

**New Castle Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 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 Copeland Councilor Leland Councilor G Riddile (arrived at 7:46 p.m.)
Absent	None

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Tom Baker, Building Inspector David Reynolds, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Public Works Director John Wenzel, Town Planner Tim Cain, Police Chief Tony Pagni, Officer Brian Dominguez, Officer Justin Reynolds, Officer David Mulkey, Officer Omar Lerma, Town Engineer Jeff Simonson and members of the public.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve Councilor G Riddile's absence. Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Meeting Notice

Town Clerk Melody Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2018-1.

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 – not present

Consultant Engineer – present for agenda items

Items for Consideration

Consider Letter of Interest from Beth Sass for Appointment to Seat on the Planning & Zoning Commission

Consider Letter of Interest from Alison Bourquin for Appointment to Seat on the Planning & Zoning Commission

Consider Letter of Interest from David Little for Appointment to Seat on the Planning & Zoning Commission

The council interviewed each candidate. Clerk Harrison passed out ballots to each council member. The tallied votes showed six votes for Ms. Bourquin, three votes for Mr. Little and three votes for Ms. Sass. After a second ballot vote and a second tie between Mr. Little and Ms. Sass, Mr. Little offered his withdrawal, and congratulated Ms. Sass.

The council thanked each of the applicants and congratulated Ms. Sass and Ms. Bourquin. Councilor Leland told Mr. Little that there were seats available on the Historic Preservation Commission if he was interested. He also said that there was a citizen organization called the Downtown Group that focused on beautifying the downtown, and they were the group that had built Liberty Park. Mr. Little thanked the council.

Public Safety Update & Discussion – Vehicles

Police Chief Tony Pagni introduced his newest officer, Omar Lerma.

Officer Lerma greeted the council, and thanked Chief Pagni and the town for the opportunity to begin his police career in New Castle. He told the council briefly about himself as well as what had inspired him to become a police officer. Mayor A Riddile noted that Officer Lerma had mentioned the importance of family, and then welcomed Officer Lerma into the police department family, and into the New Castle family. The council wished Officer Lerma the best in his new career.

Chief Pagni read a letter to the council that came from a citizen who saw a vehicle driving erratically and called the police. It turned out the driver was experiencing a medical problem, and the officers immediately recognized the issue and called an ambulance. The citizen recommended that the officers be given the lifesaving award.

Chief Pagni told the council that the scenario depicted in the letter was how he expected his department to perform every day, and he felt that it was great that a citizen recognized it.

Chief Pagni gave Officer Justin Reynolds and Officer Brian Dominguez collar pins and said that they were both great people. Mayor A Riddile thanked Officer Reynolds and Officer Dominguez.

Chief Pagni reviewed some information about police department philosophy that he had gotten from an FBI leadership training he had attended. He also reviewed the crime statistics from the first quarter of 2018.

Chief Pagni and Inspector Reynolds told the council that the financial audit had resulted in approximately \$90k additional dollars in the general fund, and he suggested that the second police vehicle be paid for rather than the town signing a lease on it. The council agreed.

Councilor Hazelton asked if anyone had looked further into the grants available through the AGNC Chief Pagni said he had looked at them, but the town did not really qualify for them because the town was is good financial standing.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to purchase one police vehicle. Councilor Leland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Lane Diet Discussion & Decision

Town Engineer Jeff Simonson told the council that the town had approval from CDOT to do a lane diet, restriping Main Street to include bike lanes, and reducing the drive lanes down from four to two. The question for the council was to decide the configuration of the 7th Street and Main intersection. He showed the council several different maps with the proposed changes, and described how each was intended to work. Public Works Director John Wenzel told the council that the bike lane would be painted lines, and in 2019 after CDOT resurfaced the road, a slurry seal would be put down to designate the bike lane more thoroughly. The council felt that any changes made could be reconfigured in 2019 with the resurfacing of the road, which was excellent timing to see how the lane diet worked. The council agreed that alternatives 2A and 2B would be best. They also agreed that the line-of-sight problems needed to be addressed, and they may need to consider removing a few of the parking spaces on Main Street to make the intersection safer.

Engineer Simonson said that the plan would be submitted to CDOT for final approval, and then staff would move forward with a contractor to complete the work.

Recess the Town Council Meeting, Convene as the Local Liquor Licensing Authority

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to recess the town council meeting and to convene as the local liquor licensing authority. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider a Special Events Liquor license for the Ritter Plaza Music in The Park Event

Clerk Harrison reminded the council that at a previous meeting they had agreed to allow the Downtown Group to use three of their special events liquor license days for the Music in Ritter Plaza Event. Clerk Harrison described the application to the council. The council spoke briefly with Ms. Ruggles about the event.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve the application for a special events liquor license for the Ritter Plaza Music in the Park Event. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Funding Request and a Modification for the Special Event Liquor License for the New Castle Trails Summer Conference

Adam Cornely greeted the council. He told the council that the liquor license had already been approved, but they had been looking at ways to increase the attendance. Mr. Cornely said they had located two larger bands, but the trails group needed some funding assistance from the town to pay for them. In addition, he said he wanted to extend the hours of the event until 8:00 p.m., and include an alternate location at the New Castle Community Center in the event there was bad weather. After a detailed discussion regarding the band contracts and expenses for the event, the council agreed to assist with funds. The council briefly discussed the grant that the trails group was awarded that would fund electricity to VIX Ranch Park, and if that project would be complete before the event. Mr. Cornely said they did have a contingency plan in case the electrical services were not installed.

Clerk Harrison told the council that staff would need a motion to approve the modifications.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve the proposed modifications to the New Castle Trails Summer Conference Special Event Liquor License. Councilor Leland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjourn the Local Liquor Licensing Authority, Reconvene the Town Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to adjourn the local liquor licensing authority, and to reconvene the town council meeting. Councilor G Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve up to \$5,000 for the New Castle Trails Summer Conference. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Policy Discussion: Water Conservation & Irrigation

Inspector Reynolds told the council that Director Wenzel and Planner Cain and he would speak to the council regarding water concerns for 2018.

Planner Cain explained how low the snowpack was across the state and how dry the trees were.

Director Wenzel explained water rights to the council, and described what rights the town owned, and the concern that the rights may be called. He also told the council how the town got their rights. Director Wenzel also explained how much water the town used on a daily basis, and how that could be met in drought times. Other items of discussion were watering restrictions; raw water; park maintenance; 'called' water rights; water leases and fire restrictions.

Inspector Reynolds told the council that staff wanted to review the Town of New Castle Drought Plan Regulatory Policy from 2013 to determine if the plan covered the town in 2018 with existing water rights; if the plan clearly stated what a phase 1, 2, or 3 fire ban was; whether the plan was readable to the general public and whether the watering plan trigger points were appropriate or relevant.

The council agreed that staff should review the water and fire plans.

Consider Ordinance TC 2018-3, An Ordinance of the Town of New Castle, Colorado summarizing additional expenditures for the Conservation Trust Fund and adopting a supplemental budget for the Town of New Castle, Colorado, for the calendar year beginning on the first day of January, 2017 and ending on the last day of December, 2017 (second reading)

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve Ordinance TC 2018-3, An Ordinance of the Town of New Castle, Colorado summarizing additional expenditures for the Conservation Trust Fund and adopting a supplemental budget for the Town of New Castle, Colorado, for the calendar year beginning on the first day of January, 2017 and ending on the last day of December, 2017 on second reading. Councilor Metzger seconded the motion and it passed on a roll-call vote: Councilor Leland: yes; Councilor G Riddile: yes; Councilor Hazelton: yes; Councilor Metzger: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Owens: yes; Mayor A Riddile: yes.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the May 15, 2018 council meeting

May Bills of \$409,711.73

Resolution TC-2018-12 - Supporting the Relocation of the Bureau of Land Management Headquarters to Grand Junction, Colorado

Elk Creek Mining Company Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Renewal

EAT Bistro Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Renewal

MOTION: Councilor Owens made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Leland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Town Administrator – Inspector Reynolds said that at the previous meeting the council had discussed the telecommuting relationship with the finance director, and determined that it was no longer appropriate. Inspector Reynolds said that staff wanted to advertise the position, and would like to have someone in place sooner than later to take advantage of Finance Director Layton’s remaining time with the town. Inspector Reynolds said that the Finance job description and position advertisement would come to the council for their review at the June 19, 2018 council meeting. Inspector Reynolds asked the council to think about possible dates for the fall retreat.

Building Inspector – Inspector Reynolds said that he was working on the 2015 building code adoption, and that a draft had been sent to the attorney. Inspector Reynolds also said that he was working out of the inspector position and into the administrator position, and that Contract Inspector Bruce Stolbach would be filling in where needed.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison told the council that at the June 19, 2018 council meeting, Town Attorney David McConaughy would conduct an elected officials orientation class. Clerk Harrison said that staff was still working with the attorneys regarding the CR 335 speed limit change. Clerk Harrison said that the Employee Wellness Plan was kicked off on Friday, June 1 with a healthy lunch from EAT Bistro and a wellness program talk from Nicole Stalter from the CEBT Clinic. Clerk Harrison said that she had gotten information that there could be some insurance premium discounts because the town had a wellness plan, and she would look into it. Clerk Harrison said that some of the staff had signed up for the Grand River Health Steps Challenge. The team was ten staff members, and the challenge included organizations and businesses across the county. Last, Clerk Harrison said that the new firewalls had been installed, and IT would return on June 14 to install the firewall at public works. She said she was pushing Cedar Networks to complete the construction/installation of fiber at the public works facility by June 14 as well. She said she would keep everyone informed of progress.

Town Planner – nothing to report

Public Works Director – Public Works Director John Wenzel said that the 5th Street project going well. Grading for the curb, gutter and sidewalk had been done and the project was within budget. Director Wenzel said that Phase II improvements for Bear Dance Park were under way as well, and should be complete soon. Director Wenzel said that he would be applying to the American Public Works Association for the design of the park.

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 – nothing to report

GCE – Councilor Leland said that there had not been a meeting, but that Erica Sparhawk had two interns that would be at the community market and she was looking for a local person to help in their booth. Art ask that Councilor Leland bring a sign-up sheet to the next meeting.

BEWG – nothing to report

EAB -

Council Comments

Councilor Metzger asked if the clean up behind the restaurants had taken place. Administrator Reynolds said that Planner Cain was working on it, but the clean-up was not quite complete.

Councilor Metzger asked if the hanging baskets would be placed in the downtown and Director Wenzel said that they were already done.

Councilor Metzger asked if the Talbott family would be doing their 4th of July Celebration, and Mayor A Riddile said the event had been scaled back and there would be no fireworks, but there would be more music.

Councilor Owens said that he had been working with Administrator Baker and Clerk Harrison regarding golf carts on town streets and they had gotten some good information from other municipalities.

Councilor Owens said that he felt that the mayor likely deserved a raise because of how much he did for the town, and he wanted the council to think about providing a salary increase.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to extend the meeting past 10:00 p.m. Councilor Leland seconded the meeting and it passed unanimously.

Councilor Hazelton said that his sister, Kelly, was now working for the recreation department was very excited to be there.

Director Wenzel said that he had failed to mention in his report that the recreation department has several new employees: Kelly Cox, Aimee Gerber and Colton Odykirk. The department was fully staffed, and he and Hannah had been brainstorming how they would restructure the department.

Councilor Leland said that Rustic Furniture Designs had their grand opening on Saturday June 2 and it was well attended.

Councilor Leland said that the council should decide if they would spend the additional funds found on something they had cut from the budget.

Councilor Leland said that he had spoken to a resident who recently purchased an irrigation business, and he had been receiving tickets at his home on Dragonroot for parking his business trailer there. Councilor Leland thought that the parking regulations could be something to consider in the future.

Mayor A Riddile said that many people turned out for summer reading program at the library, and that there had been many people in town for the taxidermy conference as well. The EconoLodge was booked for the weekend, and he said he convinced the taxidermists to bring their conference to New Castle in 2019.

Mayor A Riddile said there were a number of events coming up and that he wanted to see the council members at them as much as possible.

Mayor A Riddile said that the River Center Taco Bar fundraiser was coming up, and it was important that the council support them since they did so much for the town.

Mayor A Riddile said that BBQ with a Cop would be on Sunday, July 10.

Mayor A Riddile said that on June 17, Father's Day, there would be a combined church service between 1st Baptist Church and New Hope Church at which Tommy Brandt would be performing.

Mayor A Riddile said that everyone should check out Rustic Design Furniture because they had some neat furniture and things at their shop.

Mayor A Riddile said there would be music in Ritter Plaza on June 15, and they would be serving wine and beer.

Mayor A Riddile asked that the council think about dates for the fall retreat.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Pro Tem Grady Hazelton



Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC

