

**New Castle Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present	Councilor Metzger Councilor Owens Councilor Hazelton Mayor A Riddile Councilor Russi Councilor Leland Councilor G Riddile
Absent	None

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Town Planner Tim Cain, Police Chief Tony Pagni 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-2017-1.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes

There were no agenda changes.

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no citizen comments.

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney – present for agenda items.

Consultant Engineer – not present.

Items for Consideration

Mountain Waste & Recycling – Report to Council

Mike Hinkley, Mountain Waste and Recycling. Mr. Hinkley greeted the council. He introduced Doug Goldsmith and Herman Aardsma who both worked for Mountain Waste.

Mr. Hinkley told the council that he had created a 2016 Recycling/Diversion Report for the Town of New Castle. He explained the services provided, and how the single-stream recycling program worked. He also told the council that he had been providing recycling education at Riverside Middle School, and he had a booth at Burning Mountain Festival that provided information to the public.

The council thanked Mr. Hinkley, Mr. Goldsmith and Mr. Aardsma for their report and their terrific service to the New Castle residents.

Consider Resolution TC 2017-08, A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of New Castle, Colorado, Making Findings of Fact and Conclusions Concerning the Petition For Annexation Of Property Known As The Kuersten Property.

Town Planner Tim Cain told the council that the applicant for the annexation was Mogli Cooper. She intended to annex 3.34 acres to create a turnkey operation for CDOT. A joint access would be created for the property between the annexed property and the adjacent Talbott property.

Assistant Town Attorney Haley Carmer explained the annexation process, and told the council that the first step was for the council to determine if the annexation petition was substantially compliant with the statutory requirements.

Attorney Carmer said that her office felt the petition was substantially compliant, and that opinion was in her memo in the packet. She said that if the council found the petition complete, the next step would be to initiate the zoning process at a public hearing with the Planning & Zoning Commission. Then the annexation hearing would take place at town council meeting, and would include a substantive analysis of the project. Attorney Carmer said that the hearing before the town council had significant public notice requirements that the town clerk would take care of.

The council briefly discussed the possible zoning for the property.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve Resolution TC-2017-8, A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of New Castle, Colorado, Making Findings of Fact and Conclusions Concerning the Petition For Annexation Of Property Known As The Kuersten Property and to set a public hearing for the May 16, 2017 town council meeting. Mayor A Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Xcel Energy: Our Energy Future

Administrator Baker said that Xcel Energy and GCE had recently completed a series of Partners in Energy meetings, and Kelly Flenniken of Excel Energy would be sending

out a survey in April to try to understand what additional services as a franchisee that the town would want them to consider. The survey would not be a community survey, but instead would be sent to Administrator Baker. He said that he wanted to understand what the council felt they wanted in regard to policy changes that Xcel may consider.

The council agreed that virtual net metering would be one item they wanted Xcel to consider, because it would allow the town to utilize the energy produced from the photovoltaic array on the public works building in other town-owned buildings such as the wastewater plant.

Alice Laird, Executive Director of Clean Energy Economy for the Region (CLEER) said that in the report produced by Partners in Energy, virtual net metering was mentioned, and the council agreed that was a good sign. Ms. Laird also said that the implementation plan included virtual net metering in the first year.

The council also discussed the possibility of community solar gardens and micro-hydro plants.

Ms. Laird said she would like to return to council on April 18, 2017 to present a summarized version of the one-year implementation plan to the council.

The council thanked Ms. Laird for attending.

Consider Proposal for Building Inspector

Planner Cain told the council that he had advertised for a building inspector for about six weeks. He felt there was one good candidate, Dave Reynolds. The intent would be to hire Mr. Reynolds, and he would train with contract inspector Bruce Stolbach while taking online training courses to become certified as a building inspector. The council felt that there should be a contract requirement that Mr. Reynolds continue employment with the town for a set time in return for the town financing his certification. Administrator Baker said that the cost of certification could be pro-rated over two or three years, and Mr. Reynolds could agree to stay for that period, but could also buy out the agreement.

The council and Administrator Baker and Planner Cain discussed what Mr. Reynolds' responsibilities would be, the certification costs, and the value of the investment.

The council felt that staff had chosen a good candidate in Mr. Reynolds.

Funding Request: Frank Breslin Park Irrigation Well

Administrator Baker told the council that the non-compliant wells at Frank Breslin Park had been capped at the direction of the state, and that a new well would need to be dug to provide irrigation water for the park.

MOTION: Councilor G Riddile made motion to approve funding of \$20k for a well in Frank Breslin Park. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Funding Request: Rosybelles Mobile Maker Space

Administrator Baker explained that Carbondale Arts had begun an outreach for children. They were installing workstations for technology and art in a school bus they recently purchased. They will have artists and appropriate people who would teach classes. The bus will travel to various communities. Two dates have been scheduled for New Castle, and two dates for Apple Tree Park. Classes will cost \$35 for three hours. Carbondale Arts said that if New Castle Recreation would donate \$500 to RoseyBelle Mobile Maker, they would share 30 percent of the revenue made with the recreation department. Administrator Baker said that it seemed like a great way to partner with Carbondale Arts. He said that staff had approached Alpine Bank to provide funding for the program and he thought they were still interested. The goal was to make the program free.

Administrator Baker said there was \$700 remaining in the Health & Welfare budget. If the council agreed, \$500 could be provided to Recreation Director Hannah Bihr to partner with Carbondale Arts, and the remaining \$200 could be used for scholarships for the children.

MOTION: Councilor Owens made a motion to approve \$700 from the health and welfare fund for the Rosybelles Mobile Maker Space program. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the March 21, 2017 council meeting

March Bills of \$731,506.47

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 – Administrator Baker said a lawsuit had been filed against the town from a person who had been injured stepping on to a broken water meter pit cover. CIRSA will handle the case. Administrator Baker said that the road diet had received positive feedback, and staff hoped that they would receive authorization to complete the road diet in the summer of 2017. Administrator Baker said there was a good chance that the Built Environment Working Group would also contribute to the project to help offset the costs. The agreement is that town had to remove old stripes, and when CDOT came through to paint new lines, they would realign the roadway. Administrator Baker told the council that Rocky Mountain Youth Corps was certain they would be able to provide a group of high school students who could help with park maintenance, graffiti removal and trails maintenance. The town was targeting a mid-June clean up on east end of Main Street, including the Ferrin property, and perhaps the Youth Corps could assist with that as well. Administrator Baker said that April 19 and 20 would be the county energy symposium at Grand River Hospital. Two seats were reserved, and any council member could go for any amount of time. April 25 and 26 will be the Healthy People, Safe Roads that will be hosted by Garfield County Healthy Communities Coalition at the Glenwood Community Center. Administrator Baker said that preliminary comprehensive plan work was being done,

an outline being crafted and there would be a meeting on the 20th. Administrator Baker said there was a Revenue Group forming who would meet in a few weeks to discuss vehicle use tax and mil levy funds. Administrator Baker said that Terri Knob of the Chamber of Commerce was working with Latino businesses to assist them to attract all citizens to their businesses. Ms. Knob was also considering a downtown business association to help the downtown businesses. Administrator Baker asked Councilor Metzger if the flowerpots in front of Chapman's could be moved to Ritter Plaza, and she agreed. Administrator Baker said that Improvements to Ritter Plaza would be coming to the council soon for their consideration.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison said she and Accounting Assistant Debbie Guccini attended the Small Business Health & Wellness Symposium the previous Friday, and it was very good. There were speakers who talked about how they implemented health programs at their companies. There were vendors in attendance, and they learned about a grant opportunity for wellness program start-up funds. Clerk Harrison told the council that the 2016 ordinances had been codified and were available online. She said a mistake had been found in the codification and would be corrected. She also said that anyone who had a hard copy of the code book should bring it in to be updated. Clerk Harrison said the blinds for the hallway and chambers had been ordered. Last, Clerk Harrison said she had received information from the DMV about vehicle purchases in New Castle in 2016. It looked like there had been more than 11 million in vehicles sold to residents, which would equal to a little more than \$220k if the town had a 2% use tax. Clerk Harrison said she had been in contact with a gentleman names Joe Rubio who was with the Valley Interfaith Project, a social justice group out of New Mexico. Mountain Family Health was a founding member of the group. She and Administrator Baker had put together a list of what they considered important community members and leaders, and felt they may like to hear what Mr. Rubio's ideas were. Last, Clerk Harrison said that she had received the election calendar from the county, and the town would need to notify the county by mid-July of any intent to place an item on the November ballot.

Town Planner – nothing to report

Public Works Director – nothing to report

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 – nothing to report

AGNC – Mayor A Riddile said that AGNC had met in Glenwood Springs. There was a presentation about unmanned aerial systems and that there was a lot of potential for applications at the Rifle Airport. There was also discussion about broadband, and a discussion about making the Center for Excellence a leader in the firefighting training field.

GCE – Councilor Leland said GCE was only meeting every other month. Nothing to report.

BEWG – Councilor Russi said that Administrator Baker had attended and laid groundwork for a \$10k grant for the lane diet.

Council Comments

Councilor G Riddile said that HB17-1242 had passed and was going to the senate. He said that what would happen was that CDOT's portion of the funding would go for a bond that would fund a project list. The idea was that it would fund every high-priority project that CDOT had. Councilor G Riddile said that the Exit 105 project was prioritized and it would be important that someone attend the Intermountain Transportation Planning Region to push the project, and he was not able to attend. Mayor A Riddile said he could attend the meeting.

Councilor Leland said that there was an original Sanborn map in the planning office, and Planner Cain was going to take it to a place in Denver to see if it could be restored.

Councilor Leland said that Kara Warby had taken a job in the advertising department at the Post Independent.

Councilor Leland said he received a flyer about a Colorado Downtown Streets workshop in Meeker.

Councilor Russi said he had a good discussion with Dave Reynolds about Symphony of the Valley at New Hope Church. He asked the council to consider donating to Symphony of the Valley the amount that would be the rent for the venue.

Councilor Russi said that LoVa needed a planning grant for the South Canyon portion of the trail.

Councilor Metzger asked what was happening with town-owned Main Street properties. Administrator Baker said nothing because the committee had reached an impasse with One Speed, and there had been few other people interested. Councilor Metzger felt that the properties were doing nothing for the town sitting vacant. Administrator Baker offered that the RFP could be sent out again, or the council could choose to place the lots for sale. He said that the conditions that had been applied to the RFP were making it difficult to move forward because no one wants to build until the market comes.

Councilor Metzger asked if the bakery ladies had found a place to move their business. Administrator Baker said that he did not know, but that Noreen Nolan was the advocate for them. The rumor is that the Lazy Bear would be moving, but it was unknown when.

Councilor Metzger asked if the remodel of the community center would happen. Baker said that it was dependent on the AGNC grant. The project will cost more than the AGNC grant, so staff would apply for a GFMLD mini grant to complete the project in 2017.

Councilor Metzger asked that Eric Slade, the new hire in recreation, come in so council could meet him. Mayor A Riddile said that should wait until the department hired their part time person, then all three could come in.

Councilor Metzger asked if the town paid Terri Knob at all, or if anyone edited her publications, because the doorknocker the chamber recently distributed did not have any dates for the events and she felt the chamber was losing interested residents by having incomplete information. Councilor Leland said he had edited the doorknocker, but it appeared his edits did not make the final draft. Mayor A Riddile said that Councilor Metzger could speak with Ms. Knob if she was concerned.

Councilor Metzger said she concerned about Rosie Ferrin not completing the clean-up of her property. Administrator Baker said both Rosie and her husband Cleyo were very ill, and things were moving slow and that she needed more time. He said he was trying to be gentle, but nonetheless, there had been some progress. Councilor G Riddile agreed that it was important to tread lightly, particularly because they were talking about a resident's private property. Mayor A Riddile felt there were a number of properties in the same area that looked worse than the Ferrin property. The council agreed that the approach to some of the downtown properties getting cleaned up needed to be more in terms of partnering with residents instead of being penalizing. Councilor Metzger said that there was a Boettcher Scholar at Coal Ridge High School, Jacob Morgan. She felt the council should recognize him for the accomplishment. Councilor Hazelton asked if anyone had considered a community garden.

Administrator Baker said there was a community garden at the River Center, and the plots there were sold out for 2017. The Talbots gave the town the use of an acre of land for a community garden, but the person managing that had unfortunately created some tension with the Talbots and the project is on hold. The council talked about other lots in town that could be a community garden.

Councilor Hazelton asked where Turtlepoop LLC came from.

Councilor Hazelton said that the recreation soccer program needed volunteers if anyone was interested.

Mayor A Riddile said that last week he, John Wenzel, Tom Baker and Adam Cornely attended the Garfield County Economic Forum in Glenwood Springs. It was mountain biking presentation. Mike Pritchard from International Mountain Biking Association, talked specifically about the economic dollars generated by trails. They even increase the value of property. Adam Cornely made a great power point presentation about the trails system in New Castle. They also heard about people from out of town who came to New Castle and Rifle just to mountain bike because they had heard of the great trails in the area.

Mayor A Riddile said that the Garfield County Humanitarian Awards dinner had been the previous evening, and Crystal Mariscal and Garry Millard, both of New Castle, were nominated.

Mayor A Riddile said that the POSTR meeting would Wednesday night for the Mt. Medaris trail expansion. They would be taking public comments.

Mayor A Riddile invited the council and staff to the Volunteer New Castle event on April 23, at Riverside Middle School. It would be a Sock Hop and he hoped everyone could attend.

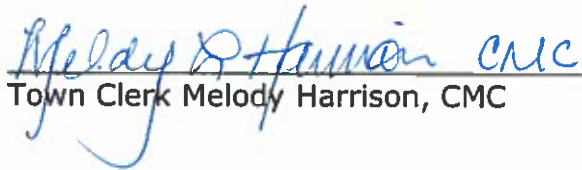
MOTION: Councilor Metzger made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Russi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:53

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Art Riddile



Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC

