at 8:35 p.m.

Administrator Baker reminded the council that Finance Director Layton had summarized the economic stimulus proposal during the finance committee meeting. He said that Mr. Bartlomiejczuk wanted to pull the permits the following week. The council would not have a meeting for two weeks, so Administrator Baker said he would need direction to staff to have the attorneys draw up the contract agreement, and once the attorneys are comfortable with it, the Mayor can sign the agreement. Alternatively, they could wait until the next meeting to approve the contract.

**MOTION: Councilor Means made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the economic stimulus agreement once the town attorney is satisfied with it. Councilor Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Councilor Stuckey returned to council chambers at 8:40 p.m.

### **Consent Agenda**

Administrator Baker explained to the council that Resolution TC-2015-5, which is on the consent agenda, had been approved at the February 17 meeting without specific dollar amounts. The resolution was back on the consent agenda with solid dollar figures and was there to be ratified.

Minutes of the February 17, 2015 meeting

February Bills of \$424,502.72

2015 Senior Programs MOU

HPC Proposal – Street Name Change

Resolution TC-2015-5 – Supporting an FMLD Grant Application

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

### **Staff Reports**

Town Administrator – Administrator Baker told the council that the Chamber trade show would be on April 11. Kathryn Senior would not allow financial transactions in their building, so the show will likely move to New Hope Church. Administrator Baker said he had spoken with Walter Bolen who asked if the town would consider taking over the remaining warranty work. He said if the council would allow it, he would like to speak to Engineer Simonson and Public Works Director Wenzel to put together a report of what it would mean if the town took over the project. Administrator Baker said he spoke with Engineer Simonson about fluoride research, and the cost is in excess of what was proposed during the earlier presentation. He offered to bring that information to the council. The council agreed they would like more information. CDOT has responded in part to the letter regarding ownership of highway 6, and once CDOT calculated the second option staff would bring it back to the council for their consideration.

Administrator Baker told the council that the next council meeting Clark Anderson would be doing a presentation on Place Value.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison told the council that the “Property of Town of New Castle” stickers should be complete the next day. She also said that Thank you letters from grant recipients would be in the DropBox. Clerk Harrison said that her Assistant, Ryan Muse, had completed a notary class and had applied to the secretary of state for certification. Online payments was still in progress, but had been slightly delayed while Finance Director Layton worked with Alpine Bank on payment processing instead of Chase. The next steps would be installation and staff training.

Last, Clerk Harrison announced that it was Councilor Breslin’s Birthday, and gave him a card and cake.

Town Planner – not present

Public Works Director – not present

## **Committee Reports**

Planning & Zoning Commission – nothing to report

Historic Preservation Commission – nothing to report

Economic Advisory Committee – nothing to report

Senior Programs – nothing to report

RFTA – nothing to report

## **Council Comments**

Mayor Gordon said that the council comments section of the meeting was the council member's time to bring up those issues that are important to the town. If every item was a specific agenda item, then the council is working for someone else. Council comments is the councilor's time, and important for the council.

Councilor Means asked what was happening with the pigeon issue in Lakota. Administrator Baker said he saw the problem as a private sector problem. There are regulations in town that birds cannot be shot or poisoned. He said he would follow up with Planner Cain and see if he had any additional information about what was going on.

Councilor Means said that the ground water coming up under Alder Avenue seemed to be getting bigger, and he wondered if there was a way the town could divert the water with culvert. Administrator Baker said he would speak to Public Works Director Wenzel to come in and give the council his observations on the problem.

Councilor Metzger suggested that maybe support letters from the HOA's in Lakota and Castle Valley would be a good idea for the GoCo Grant application. Administrator Baker said that because Lakota is viewed as the beneficial neighborhood, a support letter from them might not be well received, but in the last grant application a support letter from the CVR HOA was included. Administrator Baker said that staff was going to leverage the LiveWell goals to augment the grant.

Councilor Metzger asked if the town had paid for the Cultural Heritage Tourism sign. Administrator Baker said the funds were in the budget. Councilor Metzger said she felt that the signs around town like Mr. Tousley suggested may better serve the town's goals.

Administrator Baker said he thought the town may be committed to the tourism sign, but that he wanted to speak to Councilor Leland about it first. The council agreed.

Councilor Stuckey asked what was happening with the LaRoca property since the deadline was December 31, 2014. Administrator Baker said a developer had been looking at the property, but he did not know. He would follow up with Planner Cain.

Councilor Stuckey asked if New Hope Church was going to get a real sign, or if the banner would stay forever. Administrator Baker said the Elders of the Church were looking at the issue, but that he would have to follow up with Planner Cain on that as well.

Councilor Breslin said there was a little brook between New Hope Park and the New Hope building. The log bridge over the brook collapsed, and Councilor Breslin asked if the council could authorize the church to use some of the planking the town owned to build a new bridge. Particularly since the town was a partner in the park. The council agreed.

Councilor Breslin asked if the police department had any policy concerning citizens who may film police business, such as traffic stops. Administrator Baker said he would find out and let the council know.

Mayor Gordon said that the town was going to have an opportunity to meet with Hospice of the Valley about a facility in town. He passed a brochure for the councilors to look at. He said they only had a short time to speak with them, but felt the town could offer them options.

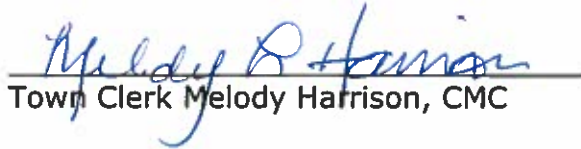
**MOTION: Mayor Gordon made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Mayor Bob Gordon



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Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC

