



**Town of New Castle**  
450 W Main Street  
PO Box 90  
New Castle, CO 81647

**Administration Department**  
Phone: (970) 984-2311  
Fax: (970) 984-2716  
[www.newcastlecolorado.org](http://www.newcastlecolorado.org)

**Agenda**  
**New Castle Test Mindy Town Council 06.16.2026**  
**June 16, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

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Virtual Meetings are subject to internet and technical capabilities.

To join by computer, smart phone or tablet:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7096588400>

If you prefer to telephone in:

**Please call: 1-346-248-7799**

**Meeting ID: 709 658 8400**

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Follow the prompts as directed. Be sure to set your phone to mute until called on

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**Call to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**Meeting Notice**

**Conflicts of Interest**

**Agenda Changes**

**Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda**  
**Comments are limited to three minutes**

**Consultant Reports**  
**Consultant Attorney**  
**Consultant Engineer**

## **Items for Consideration**

- A. Update - Garfield County Emergency Manager – Chris Bornholdt**
- B. Presentation – YouthZone**
- C. Update – LoVa Trail Expansion– Jeanne Golay**
- D. Fire Resiliency Review**
- E. CIRSA on Boarding Video**

## **Consent Agenda**

**Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.**

## **Minutes**

- F. Minutes from 05 19 2026**
- G. Minutes from 06 02 2026**

## **Staff Reports**

**Town Administrator**  
**Town Clerk**  
**Town Treasurer**  
**Town Planner**  
**Public Works Director**

## **Commission Reports**

**Planning & Zoning Commission**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
**Climate and Environment Commission**  
**Senior Program**  
**RFTA**  
**AGNC**  
**GCE**  
**EAB**  
**POSTR**

**Council Comments**

**Items for Future Council Agenda**

**Adjourn**



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**Memorandum**

**To:** Mayor & Council

**From:** David Reynolds

**Re:** Agenda Item: Update from Garfield County Emergency Manager Chris Bornholdt

**Date:** 06/16/2026

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Garfield County Emergency Manager Chris Bornholdt to update Town Council on local emergency preparedness, as well as explain his department's role in local disasters along with the role of local staff and elected officials during time of crises.

**Background:**

The Garfield County Emergency Manager's Office is responsible for helping Garfield County prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of emergencies and disasters. The office serves as the countywide coordinator for emergency planning and response efforts among local governments, fire districts, law enforcement agencies, schools, utilities, state agencies, and federal partners.

Key responsibilities include:

- **Emergency Planning** – Developing and maintaining the county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), hazard mitigation plans, continuity of operations plans, and other preparedness documents. The EOP serves as the link between municipal emergency plans and the State of Colorado's emergency plan.
- **Disaster Response Coordination** – Coordinating county resources and partner agencies during wildfires, floods, severe weather, hazardous materials incidents, public health emergencies, and other disasters. The office helps operate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when incidents occur.
- **Wildfire Preparedness and Evacuations** – Managing countywide evacuation planning, public information, and the "Ready, Set, Go" evacuation framework used during wildfire incidents.

- **Emergency Notifications** – Working with the Garfield County Emergency Communications Authority to provide emergency alerts through the Garco911 notification system for fires, floods, severe weather, road closures, and evacuations.
- **Training and Exercises** – Conducting emergency preparedness training, tabletop exercises, and drills with local agencies to improve disaster readiness.
- **Search and Rescue and Specialized Response Support** – Coordinating and supporting search and rescue operations, wildfire response, hazardous materials response, and other specialized emergency functions through the Sheriff's Office Emergency Operations Division.
- **Disaster Recovery** – Assisting local governments, businesses, and residents with recovery efforts following disasters, including coordination of state and federal assistance programs when available

The Emergency Manager serves as an important regional partner by helping coordinate multi-jurisdictional incidents, supporting emergency operations planning, facilitating training exercises, and assisting local governments during large-scale emergencies that exceed local resources.



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### Memorandum

**To:** Mayor & Council  
**From:** David Reynolds  
**Re:** Agenda Item: Presentation and Update from Youth Zone  
**Date:** 06/16/2026

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Executive Director Jamie Hayes from Youth Zone to update Town Council on the work that Youth Zone is doing in our area.

Youth Zone operates from offices in Glenwood, Rifle, Aspen, and Carbondale. Offering services that include Juvenile Diversion, CYDC Screening and Monitoring, Substance Use Prevention, Mental Health Services, Life Skill Training, Community Service, and Peer Support Groups, Youth Zone is sure to touch the lives of youth and families in New Castle and throughout our region.

## MISSION

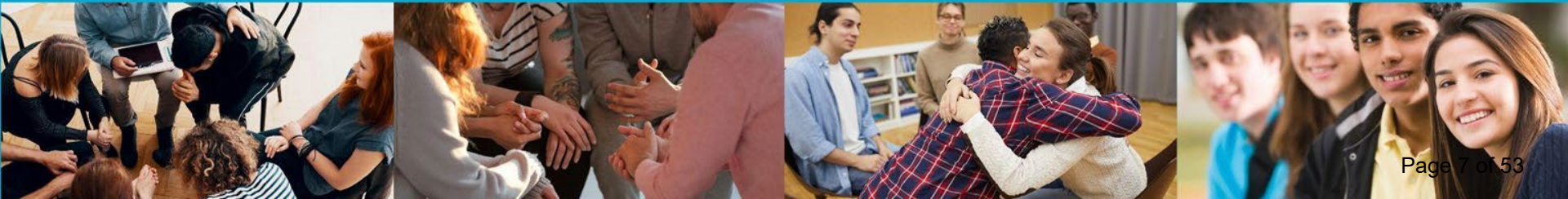
YouthZone provides comprehensive assessment and advocacy to inspire healthy relationships between youth, families, and communities.

## VISION

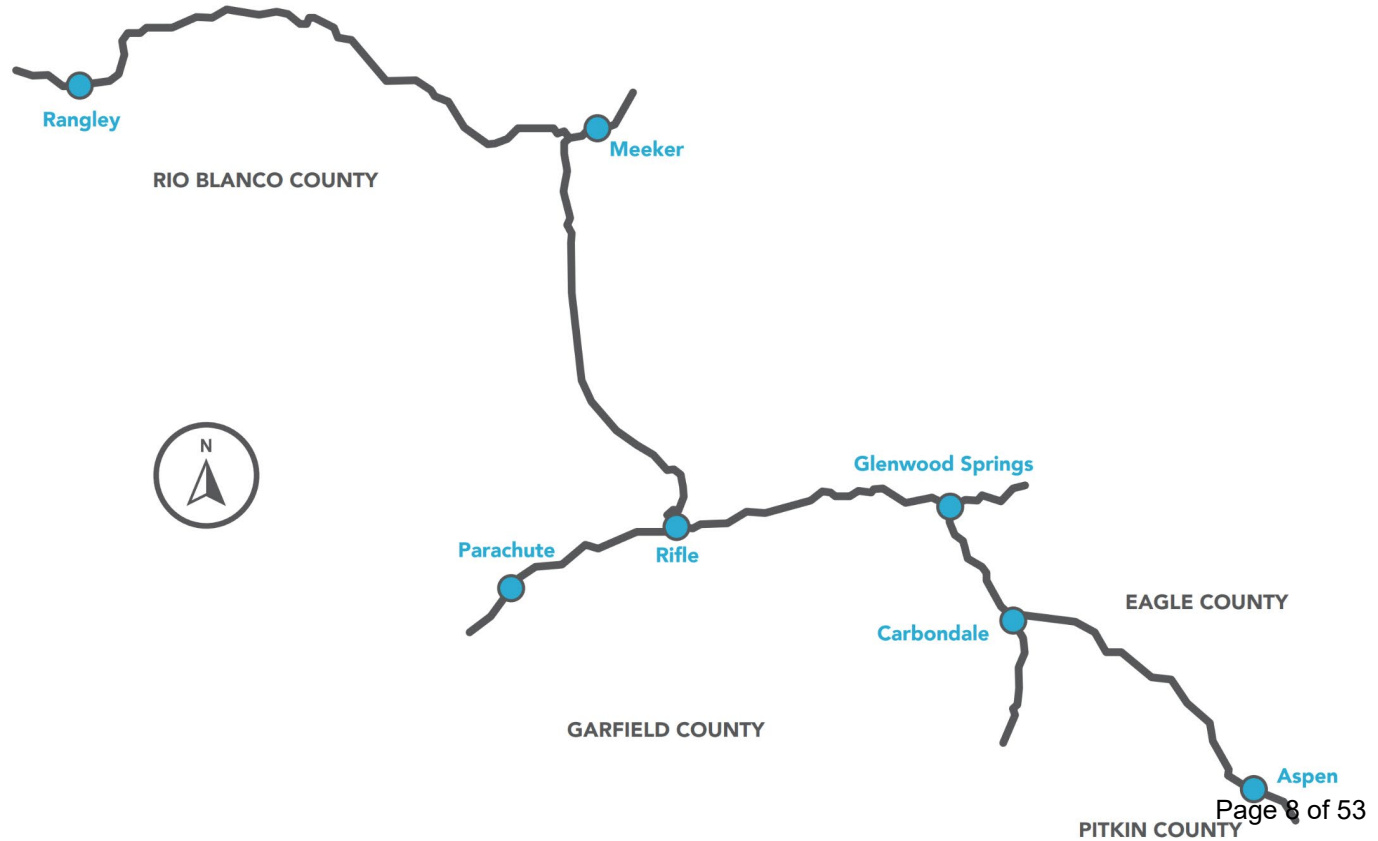
Hopeful Youth, Strong Families, & Safe Communities

## CORE VALUES

Inspire with Integrity, No judgements, Stewardship and believe in Possibilities, Inclusiveness, Restoration and Encouragement



## 9th Judicial District and YouthZone



## GOALS AND OUTCOMES



- To intervene with youth who exhibit risky, disruptive or criminal juvenile behaviors,
- YouthZone:
  - Provides youth tools and resources to **reduce risk** and elevate success
  - Supports the entire family unit and promotes **healthier family** relationships
  - Supports **mental health** through coaching, counseling and education
  - Intervenes with **substance** use through intervention, education and counseling
  - Heals communities through **restorative processes**

*\*Evidence Based: Sensitive to program effectiveness, completion, and client recidivism. The screener includes 60 questions, of which seven are identifying and demographic. Staff collect quality screening answers, as well as assets and risks. The screener is at a 7th-grade reading level and takes about 15 minutes to complete.*

**The YouthZone survey measures the following five domains:**

- Substance Use
- Alcohol Use
- Optimism and Problem Solving
- Delinquency and Community Engagement
- Trauma



## PROGRAMS & SERVICES



### Youth Services

Assessments – Youth and Family  
Youth Advocacy - Case Management  
Counseling – Individual  
Substance Use Counseling & Education  
Restorative Justice  
Victim/Offender Mediation  
Peer Support Groups  
Useful Public Service  
Deferred Sentencing Programs through Courts  
Diversion  
Life Skills Classes  
Youth Coaching  
CYDC Detention Screening 9<sup>th</sup> District

### Parent Support

Parent Consultation  
Parent Education  
Family Mediation  
Peer Support Groups

[Online Referral Form](#)

[www.youthzone.com](http://www.youthzone.com)

## COST & SOURCES OF INCOME

- \$200 fee per client to initiate services- Sliding fee schedule for reduced or waived fees
- Average overall cost per youth is \$2,000-\$4,000 for a 3-6 month program
- Avg. cost to detain a youth is \$66,000 for 6 months
- FY25.26 budget at \$2.0m
- FY26.27 budget at \$2.1m



## OUR GOALS:

- 1) Leverage community partnerships for better outcomes and outreach. This includes coordinating with schools and law enforcement agencies to identify pre-ticket youth
- 2) Reduce barriers to access, including transportation, language, cost, and timeliness.
- 3) Improve capacity to serve youth and families in need of mental health and substance use intervention



## DEMOGRAPHICS AND OUTCOMES

- 56% of referrals come from courts, offering both pre- and post-file diversion.
- 30% of referrals are from schools and pre-ticket law enforcement contact, allowing us to provide preventative services prior to formal engagement with the judicial system.
- 15% of referrals are self-referrals or referred by a partner organization.
- 6% of our clients are adults.



## DEMOGRAPHICS & OUTCOMES

	Organization-wide	New Castle
<b>Top Reasons for Referral</b>	Possession of marijuana	Possession of marijuana
	Possession of alcohol	Petty theft
	Petty theft	Possession of alcohol
	Criminal mischief	Harassment/Menacing
	Parent consultation	Reckless driving
<b>Top Referral Sources</b>	Garfield District Court	Glenwood Muni Court
	Glenwood Muni Court	Garfield District Court
	Rifle Muni Court	New Castle Police
	Garfield County Court	Garfield County Court
	Carbondale Muni Court	Internal/Other



## DEMOGRAPHICS & OUTCOMES

	Organization-wide	New Castle
Total assessments	449	48
Unique clients	378	38
Total community members served	1020	113
CYDC cases	50	9
Non-recidivism rate	84%	87%
Contract completion rate	92%	83%
Survey improvement	48%	35%
Gender	39% female, 61% male	35% female, 65% male
Ethnicity	44% Caucasian, 49% Latino, 7% other	43% Caucasian, 51% Latino, 6% other



## Support Staff and Key Consultants



Jami Hayes, ED



Ali Naaseh-Shahry-  
Development Director



Lyn Williams, Director of Ops



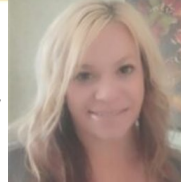
Vanessa Otero,  
Administrative Assistant



Tania Beltran, Business  
Manager

## Direct Service Staff

**Airen Goodman,  
Program Director**



**Zyra Guyon, LPC  
Clinical Supervisor**

### Substance Program



**Michelle Medrano,  
Substance Coordinator**

### Restorative Justice Program



**Pete Durrance,  
Restorative Justice  
Specialist**

### CYDC/Diversion Program



**Airen Goodman,  
CYDC/Diversion  
Coordinator**

### Municipal and County Court Program



**Mariah Dickson,  
Court Coordinator**

### Mental Health Program



**Clarissa Fortier, LSW  
Mental Health  
Counselor**



**Aida Bonilla,  
Pretrial and  
Diversion Specialist**



**Becca Paturalski,  
Youth Advocate**



**Lupe Loya Elliott,  
Youth Advocate**



**Erin Greenwald,  
Substance Specialist  
and Youth Advocate**

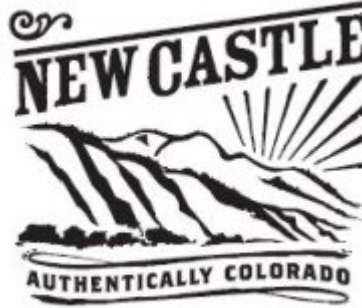


**Keri Sorenson,  
Substance Specialist  
and Youth Advocate**



**Abigail Jurado,  
Youth Advocate**

## Key Partnerships



**COLORADO**  
Department of Human Services



**COLORADO**  
Division of Criminal Justice  
Department of Public Safety

Office of Gun Violence Prevention

Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (CYDC)



# Contact:

**Jami Hayes, Executive Director**

970-945-9300

**YouthZone Main Line**

970-945-9300

Donations to support our work can be made at:

[www.youthzone.com](http://www.youthzone.com)



# YouthZone

Connect and Grow

Glenwood Springs  
413 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
GWS, CO 81601  
970-945-9300

Rifle  
136 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Rifle, CO 81650

Dave Reynolds  
Town Administrator  
450 W. Main Street  
New Castle, CO 81647

April 2026

Dear Dave and New Castle Board of Trustees,

Thank you for your continued support of YouthZone. We provide court, prevention, and intervention services to youth across the 9th Judicial District — from Aspen to Rangely — and are funded annually by 11 municipalities, 4 counties, and partners including the 9th Judicial District Attorney, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, school districts, and departments of human services.

This fiscal year, we have served 48 New Castle youth, referred primarily for possession of alcohol and marijuana. Of these clients, **87% did not reoffend** while working with YouthZone, and **83% completed their court contracts successfully**. Without diversion support, the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice estimates a recidivism rate of 49% for youth remaining in the standard court and probation system.

Beyond court services and case management, YouthZone provides individualized screening and assessment, substance use education and counseling, mental health services, parent education, life skills, restorative justice, and community service — at no cost to youth and families. We provided more than **500 of these services** in your community this year. At exit, **35% of clients reported measurable improvement** in at least one area, including drug and alcohol use, school engagement, problem-solving, and trauma response.

These outcomes are made possible thanks to our highly trained and certified staff. The cost of providing our services ranges from \$2,000 to \$8,000 per client, with an annual program cost of approximately \$1.5 million. Our team dedicates about 10% of their time to New Castle clients—equivalent to **\$143,000 in services**. For comparison, detaining a single youth in Colorado costs approximately \$132,000 per year. These services are made possible through partnerships with municipalities like yours, as well as support from county funding, state grants, and individual and corporate contributions.

In 2026, we received \$4,000 from the Town of New Castle. As such, we respectfully request that the Town of New Castle include \$6,000 in its 2027 budget to support YouthZone’s court diversion services.

While this represents an increase, it remains significantly below the actual cost of services provided to your community. Your partnership makes this work possible, and we are committed to continuing to work alongside you.

Thank you & warm regards,

Jami Hayes

Executive Director

[Jhayes@youthzone.com](mailto:Jhayes@youthzone.com)

970-945-9300

*"YouthZone helped me respect myself and understand that all my choices affect people."*



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### Memorandum

**To:** Mayor & Council  
**From:** David Reynolds  
**Re:** Agenda Item: Consider LOVA Trail Expansion  
**Date:** 06/16/2026

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to hear and discuss a proposal from Jeanne Golay from the LOVA Trail group regarding a LOVA Trail expansion project at the west end of town. With the replacement of the bridge and pedestrian walkway over Elk Creek on Main Street, the LOVA Trail Board and Jeanne are exploring an opportunity to partner with RE-2, RFTA, and the Town of New Castle to construct approximately 775 linear feet of hard-surface trail extending from the west side of Elk Creek to the existing sidewalk near the entrance to Elk Creek Elementary School.

The project would include a short section of trail within CDOT right-of-way along Route 6, with the majority of the trail located on RE-2 property at Elk Creek Elementary School. The proposed trail would serve both as a safe route to school connection and as the next segment of the LOVA Trail system.

Jeanne will provide an overview of the proposed alignment, project scope, potential funding partnerships, and grant opportunities.

Following the presentation, Town Council may discuss the community benefits of the project and consider potential partnership, and grant participation opportunities.



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**Memorandum**

**To:** Mayor & Council  
**From:** David Reynolds  
**Re:** Agenda Item: Fire Resiliency Review  
**Date:** 06/16/2026

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Town staff to provide information regarding fire resiliency related to home construction, exterior building materials, and community wildfire preparedness. As the risk of wildland and urban fires continues to increase throughout Colorado due to continued drought conditions, weather patterns, and expanding development within wildfire-prone areas, it is important to understand how wildfires and ember storms can impact homes, neighborhoods, and entire communities.

Staff will share educational research, videos, and other resources developed by the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) and other wildfire resiliency organizations. These materials demonstrate how modern construction methods, fire-resistant building materials, and defensible space practices can significantly improve a structure's ability to withstand wildfire exposure and ember intrusion.

Staff will also provide information regarding recent changes in Colorado law that require local governments to adopt wildfire resiliency standards and building code provisions for development occurring within designated Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas. The 2025 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code (CWRC) is a state-mandated minimum code for wildfire-prone areas that requires ignition-resistant construction and defensible space standards. Municipalities with mapped Wildland-Urban Interface areas are required by state law to adopt a code meeting or exceeding the state's minimum standards. While the statute does not currently establish specific fines or financial penalties for non-adoption, failure to adopt could place a municipality out of compliance with state law and expose it to legal or legislative remedies.

These state requirements reflect a growing recognition that communities must proactively address wildfire risk through land use planning, building design, and construction practices.

As homeowners, developers, insurance providers, and local governments increasingly focus on reducing wildfire risk, there is growing demand for homes and neighborhoods that are built to modern

resiliency standards. Research indicates that wildfire-resistant construction practices can help reduce property losses, improve community survivability during wildfire events, and may positively influence insurance availability, ratings, and premiums over time.

Wildfire-resilient building codes such as the WUI and CWRC fit within the broader framework of modern building regulation. Just as building codes in earthquake-prone regions incorporate seismic standards and coastal communities adopt hurricane-resistant construction requirements, wildfire-prone communities are increasingly utilizing WUI and related code provisions to address the unique hazards associated with wildfire exposure.

The intent of this agenda item is informational and intended to provide Town Council with a better understanding of wildfire resiliency, evolving state requirements, and the potential benefits associated with adopting and implementing modern wildfire-resistant construction standards.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvbNOPSyys>

<https://abc11.com/post/fire-proof-house-couples-home-resilient-features-survives-pacific-palisades-heres-what-homeowners-installed/15813629/#>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ev0eyjkUSJU>

<https://headwaterseconomics.org/natural-hazards/redefining-the-urban-wildfire-problem-in-the-west/>

<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/wui-issues-resolutions-report.pdf>



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### Memorandum

**To:** Mayor & Council  
**From:** David Reynolds  
**Re:** Agenda Item: CIRSA Onboarding  
**Date:** 06/16/2026

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for staff to present a brief CIRSA onboarding video. As mentioned during our last meeting, this video is meant as a introduction to the topic of Council and staff roles, actions, and responsibilities. Staff will arrange for a more formal presentation in July.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfhxn1c11A&t=348s>

1 **New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting**  
2 **Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 7:00 PM**  
3

4 **Call to Order**

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

6 **Pledge of Allegiance**  
7

8 **Roll Call**

9 Councilor Mariscal  
10 Councilor Carey  
11 Mayor Hazelton  
12 Councilor Copeland  
13 Councilor Sampley  
14 Councilor G Riddile

15  
16 Absent none  
17

18 Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds,  
19 Chief Stu Curry, Attorney Haley Carmer and members of the public.  
20

21 **Meeting Notice**

22 Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with  
23 Resolution TC 2026-1.  
24

25 **Conflicts of Interest**

26 There were no conflicts of interest  
27

28 **Agenda Changes**

29 Clerk Mindy Andis said Esther Von and Chris Pezel had decided to withdraw their letters of  
30 interest for the vacant council seat.  
31

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

33 There were no Citizen Comments  
34

35 **Consultant Reports**

36 Consultant Attorney – present for agenda items  
37 Consultant Engineer – not present  
38

39 **Items for Consideration**  
40

41 **Review MOU with SPEAR**

42 Administrator Reynolds said during the regular town council meeting held on April 7,  
43 2026, town council reviewed the SPEAR MOU and discussed potential ratification,  
44 withdrawal, and other available options. During that meeting, four residents provided

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

1 public comment expressing a variety of concerns regarding the MOU and the town's  
2 continued participation in the SPEAR Task Force.  
3 To ensure a complete understanding of the concerns raised, town council continued the  
4 agenda item to a future meeting and directed staff to gather additional information and  
5 report back to council.  
6 Since that time, staff has met with residents, spoken with SPEAR representatives and  
7 neighboring law enforcement agencies, and reviewed the MOU along with applicable state  
8 and federal guidelines relating to criminal intelligence sharing and the dissemination of  
9 personal information. Through this process, staff have worked to develop a more  
10 comprehensive understanding of the concerns raised, the operational structure of the  
11 SPEAR Task Force, and the legal frameworks governing information-sharing practices.  
12 Residents' collective concern can generally be summarized as follows:  
13 Residents appear primarily concerned that a multijurisdictional criminal intelligence-  
14 sharing arrangement, as described in Section 6 of the SPEAR MOU, involving agencies  
15 such as Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), could unintentionally or structurally allow  
16 information collected by local law enforcement agencies to be used for federal immigration  
17 enforcement purposes in ways that may conflict with Colorado Article 74. Residents  
18 further express concern that such information sharing could expose the Town to legal  
19 liability and negatively impact public trust in local policing.  
20 Colorado Article 74 generally limits state and local agencies from sharing non-public  
21 personal identifying information for civil immigration enforcement purposes, while 28 CFR  
22 Part 23 permits properly managed criminal intelligence sharing for legitimate criminal  
23 investigations when supported by reasonable suspicion and appropriate safeguards.  
24 These legal frameworks can coexist when information sharing remains focused on criminal  
25 investigations rather than civil immigration enforcement. However, some residents  
26 perceive the potential for a blurring of these distinctions if routine law enforcement  
27 information were to become accessible to federal agencies involved in immigration  
28 enforcement activities.  
29 While reviewing these concerns, staff has noted the following provisions contained within  
30 the SPEAR MOU:  
31  
32 \* The SPEAR MOU states that information gathering and sharing between  
33 participating agencies shall comply with all applicable provisions of Colorado law  
34 and federal regulations.  
35 \* The MOU establishes and maintains a centralized computerized criminal intelligence  
36 information system for the purpose of assisting local, state, and federal law  
37 enforcement personnel in ongoing multijurisdictional criminal investigations and  
38 prosecutions relating to specified criminal activity. (MOU Section 6.1)  
39 \* The MOU establishes criteria governing information submission, inquiry/access,  
40 dissemination, retention and purging, security, audit trails, and agency  
41 representation. (MOU Section 6.1)

- 1 • The MOU requires compliance with U.S. Department of Justice operating policies,  
2 including 28 CFR Part 23, where applicable. (MOU Sections 6.1 and 6.2)
- 3 • The MOU places responsibility on participating agencies to maintain the  
4 confidentiality of intelligence information and prohibits dissemination except as  
5 authorized by SPEAR and applicable policy. (MOU Section 6.2)
- 6 • The MOU states that the agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance  
7 with Colorado law. (MOU Section 10.4)

8 Staff's current understanding regarding data gathering and sharing practices is as follows:

- 9 • Town police officers do not collect immigration status information as part of routine  
10 law enforcement activities.
- 11 • Town police officers do not knowingly share confidential personal information in  
12 violation of Colorado law.
- 13 • Routine information gathered and stored within the New World database is not  
14 automatically accessible to HSI or other outside agencies.
- 15 • The Town Police Department follows Colorado law regarding the collection,  
16 maintenance, and dissemination of personal information.
- 17 • Information shared with SPEAR is intended for legitimate criminal investigative  
18 purposes and staff does not currently understand those practices to conflict with  
19 either Colorado law or 28 CFR Part 23.

## 20 **Conclusion**

- 21 • Staff understands that residents' concerns are sincere and stem from a desire to  
22 ensure that personal information is handled lawfully, appropriately, and  
23 transparently.
- 24 • Staff recognizes the value that the SPEAR Task Force partnership provides for  
25 regional law enforcement coordination and criminal investigations.
- 26 • Staff also understands that recent incidents, combined with what some perceive as  
27 ambiguity within portions of the SPEAR MOU, have contributed to public concern.
- 28 • Based on staff's present understanding of applicable laws, policies, and current  
29 practices, staff believes the Town is operating in compliance with both Colorado and  
30 federal law.

31 Staff recommends remaining a partner agency within SPEAR while continuing efforts to  
32 strengthen transparency, public communication, and clearly written agreements and  
33 policies that reinforce public trust and legal compliance.

34  
35 Administrator Reynolds went on to say it is difficult to understand how information is  
36 gathered and exactly where it is disseminated. There were laws that went into place  
37 federally following 9-11 back in 2001. There were federal laws that talked about how  
38 federal agencies can gather information. There are currently ways that

1 federal agencies can gather information from people that are incarcerated in jail, criminal  
2 charges, and fingerprints have been taken, that the type of information sharing is out of  
3 our realm, out of our jurisdiction. If we arrest somebody on criminal charges, they end up  
4 in jail. We can rest assured that what our police department is doing is legal and not  
5 asking for or sharing immigration status. Then what happens at the jail is somewhat  
6 defined by federal law and the information gets to the FBI through fingerprinting. The  
7 laws that were created following 9-11 then can then be disseminated, taken by HSI and  
8 ICE and others. Administrator Reynolds said the concern is information sharing.  
9 Administrator Reynolds said staff is okay with how the MOU is written. He said it could be  
10 better and could be worked on. Administrator Reynolds said in order to do that you need a  
11 seat at the table, you need to be part of the board, and enough of the board can get  
12 together and dress the concerns that the MOU needs to be rewritten, we do have concerns  
13 about how the information is disseminated and could it be clearer. Administrator Reynolds  
14 said it is reason to walk away from a task force that can do a lot of good for the valley, in  
15 our opinion, probably not at this point.

16 Chief Curry said he doesn't have a stake with SPEAR. He said if the town is not part of the  
17 discussion, then we are on the outside. He said Section 1 of our task force governing  
18 board, which is made up of all of the agency heads. He said under 1.5, it is key, the  
19 governing board will address any issues of mutual concern of participants in the task  
20 force. This may include major issues that will impact other members of the task force,  
21 such as budget matters, matters of policy and procedure, and other matters of mutual  
22 concern. Chief Curry said it's probably in our agency's best interest to be in the room,  
23 especially since we already share with all the agencies in Garfield County. The town is part  
24 of what's called integrated dispatch. The integrated communications, police, fire, we all  
25 share New World, which is the software that allows us to all interact with each other on  
26 incidents. Chief Curry said if there is any potential for information that we input to the  
27 system to be utilized, and we're not in the room to voice that concern, we lose that  
28 ability. And so, in a very pragmatic sense, to protect the town, Chief Curry believes it's in  
29 the town's best interest to stay in that MOU, and for now and to be part of the  
30 conversation and to bring up the concerns.

31  
32 Sally Boughton New Castle resident said she appreciated the time Administrator Reynolds  
33 shared with her. She said one of her biggest concerns in all of this is the lack of  
34 transparency from SPEAR. She said from 2022 to 2025, they operated with no founding  
35 documents. They still have no finalized operational guidelines. So, what is concerning to  
36 her is that she doesn't know, as a citizen, what specific Sections are in place to stop  
37 information from flowing from our local law enforcement agencies to the Spear Task  
38 Force, to any member of the Spear Task Force, who then per the MOU, are able to share  
39 with every other member, what are the firewalls? What are the protections in place? She  
40 said she would also like to know is how did they assess and share data in the past. She  
41 said SPEAR has a full-time analyst on staff. Ms. Boughton said the MOU was to create an  
42 intelligence network that is then accessible to all other members. All other members  
43 includes HSI. She said you don't have to be gathering information about immigration  
44 status and then sharing it to be in violation of Colorado law. It's just PII that's been used

1 for the purposes of immigration enforcement. She said for an example if her name and  
2 location is shared and then used for the purposes of immigration enforcement. That is a  
3 violation of Colorado law and it's a violation of \$50,000 of penalty to the town. Ms.  
4 Boughton said while there's not a lot of protections in place for our data and information,  
5 it's also a huge financial risk to the town, and as a taxpayer and a resident here, she  
6 really don't want us to be in that position. Ms. Boughton said the other thing that is really  
7 concerning to her, is the communication from the leader of SPEAR, said when Glenwood  
8 Springs withdrew, he threatened to not show up and support when there were things  
9 happening in Glenwood Springs. She said it's very concerning, the lack of transparency,  
10 the lack of protection in place, and she would like those questions to be dug into more.

11  
12 Mayor Hazelton thanked Ms. Boughton for her comments.

13  
14 Councilor Riddile said there is a lot of work that SPEAR is doing that I think our  
15 community members would support. We want them doing that. He said does think there  
16 is a legitimate concern out there, in terms of what is being shared, in terms of  
17 immigration enforcement and we want our police to keep doing the work they're doing,  
18 but also make sure we have guardrails in place to make sure we're not infringing on that  
19 immigration component and violating Colorado state law. He said we should have a seat  
20 at the table and have Chief Curry there representing the town and what we think is  
21 important. He said would like to continue our involvement with SPEAR on the condition  
22 that council hears back from them in three to six months. Councilor Riddile said there  
23 were four things the SPEAR board needs to look at:

- 24  
25 1) Revise the mission statement to include some kind of statement that there would  
26 be no federal or civil immigration enforcement component, and to call it out right there on  
27 page 1.  
28  
29 2) Revise section 6.1 to specifically conform to CRS 2474, basically says it's not  
30 intended to be sharing of any information. He said would like to see transparency, to get  
31 the minutes published. In Section 2, it does say that there is a secretary who's supposed  
32 to be keeping minutes at the meetings. He said he would like to get the minutes.  
33  
34 3) Receive a vote tally on certain policies and issues brought up.  
35  
36 4) Receive the operational guidelines manual published and available by the public.

37  
38 Councilor Riddile said he trusts Chief Curry and the New Castle Police Department and  
39 wants to support the department. However, he wants to make sure there are guardrails in  
40 place to have the community trust when working with SPEAR.

41  
42 Councilor Carey said the town does acknowledge the fact that there is a liability  
43 component to this that is built into CRS2474, 103, and Senate Bill 25276 applied that  
44 from state agency status, but also down to local municipalities. she thinks that's

1 something we need to acknowledge and to look at. She said transparency is an issue,  
2 because we have been operating very much in the blind. She said she does acknowledge  
3 that there have been comments that this is not being shared from SPEAR. She said she  
4 believe our officers, when they say their policies are that this information is not gathered.  
5 There are certain pieces, though, that are considered personal information that could be  
6 abused in the wrong hands, and that a large part of the concern that she is hearing in the  
7 community, is it is intended for good, but what happens when it gets into hands of people  
8 who are maybe not intending it for good. Councilor Carey said it is difficult for the council  
9 to make a decision based on the behavior of others. Councilor Carey said the task force  
10 has been incredibly helpful and instrumental in making our communities safer. She said  
11 the unfortunate part is that there are concerns that it may have made it unsafe for some  
12 individuals. She said we can do is try to ensure that it is not doing that moving forward.

13  
14 Mayor Hazelton said he liked Councilor Riddile's suggestion of having a three to six month  
15 review and that is something council will be doing.

16  
17 Attorney Carmer said with respect to council's decision is either withdraw or ratify the  
18 MOU. She said there are a couple of provisions in the MOU to help some extent with  
19 where the town's position is now in this discussion of liability. One of those is that the  
20 MOU states and it is set up that each agency that is part of the MOU does continue to  
21 operate as its own agency. Employees continue to be the employees of the agency, or  
22 their parent agency. They don't become a partner or partnership through the agreement.  
23 Attorney Carmer said there is language saying that, you know, the acts of one participant  
24 are not imposed on the rest of the participant, so if one, agency or an actor from one of  
25 the other agencies were to take an action that were in violation of a particular law or  
26 regulation, that wouldn't fall back on the town. She said that is clear in the MOU itself.  
27 The MOU does treat all of the participating agencies separately. Attorney Carmer said the  
28 statutory language regarding disclosure, there's the intentional element and when we're  
29 operating under an MOU that has clear intention of it being, for criminal purposes. She  
30 said with the word intentional in the statute, there's some cover. She said Councilor  
31 Riddile laid out the conditions well, and being a participant would help make those  
32 changes is the best position for the town if there are benefits to continuing with the task  
33 force, because that's the only way you're going to make those changes. Attorney Carmer  
34 said with those two sort of pieces there working together, and then having that timeline,  
35 and knowing that if those changes aren't made in the timeline we want to see them, we  
36 can withdraw later on.

37  
38 Council decided to go into executive session.

39  
40 **Possible Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) for a conference**  
41 **with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal**  
42 **questions regarding SPEAR memorandum of understanding.**

43  
44 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a Motion at 7:46pm to go into Executive**

1 **Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving**  
2 **legal advice on specific legal questions regarding SPEAR memorandum of**  
3 **understanding Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed**  
4 **unanimously.**

5  
6 Executive session concluded.

7 At the end of the executive session, Mayor Hazelton made the following statement:

8  
9 "The time is now 8:05p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The  
10 participants in the executive sessions were: Councilor Mariscal, Councilor Carey,  
11 Councilors Copeland, Councilor Sampley, Mayor Hazelton, Town Administrator Reynolds,  
12 Town Attorney Carmer, Town Clerk Andis and Police Chief Curry. For the record, if any  
13 person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion  
14 of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during  
15 the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session  
16 in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the  
17 record."

18  
19 No concerns were stated.

20  
21 **Consider Ratification, Withdrawal, or Other Directives to Police Department**  
22 **regarding MOU with SPEAR**

23 Councilor Carey asked Chief Curry as the MOU stands right now does HSI have direct  
24 access to New World. Chief Curry said no, they do not. He said the only people who have  
25 direct access to New World are the Garfield County Agencies.

26 Councilor Carey asked how HSI would get information. Chief Curry said they would have  
27 to go through the same process as the public would by submitting a records request.  
28 Councilor Carey said as the officers put a report into New World, what happens if someone  
29 else utilizes the information. Chief Curry said New World has a log of everyone that has  
30 accessed the system. The person would need to explain why and how they had accessed  
31 New World.

32  
33 Councilor Riddile said would be willing to make a motion for the conditions laid out earlier.

34  
35 **MOTION: Councilor Riddle made a motion to Continue to Participate with SPEAR**  
36 **and to Ratification the MOU with SPEAR with the Following Conditions: Review**  
37 **the MOU in Three to Six Months, SPEAR Task Force to revise the Mission**  
38 **Statement to Include no Federal or Civil Immigration Enforcement, Revise**  
39 **Section 6.1 to conform with CRS 2474, and to Make Available Meeting Minutes**  
40 **and Voting Records in Accordance With Section 2, and the Operational Guideline**  
41 **Manual. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote.**

1 **Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Councilor Riddile: yes; Councilor**  
2 **Mariscal: yes; Mayor Hazelton: yes; Councilor Sampley: yes.**

3  
4 Councilor Mariscal said she was happy to hear that the New Castle Police Department was  
5 not taking any immigration status.

6  
7 Mayor Hazelton said that the discussion was not a bord discussion and it was not  
8 something that was pointed at the police department as something that they have done  
9 wrong. He said he appreciated the work Chief Curry has put into clarifying the issues.

10  
11  
12 **Recognition Trails Town Designation**

13 Mike Prichard Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA) and Trent McHaffy New  
14 Castle Trails. Mr. Prichard gave an update on the new event that will replace Rides and  
15 Reggae. The event is called Down Valley Dirty Dozen which will be on August 1 and 2,  
16 2026. He said the award ceremony will be at Down Valley Brewing with live music on  
17 Saturday, August 2, 2026. He said all the proceeds made during the event will be turned  
18 back into the local trails. Mr. Prichard said New Castle, Colorado, has officially been  
19 designated 2026 International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Trail Town. He said New  
20 Castle 1 of 28 rural communities nationwide to receive the designation. Mr. Prichard said  
21 they has some new signs made up for the designation and he passed the signs onto  
22 Administrator Reynolds. Mr. Prichard explained the standards in which RFMBA operates.  
23 Mr. Prichard said a trail town is a designation that recognizes communities that  
24 understand the powerful role that trails play in shaping vibrant places to live, work, and  
25 play. He said the designation is a testament to the dedicated volunteers, partners, and  
26 community members who build, maintain, and champion our incredible trust system. Mr.  
27 Prichard explained to secure this Trail Town Award, RFMBA actually submitted information  
28 about New Castle area's trails in 8 categories. He explained what the categories were and  
29 gave an explanation of why New Castle scored high enough to be in this inaugural set of  
30 Trail Towns:

- 31  
32 1) Access - Not only do we have excellent public trail access on our adjacent federal  
33 lands, but the town has invested in building trails on town-owned lands, and also  
34 negotiated agreements for public access on private lands, including on Burning Mountain.  
35  
36 2) Existing Trails and Infrastructure – New Castle has nearly 40 miles of rideable or  
37 hike able or runnable trails right here from downtown New Castle, and we have nearly 60  
38 miles in total when we include some of the nearby White River National Forest Trails.  
39 These trails have a healthy mix of easy, intermediate, and challenging offerings. We also  
40 have the VIX Bike Park. We have great signage on the majority of the trail system.

1 3) Community Engagement and Advocacy - RFMB's staff, Town and New Castle Trails  
2 Committee volunteers taking the lead over the past 10 plus years, and with support from  
3 the town, during every phase of the local trail system's evolution, real progress has been  
4 made to create high-quality trail experiences that so many people can now enjoy.

5  
6 4) Ongoing Assessment - Cameras are in place at BLM's seasonal closure gates to  
7 monitor winter use. Our local trail agent volunteers are sharing current conditions and  
8 reports of work needed frequently. Adding more summer use trail counters at key  
9 locations remains a feedback tool we'd like to pursue.

10  
11  
12 5) Funding - Funding is a key category. As we've shared at past meetings, the Town of  
13 New Castle has played a really meaningful role in making these trail system  
14 improvements possible. RFMBA and New Castle Trails have secured matching funds for  
15 many trail projects from our members, our event sponsors, and from generous  
16 foundations. Future funding will remain a key issue even as we transition from our past  
17 expansion efforts to a growing focus on maintaining and improving the trail system.

18  
19 6) Trail Planning - Although we didn't start with a town-wide or an area-wide master  
20 plan, we have worked closely with BLM and the town and others to engage professional  
21 trail planners. These planners helped us best assess and then design high-quality trails for  
22 specific land areas when the opportunity arose.

23  
24 7) Stewardship - We have independent volunteers maintaining trails through our Trail  
25 Agent program. We have paid staff maintaining and improving trails with our seasonal  
26 trail crew program. We're happy to partner with Roaring Fourk Outdoor Volunteers and  
27 other smaller groups to schedule volunteer events. We conduct outreach about trail  
28 etiquette and the reasons to respect seasonal trail closures.

29  
30 8) Vision, or Community Vision - Trail systems like New Castle's often emerge thanks  
31 to a trail champion. Much of this vision really is based on a spin of RFMBA's Simply stated  
32 mission, which is to create and sustain the best possible trails and experience in New  
33 Castle. Best possible really is our guiding light when we're creating and sustaining these  
34 trails.

35  
36 Mr. Prichard said, adding up all of this information paints a clear picture of New Castle is a  
37 real trail town and it deserves this recognition. We don't want to rest on any morals.  
38 There is real work ahead to leverage being a trail town, and with your help on local trails.  
39 We'll continue to work to boost the local economy, and to benefit the health and wellness  
40 of locals. So, thank you so much, and real congratulations to New Castle.  
41 Administrator Reynolds said we sincerely appreciate the work that's going into these

1 trials, and don't take lightly the fact that you've earned this award on behalf of them.  
2 Thank you.  
3 Councilor Riddile said he has been to talk to people about the stories of trails in New  
4 Castle, but I think it's also largely a larger story of Garfield County, of where we were 10-  
5 15 years ago to where we are now, just how much more riding trails there is at the lower  
6 valley. Went from 10-20 miles of trails, to 100 miles now.  
7 Council thanked Mr. Prichard and Mr. McHaffey for all the work RFMBA and New Castle  
8 Trails have done.

9  
10  
11  
12 **Consider Ordinance TC2026-4 Creating a Background Check process for**  
13 **Prospective Massage Facility Operators, Owners and Employees (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)**

14 Administrator Reynolds said there were no changes to the ordinance between first and  
15 second reading.

16 Attorney Carmer said as part of the process, CBI and FBI has to review the ordinance. CBI  
17 has done their review and had no issues or concerns with the ordinance as drafted.  
18 Attorney Carmer said if the ordinance gets approved CBI will forward onto the FBI for a  
19 final approval.

20  
21 **MOTION: Councilor Carey made a motion to approve Ordinance TC-2026-04 –**  
22 **Creating a Background Check process for Prospective Massage Facility**  
23 **Operators, Owners and Employees (2<sup>nd</sup> reading). Councilor Mariscal seconded**  
24 **the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote. Councilor Sampley: yes; Councilor**  
25 **Riddile: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Mayor Hazelton: yes;**  
26 **Councilor Mariscal: yes.**

27  
28 **Consider Letters of Interest From: Esther Von, Phil Weir, Steven Kyle, Chris**  
29 **Pezzel, Mark Kinghorn, Mari Riddile, Alison Cotey, Katrina McAlpine, Daniel**  
30 **Leifeld to Fill Vacant Council Seat.**

31 The council reviewed each letter of interest and interviewed each candidate individually.

32  
33 Mayor Hazelton explained the voting process: The first ballot vote required each councilor  
34 to vote for three different individuals. The highest three winners would then go to a  
35 second vote where each councilor weigh the three individuals. The person with lowest  
36 number would be considered for appointment to the vacant council seat.

37 Clerk Andis passed out ballots to each councilor that had the councilors' name on it as well  
38 as all seven candidates. The council voted their ballots and returned them to Clerk Andis.  
39 Clerk Andis read the results:

40 The highest number of votes went to Daniel Leifeld and there was a tie for second

1 between Alison Cotey and Steve Kyle.

2

3 Clerk Andis passed out ballots to each councilor that had the councilors' name on it as well  
4 as three candidates. The council voted their ballots and returned them to Clerk Andis.

5 Clerk Andis read the results:

6 The lowest number went to Daniel Leifeld and there was a tie for second between Alison  
7 Cotey and Steve Kyle.

8

9 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to appoint Daniel Leifeld to the vacant**  
10 **council seat, serving the remainder of the term until April 2028. Councilor Carey**  
11 **seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

12 **Consent Agenda**

13 Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by  
14 one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member  
15 or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.

16

17 May 5, 2026, Minutes

18 Resolution TC2026-12 – Approving Supporting the Availability of Healthier Beverage  
19 Choices and Alternative Offerings to Sugary Beverages and Promoting Public Health

20

21 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**  
22 **Councilor Copeland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

23

24 **Staff Reports**

25 **Town Administrator** –Administrator Reynolds said he would be out of the office starting  
26 Wednesday afternoon through Monday. Administrator Reynolds said the police department  
27 has created an e-bike flyer and have been in the schools doing educational outreach.  
28 Administrator Reynolds said there will be some lane closures on Main Street on June 9 and  
29 10, 2026, as the girders for the bridge are being set. Councilor Riddile explained the  
30 colors of the bridge. CDOT was trying to make the colors of the pedestrian bridge. It will  
31 be a weathered steel; it will be similar to Rollie Gordon Park Bridge and at the interchange  
32 (brown rust color). The bridge will have curves will be a darker brown and below (girders)  
33 will be lighter brown. The guardrail will be stained with a rust color. Councilor agreed with  
34 the colors. Administrator Reynolds said he has been talking with First Baptist Church  
35 about the senior citizen who has been living in her car. The church would like to renovate  
36 her garage to make it habitable. The garage is detached from the house. Administrator  
37 Reynolds said he has been talking with Town Planner Smith about it because there is not  
38 much in the building code to address such a situation. He said other municipalities have  
39 codes for such an emergency situation. As part of the emergency planning there would be  
40 something in the code to let people know what is allowed for temporary shelters. It would  
41 be a hardship exemption in the building code. Councilor Riddile said this would not be

1 something that would be normal unless there was a major disaster. He said has concerns  
2 about there would be a sunset clause. Councilor Carey said it is two separate situations.  
3 One could follow the emergency plan and the other is a hardship plan would be  
4 discretionary. Administrator Reynolds said the codes he has looked at has timeline,  
5 criteria and who qualifies. Administrator Reynolds said staff is already working on the  
6 parade for Burning Mountain Festival and have the Grand Marshall. Administrator  
7 Reynolds said he has a meeting with RE2 School District regarding the LOVA Trail. He said  
8 staff has also met with Riverside Middle School about the playground equipment. He said  
9 the school is thinking about going for a fall FML grant and partner with the town.  
10 Administrator Reynolds said he was also going to talk to the school district about the  
11 bypass at Elk Creek Elementary school. Administrator Reynolds and Assistant Rochelle  
12 Firth met with Russell Talbott who owns property on Burning Mountain and there are  
13 some old foundations on the property. Mr. Talbott is interested in possibly having the site  
14 historically designated through the state. Administrator Reynolds reminded council about  
15 the CML District Meeting that New Castle is hosting on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at  
16 5:00pm at the Lakota Clubhouse. Administrator Reynolds said he attended the RFTA  
17 stakeholder meeting in Carbondale today. He said the stakeholders meeting quarterly.  
18 Administrator Reynolds said Mayor Hazelton will be at the cemetery on Memorial Day  
19 along with HPC for the historic designation dedication of the cemetery.  
20 **Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said Assistant Michelle Huster and HPC Chair Riddile was  
21 interviewed by the Post Independent Newspaper about the cemetery designation and the  
22 article was in today’s paper. Clerk Andis reminded council about the TIPS training on  
23 Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at the Community Center at 9:00am. Clerk Andis said her and  
24 Assistant Firth are taking a leadership class at CMC and as part of the class they were to  
25 come up with a project that would leave a positive or Ripple Effect on the community. She  
26 said their group came up with the idea of a Wind Phone. Clerk Andis explained what a  
27 Wind Phone is. A Wind Phone is similar to a phone booth. There is a phone that is not  
28 connected, but you would pick it up and talk into it as if you were talking to someone who  
29 has passed and you were not able to say goodbye to. The conversation travels through  
30 the wind to the person you are speaking to. Clerk Andis said they will be presenting their  
31 project on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at CMC in Rifle. She invited the council to attend.  
32 **Town Treasurer** – not present  
33 **Town Planner** – not present  
34 **Public Works Director** – not present  
35  
36 **Commission Reports**  
37 **Planning & Zoning Commission** –have not met  
38 **Historic Preservation Commission** –nothing to report  
39 **Climate and Environment Commission** – have not met.  
40 **Senior Program** –have not met  
41 **RFTA** –have not met

- 1 **AGNC** –nothing to report.
- 2 **GCE** – have not met.
- 3 **EAB** – have not met
- 4 **POSTR** – have not met

5

6 **Council Comments**

7 Councilor Carey said she would like to have Coal Ridge Track Team and the Riverside  
8 Middle School Track Team come to council. She said the boys’ teams won and there were  
9 school records that were broken at both schools. Councilor Carey said KSE is doing a  
10 better job at not watering the road. Councilor Carey asked if the town could partner with  
11 Mr. Talbott, HPC, RFMBA and New Castle Trails to have signage on the trails on Burning  
12 Mountain about the history of Burning Mountain, what the foundations were and the water  
13 since the trail runs along the ditch.

14

15 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

16 There were no items for future council agenda

17

18 **Adjourn**

19 **MOTION: Mayor Hazelton made a motion to adjourn.**

20 The meeting adjourned at 10:36 p.m.

21

22 Respectfully submitted,

23

24

25

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Grady Hazelton

27

28 \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

1 **New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting**  
2 **Tuesday, June 2, 2026, 7:00 PM**  
3

4 **Call to Order**

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

6 **Pledge of Allegiance**  
7

8 **Roll Call**

9 Councilor Mariscal  
10 Councilor Leifeld  
11 Councilor Carey  
12 Mayor Hazelton  
13 Councilor Copeland  
14 Councilor Sampley  
15 Councilor G Riddile  
16

17 Absent none  
18

19 Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds,  
20 Planner Paul Smith, Attorney Mike Sawyer and members of the public.  
21

22 **Meeting Notice**

23 Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with  
24 Resolution TC 2026-1.  
25

26 **Conflicts of Interest**

27 There were no conflicts of interest  
28

29 **Agenda Changes**

30 There were no agenda changes  
31

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

33 There were no Citizen Comments  
34

35 **Consultant Reports**

36 Consultant Attorney – present for agenda items  
37 Consultant Engineer – not present  
38

39 **Items for Consideration**

40 **Oaths of Office – Councilor Daniel Leifeld**

41 Clerk Andis swore in the newly appointed Councilor Daniel Leifeld.  
42

43 **Update – Confluence Early Childhood Development Service District**

44 Kathryn Kuhlenberg Transitional Executive, gave an update on Confluence Early Childhood  
45 Development Service District. She said it has been 6 months since the tax measure had  
46 passed and there's been a lot happening behind the scenes. For the first 3 months, the

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, June 2, 2026

1 board has established itself, making sure to file the right paperwork, get things running to  
2 collect the tax. She said she was hired as a part time executive and currently the board is  
3 trying to find a full-time executive director. Ms. Kuhlenberg said this is a whole new  
4 government agency, so a lot of work that she has been doing has been supporting their  
5 board to get up and running, so they have conducted board training and been building out  
6 internal board policies. Ms. Kuhlenberg said there has been some tax already collected  
7 and they didn't anticipate it to be collected until after the first quarter. Currently the tax  
8 revenue is being held in a trust. Ms. Kuhlenberg said the work that she is doing with the  
9 board right now is building up their knowledge around early childhood. The tax district  
10 runs from Parachute to Aspen. She said the foundation within the district varies greatly  
11 from Aspen to Parachute. Ms. Kuhlenberg said they are also working on renaming the  
12 special district. Right now, it is Confluence Early Childhood Development Service District  
13 (CECDSD). The board did approve a name change to Every Child Colloquially. She said the  
14 name change is not official until it has been approved by district court in all three  
15 counties. Once the district courts approve the name change then it will be official and  
16 they will make it public. Ms. Kuhlenberg said the board has adopted a mission and vision  
17 statement. The mission is: We ensure every child from Parachute to Aspen has a strong  
18 foundation for success by investing in accessible, high-quality early childhood education.  
19 And the long-term vision is we envision a bright future where children flourish, families  
20 thrive, and local economies prosper within our sustainable and livable communities. She  
21 said the board wants the district to do right, to do it well and not to take shortcuts. Ms.  
22 Kuhlenberg said she is the only employee of the government district and she is working  
23 creatively to build out a first-year funding scheme that, hopefully, can get off the ground  
24 and be ready to get some money out. She said they are also working on a long-term data  
25 project. So hopefully getting out some data gathering mechanisms this fall to help the  
26 district to truly understand what the needs are of families and providers. The district has  
27 some general information, but that was really focused on a campaign, and that's different  
28 than the information that you need when you're building out a program of support. And  
29 early childhood is complex. Early childhood is very personal, and the notion that it can  
30 just be an extension of K-12. The 0-5 years are very different, and families have a much  
31 greater interest in the care for their child in those 0-5 years and so building out a mixed  
32 delivery system that hits that and accounts for all of that is a complex task. Ms.  
33 Kuhlenberg said this type of district is the first of its kind in our state and in the country.  
34 It's been construction something from the ground up.  
35 Councilor Leifeld asked if there was anything the council could do to help Ms. Kuhlenberg.  
36 Ms. Kuhlenberg said the best thing that council could do was to support the elected board  
37 as they step into their role.  
38 Councilor Carey thanked Ms. Kuhlenberg for work on getting the groundwork started.  
39 Mayor Hazelton said he would like to have another update as the program starts to move  
40 forward.  
41 Councilor Riddile asked when there would be some programming be available to the  
42 public. Ms. Kuhlenberg said hopefully in the next 60 days would be ideal. It would be for  
43 the first-year funding not long-term. Councilor Riddile asked if the district is picking a  
44 priority or a full court press. Ms. Kuhlenberg said full court press and trying to come up

1 with one mechanism that hits a lot of them, and again, in a way that isn't overly  
2 burdensome, because there is no staff.

3  
4 **Update – CPW Zebra Mussels**

5 Robert Walters, Invasive Species Program Manager, reviewed the presentation with  
6 council (**Exhibit A**).

7 Councilor Sampley asked if the cleaning stations were in along the Colorado River or will  
8 be putting in. Mr. Walters said both. There are already some at the busier boat launches  
9 in the Grand Junction area. He said their top priority is to place the cleaning stations at all  
10 the boat launches that are infested which runs from Eagle to the state line.

11 Councilor Leifeld asked if CPW has done any testing or monitoring for Elk Creek. Mr.  
12 Walters said not at this time.

13 Councilor Carey said one of her concerns is safeguarding the town's river pumps for when  
14 the town has to pull water from the Colorado River from getting the Zebra Mussels into  
15 the pumps and up to the water treatment plant and what can the town do. Mr. Walters  
16 said it's a challenging scenario that the town faces there, because his recommendation  
17 would be to try to limit the amount of water that the town is pulling from the river at the  
18 times that have the highest probability that Zebra Mussels are passing through the  
19 system. Unfortunately, that's when the water temperatures and the air temperatures are  
20 really warm, which is probably when the town needs the water the most for irrigation  
21 purposes, so there's not a great solution to offer there. He said could try to fill the pond  
22 earlier in the season and then limit the amount you're taking in during the heart of the  
23 summer, it would reduce the likelihood, but certainly not needed.

24 Administrator Reynolds said the Grand River Park is a standalone park. There is an inlet  
25 that comes off the river, feeds the pond and the question is can it be eradicated from the  
26 pond. He said what happens at the pond is it will drain from the pond into a pump house  
27 that's over there, and there's a pit over there that will hold the water. And that's where  
28 Administrator Reynolds believes the town is most susceptible. Administrator Reynolds  
29 explained from there water is pumped out into the irrigation, so those lines pretty much  
30 stay dry until such time as we pick up from the pit. So, there's a weak link there between  
31 the pond and the internal pit in that pump house building. Administrator Reynolds there  
32 are auxiliary pumps that can pull out of the river and pump over a mile uphill to the water  
33 treatment plant, where it becomes filtered. Administrator Reynolds explained there are  
34 still spots down by the river where there might be water being held. For example, we pull  
35 of the head gate that will be pumped out of and then force it uphill. With the water being  
36 stagnant the town will need to watch that. Once the water is picked up from there and is  
37 flushed up the hill at a great velocity. Administrator Reynolds said the likelihood of  
38 infestation along those lines and into the water treatment plant are slim, and the filtering  
39 system, the chlorination system, will kill them at that point. So, our weakest spots are the  
40 standalone irrigation in the park. Mr. Walters said it's the settling areas before the flowing  
41 parts of the system that are at the highest level of risk, and certainly we would be more  
42 than willing to come to help sample or survey those settling ponds if they were identified  
43 within your respective system. He said it's really the flowing water is really not the  
44 concern. The Bureau of Reclamation has done a lot of work on this in their systems, and if

1 you're seeing 60 CFS through the system, it's very likely that they're not going to attach,  
2 but if that shuts off for an extended period of time. That's when you start to see some  
3 risk. Mayor Hazelton asked if there was something that the town could do from the pump  
4 system to the water treatment plant. Administrator Reynolds said the distance from the  
5 water treatment plant back down to the pumps at the river don't have standing water in  
6 it. The only time those pipes are charged is when we turn on the pumps, and then when  
7 we turn them off and they're not used, the pipes are empty as well as the pumps empty  
8 out. Administrator Reynolds said believes there could be a spot in the inlet, in the pickup  
9 that's got the potential to have standing water there, and that would be our weak spot.  
10 Mr. Walters said chemical treatment and any sort of remaining water is an option. Another  
11 option is heating; mussels don't like water over 120-140 degrees. He said if the town  
12 could dewater over the winter, that is another really effective measure. Mr. Walters said  
13 the town might consider the same thing at the pond at Grand River Park. He said lowering  
14 the water level would expose a lot of the mussels that were in there and killed them, so  
15 that alone is going to help kind of limit the population expansion out of that pond. He said  
16 if it's possible to completely dewater the pond in the winter would be a very effective way  
17 to potentially kill them. Mr. Walters said if the town would use a chemical such as  
18 Molluscicide treatment in the pond but then it could accidentally get released back into the  
19 Colorado River and could have significant impacts on the fish population.  
20 Councilor Leifeld asked how long it would take the mussels to die once they are out of the  
21 water. Mr. Walters said about 30 days they can survive without water.  
22

### 23 **Consider Water Lease Agreement**

24 Administrator Reynolds said at the last council work session Attorney Mike Sawyer gave an  
25 update to the council on the town's water rights, various water rights seniorities, water  
26 delivery systems, and possible scenarios that may play out during extreme drought year.  
27 He said one of the recommendations which was discussed the work session was Attorney  
28 Sawyer suggested the possibility of temporarily leasing Coryell Ditch water rights from TC  
29 Midwest to further secure additional Elk Creek water for the next several months.  
30 Following work session, staff and attorney Sawyer contacted TC Midwest representatives  
31 to discuss such a lease agreement. As a result of these discussions, council now has the  
32 opportunity to consider a six-month lease agreement for use of Coryell Ditch Water Rights  
33 that are currently owned by TC Midwest. Attorney Sawyer reviewed the lease with the  
34 council. He said he was able to contact the attorney for TC Midwest, who then coordinated  
35 with his client. TC Midwest has agreed to lease the full amount of water rights that TC  
36 Midwest owns in the Coryell Ditch which is senior priority to the town of the 2026 water  
37 year. Attorney Sawyer said TC Midwest have the town's form of lease that we've  
38 previously used and made a few minor edits to the lease agreement. He said staff is  
39 seeking the council's authority to have Administrator Reynolds sign the agreement. The  
40 amount to lease the water rights is \$500.00 for the summer. Attorney Sawyer said he was  
41 waiting for a couple of deeds to confirm how much TC Midwest obtained from CVR  
42 Investors, who was their predecessor and interest, and unfortunately, the deed that was  
43 used in the conveyance from CVR investors to TC Midwest was not specific to the  
44 amount. Once he has received the information then Administrator Reynolds could

1 sign the lease if council approves the lease agreement. Attorney Sawyer said that  
2 it would take the town's ownership in the senior Coryell water rights from about  
3 1.6 CFS to around 2.1, 2.2 CFS. He said the Coryell Ditch Water Right, are senior  
4 rights, therefore they can be used interchangeably, both at the water plant and at  
5 the Red Rocks Ditch, to divert water for irrigation purposes.  
6 Councilor Riddile asked what the seniority of the water rights from TC Midwest  
7 were. Are the rights senior to Ware and Hinds and the Cameo. Attorney Sawyer  
8 said the water rights are senior to Cameo but not to all of Ware and Hinds. The  
9 water rights are more senior than the town's existing water rights.  
10 Councilor Riddile asked once Castle Valley Ranch is built out and the town would  
11 eventually take possession of all the water rights, do we know the amount of  
12 water the would eventually end up with. Attorney Sawyer said there are two parts  
13 to the question. The annexation agreement with Castle Valley Ranch contemplates  
14 that the full believes it's 2.7 CFS in the senior Coryell Ditch water right would  
15 ultimately come to the town's ownership, and that would be sufficient to serve  
16 1400 units in Castle Valley Ranch. He believes includes the current anticipated  
17 build-out, including the land on the west side of, the county road that Eric Williams  
18 still owns, which is part of the Castle Valley PUD. Attorney Sawyer said the second  
19 part to the question is a couple years ago, the town undertook an audit of water  
20 rights dedications that had been made by previous developers, previous filings to  
21 ensure that the town had received the appropriate amount of water, and what we  
22 found is that the formula had been applied, correctly in previous donations. He  
23 said assuming Castle Valley develops to its full potential of 1,400 units the full  
24 amount of the senior water right would come to the town. Attorney Sawyer said  
25 for some reason the density at Castle Valley ended up being less than 1400 units.  
26 Then, the town would negotiate with Eric Williams to buy whatever the remainder  
27 of that water right is available.

28  
29 **MOTION: Mayor Hazelton made a motion to Authorize Town Administrator Dave**  
30 **Reynolds to Sign the Water Lease Agreement. Councilor Carey seconded the**  
31 **motion, and it passed unanimously.**

32  
33 **Presentation –The Ripple Effect - Staff**

34 Assistant Rochelle Firth and Clerk Mindy Andis reviewed their presentation with council  
35 (**Exhibit B**).

36 Assistant Firth said she and Clerk Andis had attend a CMC Leadership course called the  
37 Ripple Effect for the past 5 weeks. Assistant Firth said the class focused on leadership  
38 styles, different styles of communication and how to be leaders in your organizations.  
39 Clerk Andis said as part of the course they were required to create a group community  
40 project that would create a Ripple Effect in their communities. Clerk Andis said her group  
41 chose to install Wind Phones in Silt and New Castle.

1 Assistant Firth explained what a Wind Phone was. She said Planner Smith had received a  
2 call from a New Castle resident about a Wind Phone. The resident said she had lost her  
3 husband and her children were unable to say goodbye to their father. Assistant Firth said  
4 that was how the team got the idea for a Wind Phone. She said the Wind Phone began in  
5 Japan in 2010 as a deeply personal way to cope with grief, created by Itaru Sasaki after  
6 losing his cousin to cancer. The purpose of the Wind Phone was to carry words on the  
7 wind to loved ones. Assistant Firth explained in 2011 there was a devastating earthquake  
8 and tsunami that killed nearly 20,000 people. Survivors began hearing about the phone  
9 and asked to talk to loved ones they had lost.

10 Clerk Andis said you can't simply install a phone and call it a Wind Phone. There are  
11 specific conditions that would need to be met. Clerk Andis explained the phone would  
12 need to be in a serene spot that gives visitors a sense of privacy for reflection, allowing  
13 them to express their emotions without feeling exposed, such as parks, gardens and  
14 natural preserves.

15 Assistant Firth said the project needed to be completed in a short amount of time, the  
16 team had decided to install the phones in the cemetery at Silt and New Castle. Since the  
17 class is over there, she said her and Clerk Andis have had some time to rethink the  
18 location of the phone. Some of the ideas they came up with was at Frank Breslin Park  
19 along the river and Rollie Gordon Trail along the creek. Clerk Andis said people in the  
20 community suffer from different emotional disconnects such as heartbreaks, divorce and  
21 passing of a loved one. Assistant Firth said the team had reached out to medical providers  
22 about the project. The feedback that was received was to include information about crisis  
23 resources.

24 Councilor Riddile asked to explain what the class was about. Assistant Firth said it was to  
25 teach us the different leadership styles, communication styles and give a better  
26 understanding about how to deal with coworkers.

27 Councilor Leifeld asked once the phone is installed who would be responsible to the  
28 upkeep. Assistant Firth said she and Clerk Andis would keep an eye on it. There really is  
29 nothing for upkeep, just making sure there is no vandalism and possibly stain it once a  
30 year.

31 Mayor Hazelton said it was a great idea, and it screams New Castle.

32 Council agreed for Assistant Firth and Clerk Andis to move forward with the project.

33

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

35 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to recess the Town Council Meeting**  
36 **and Convene the Local Liquor Licensing Authority. Councilor Carey seconded the**  
37 **motion, and it passed unanimously.**

38

39 **Consider an Application from the New Castle Chamber of Commerce for a Special**  
40 **Event Liquor License for their Block Party Event on June 12, 2026**

41 Clerk Mindy Andis said her office had received the special event liquor license on May 2,  
42 2026. The event is for the Chamber of Commerce Block Party. The event will be held on  
43 June 12, 2026, from 5:30pm to 9:00pm. The license is from 9:00am – 11:00pm which  
44 would give the Chamber of Commerce enough time to set up and tear down. Staff is

1 recommending the last call to be half an hour before the end of the event. New Castle  
2 Chamber of Commerce has legal possession of the intended premises through a rental  
3 agreement. The event includes one food truck, The Rolling Fork has been approved by Garfield  
4 County Health Department. There are chamber staff members who are Safe serve (TIPS)  
5 certified and will oversee the alcohol service. If the Authority's consensus is to approve the  
6 attached application for a special event liquor permit for the New Castle Chamber of  
7 Commerce, the Clerk's Office staff recommends that Authority consider the following  
8 conditions:

- 9 • That a 100% ID check be conducted because only individuals that meet the eligible  
10 drinking age of 21 should be served alcohol.
- 11 • That 'last call' for service of alcoholic beverages be a half-hour prior to the end of the  
12 event to allow patrons to finish their beverages before leaving the venue.

13 The Clerk's Office staff recommends approval of the application.  
14

15 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve a Special Event Liquor**  
16 **License from the New Castle Chamber of Commerce for their Block Party Event**  
17 **on June 12, 2026. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed**  
18 **unanimously.**

19  
20 Adjourn the Local Liquor Licensing Authority, Reconvene the Town Council Meeting

21 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to recess the Local Liquor Licensing**  
22 **Authority and Convene the Town Council Meeting. Mayor Hazelton seconded the**  
23 **motion, and it passed unanimously.**

24  
25 **Consider Ordinance TC2026-5 – Amending Chapter 15.25 of the New Castle**  
26 **Municipal Code with the Adoption of the 2025 Edition of the Colorado Wildfire**  
27 **Resiliency Code with Amendments (1st reading)**

28 Administrator Reynolds said a few years ago the town had adopted a version of the WUI  
29 code. He said there is a state mandate that needs to be fulfilled. Administrator Reynolds  
30 said Planner Smith has been working with CRFR for the mapping.

31 Planner Smith reviewed his staff report with the council. He said now the town needs to  
32 adopt the state version of the WUI code which is now called the 2025 Edition of the  
33 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code. Planner Smith said the WUI Code requires structure  
34 hardening to make sure that if there was a wildland fire that the structure doesn't ignite.  
35 He said there is also part of the code that addresses mitigation of trees and vegetation  
36 that would be flammable around the structure. Planner Smith said in recognition of the  
37 increasing threat of wildland fire to the community, Town Council adopted the 2021 ICC  
38 Wildland Urban Interface Code with amendments to improve ignition resistance and fuel  
39 reduction for new structures. At the beginning of 2026, Council further codified more  
40 stringent ignition resistance requirements (Class A flame spread) for new structures. In  
41 both instances, requirements for *existing* structures were not considered. He said

1 recently, the state of Colorado has mandated the adoption of its Colorado Wildfire  
2 Resiliency Code (CWRC) statewide. After reviewing, Staff concludes that the Town’s WUI  
3 code and the CWRC are quite compatible. One notable difference is that the CWRC does  
4 require resiliency upgrades with additions and alterations for existing structures beyond  
5 certain square footage thresholds. These thresholds and requirements include (CWRC  
6 Section 101.5):

- 7
- 8 \* When the work increases the building footprint by 500sf or more, the increased  
9 footprint of the structure must comply with CWRC – Only the increased area shall  
10 comply.
- 11 \* When 25% or more of the surface area of a roof is replaced – The entire roof shall  
12 comply.
- 13 \* When 25% or more of the total exterior wall surface area is replaced or  
14 reconstructed – The entire wall surface area shall comply & the defensible space  
15 with 5’ must comply.
- 16

17 Planner Smith said Town permitting records demonstrate that very few existing properties  
18 would have been affected by these provisions had the code been in effect over the past 10  
19 years. Staff anticipates that approximately one existing home a year may be affected by  
20 the CWRC. The state board for the CWRC has also performed a baseline risk assessment  
21 (see mapping below) which projects varying levels of fire intensity throughout the Town  
22 and prescribes treatments for structure hardening and defensible space commensurate  
23 with those projections. Based on the CWRC mapping alone, different areas of New Castle  
24 have different levels of risk (sometimes even on the same street) and thus different levels  
25 of mitigation standards. However, upon review of the mapping, Colorado River Fire  
26 Rescue (CRFR) maintains that due to the surrounding topography, fuel sources, and  
27 evacuation constraints, New Castle in its **entirety** should be classified uniformly at the  
28 highest hazard level and therefore governed by CRWC’s most stringent structure  
29 hardening. Since the provisions of the CWRC allow for local customization of the  
30 mapping, staff recommends amending the following section of the CWRC to read:

31  
32 *Section 303.1.2 shall read: "The AHJ may develop and adopt local maps designating*  
33 *wildfire hazard and fire intensity classifications within its jurisdiction boundaries in*  
34 *accordance with Sections 303.1 through 303.3. The AJI shall adopt intensity classifications*  
35 *no less severe than those recommended by CRFR and/or other local fire authorities. Local*  
36 *maps shall be updated accordingly."*

37  
38 Planner Smith said in New Castle there is traditional siding. In Castle Valley Ranch there  
39 are smart siding which is synthetic engineered type of material. That runs roughly about  
40 \$10 a square foot. Hardy plank are fire-resistant and are used on the newer homes in  
41 Castle Valley Ranch. He said the installation takes a little bit longer, takes a little more

1 specialty. Planner Smith said in Lakota Canyon Ranch the HOA requires wood siding and  
2 in those cases, they do have to typically find fire-retardant treated wood, which bumps  
3 the price up considerably. So, it's probably about 50%, that is driven by the design  
4 review.

5 Councilor Riddile asked if the fire-retardant would need to be reapplied. Planner Smith  
6 said no, it is infused into the wood. The code specifically says the fire retardant can't be  
7 painted on or stained it has been infused wood. Planner Smith explained the fire hazard  
8 map (**Exhibit C**). He said the mapping that's provided by the state shows the classifies of  
9 where the various hazards are in the community based on technology. There are some  
10 areas in New Castle where there is no color, specifically downtown. Planner Smith Said Mt.  
11 Medearis, Castle Valley Ranch and Lakota Canyon Ranch does have yellow coloring which  
12 is a higher hazard, and the BLM is red which is the highest hazard. He said the new code,  
13 uses as its assessment; and it's the same data that we collected back to 2012. Planner  
14 Smith said the recommendation from the fire department surrounding hilly topography  
15 the types of fuel sources surrounding the town, within town, the open spaces within town,  
16 and then also the evacuation routes, and some of the constraints there was the history of  
17 the area based in small towns, that the threat to New Castle was more significant than  
18 what the map really suggests. He said back in 2023 or 2024, the council wanted to go  
19 with a higher risk assessment, and therefore more rigorous standard for fire protection  
20 than what was being found.

21 Fire Marshal Orrin Moon said there's some similarities that CRFR has seen in the area for  
22 example the Coal Seam Fire. He said the hillside of the Coal Seam Fire is similar to the  
23 Burning Mountain hillside The area is unmapped. Fire Marshal Moon said if there was a  
24 wildfire in the west and come over the ridge, or come around from Appletree Park, the  
25 town would get embers and have the same thing happen as it did with Coal Seam Fire. He  
26 said the embers from the fire crossed the river and crossed the interstate and burning on  
27 the other side of Highway 6 in Glenwood Springs. He said there is the same potential  
28 here. Fire Marshal said Moon said there is a coal seam that's about 5 miles out of town up  
29 Count Road 245. He said we get prevailing winds in the evening are coming from the west  
30 and the northwest and the concern is the sending embers into the town. Fire Marshal  
31 Moon said there's been a number of subdivisions where the fire didn't impinge on the  
32 town, but the embers impinged on the town and started the fires in the homes, and then  
33 there were wood fences around the homes and the fences kept the fire going. He said we  
34 need to be as vigilant as we can about what our concerns are around here and what we  
35 can do. Planner Smith said one of the peculiarities of the map is in Lakota Canyon Ranch  
36 is some of the neighboring properties will be color, high hazard, and then across the  
37 street is no hazard. He said Fire Marshal Moon has been in meetings with the state and  
38 fortunately have provided a provision in the code that allows you to amend the map.  
39 Planner Smith said staff is looking at moving forward with what we already have,  
40 increasing the risk hazard for New Castle to a higher-level risk of resiliency than what  
41 shows on the current map. Planner Smith said there are two levels Class 1 and Class 2 He

1 said the difference between Class 1 and Class 2 is the exterior siding.  
2 Fire Chief Leif Sackett said it makes a difference, and it's a lot easier when we're  
3 consistent across the board for this mapping for everyone.  
4 Councilor Carey thanked Planner Smith and CRFR for being proactive with the code.  
5 Councilor Liefeld asked if there was any data that shows the impacts of the fire resistance.  
6 He said one thing he keeps hearing is it's too hard and too expensive to building in New  
7 Castle. Councilor Liefeld said if it impacts the cost to build, he wants to make sure the  
8 material would actually stop the spread of fire. Fire Marshal Moon said fire are funny. It  
9 does weird things. It goes down through neighborhoods, and it takes out 4 or 5 houses  
10 and will leave one or two, because just the way the wind went, or the way the separation  
11 was, or maybe one had cottonwood tree in the yard. He said it depends on what's around  
12 there because of the moisture in the cottonwood trees. Fire Marshal Moon said yes, there  
13 have been homes have been saved that have done the ignition-resistant construction. Fire  
14 Chief Sackett said it's not just the ignition-resistant material, it also has to do with  
15 mitigation of the property. He said having wooded fences against the home will make a  
16 difference if it's five feet away or having zeroscape right around your house for that first 5  
17 feet. Fire Chief Sackett reiterated it's not just the ignition-resistant materials, it's also that  
18 mitigation that goes along with it.

19  
20 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance TC2026-5 –**  
21 **2025 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code (1<sup>st</sup> reading). Councilor Carey seconded**  
22 **the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote with one No vote. Councilor Mariscal:**  
23 **yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Mayor Hazelton; Councilor Liefeld: no; Councilor**  
24 **Copeland: yes; Councilor Sampley: yes; Councilor Riddile: yes.**

### 25 **Consent Agenda**

26 Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by  
27 one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member  
28 or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.

29  
30 Councilor Carey asked for the minutes to be removed for further review

31  
32 May 19, 2026, Minutes – removed

33 May bills \$909,587.81

34  
35 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with**  
36 **the removal of the minutes. Councilor Carey seconded the motion, and it passed**  
37 **unanimously.**

### 38 39 **Staff Reports**

40 **Town Administrator** –Administrator Reynolds said Moo LLC was approved through a CUP

1 process to have two food trucks. He said there are two food trucks with an ice cream  
2 parlor inside of the building along with a commercial kitchen. During the process there  
3 was discussion about having any outdoor music at the time there would be no music. Now  
4 since they are set up and had time to think about. They asking what it would look like to  
5 have live music. Administrator Reynolds said staff agreed it would be an amendment to  
6 the CUP because they were not approved for live music and be specific. Planner Smith  
7 said there was also an issue with MOO, LLC not having a public restroom. The Garfield  
8 County Health Department doesn't allow for a port-a-potty and that was part of the CUP  
9 approval. Council agreed to bring MOO, LLC back for an amendment to the CUP if they  
10 want to move forward with the live music.

11 Administrator Reynolds said last year for the staff review for the appoint staff, council and  
12 staff did a 360 review for himself, Treasurer Ehlers and Clerk Andis. Reviews are coming  
13 up again soon. He asked council how they would like to proceed with the reviews. Council  
14 agreed to do the reviews as they were done in the past, there was no need to do the 360  
15 reviews every year.

16 Administrator Reynolds said he has met with Jeanne Golay with LoVa Trail about building  
17 a trail from the new pedestrian bridge over to Elek Creek Elementary School. He has also  
18 spoken with school about the trail. He said the town would be happy to partner with them  
19 and help with a grant but not to take responsibility of the project. LoVa Trail is hoping to  
20 apply for the Fall FMLD grant. He said the town is looking at partnering with the middle  
21 school for a Fall FMLD grant. He said if for some reason the town doesn't partner with the  
22 middle school in the fall, then the town would be happy to partner with LoVa Trail.

23 Administrator Reynolds said we have put CEC in charge of spending the bag fee money,  
24 however it is not being spent out. Staff has been looking at ways to spend the money. He  
25 said one idea was to use part of the money for the annual dump days.

26 Administrator Reynolds said he has been working on the council retreat on September 19,  
27 2026. He has been looking at locations and in the past council has struggled with the  
28 Lakota Rec Center because of the noise. He suggested the retreat could be at the  
29 community center, in the council chambers or at the Redstone Inn. He said he has had  
30 managers meetings at the Redstone Inn and it is very quiet.

31 Administrator Reynolds said Lazy Bear is now open for dinner.

32 Administrator Reynolds said there will be longer delays at the bridge on Tuesday and  
33 Wednesday, June 9-10, 2026. The girders for the bridge will be here and being placed.  
34 The delays could be up to one hour.

35 Administrator Reynolds said he had received a call from Russell Talbott about the town  
36 possible leasing Elk Creek water rights from the Talbott's. Administrator Reynolds said he  
37 has spoken with Attorney Mike Sawyer about the water rights and Attorney Sawyer is  
38 looking into it.

39 Administrator Reynolds said Attorney David McConaughy normally does the council  
40 orientation. This year the town has received an offer from the DOLA Rep Dana to come  
41 and do the presentation. He said Dana wouldn't be able to present until July 7, 2026,

1 meeting. Administrator Reynolds said CIRSA also does a presentation video. Councilor  
2 Leifeld, Councilor Riddile and Councilor Sampley said they would not be at the July 7,  
3 2026, council meeting. Administrator Reynolds said he will try to reschedule Dana for July  
4 21, 2026, meeting.

5 Administrator Reynolds said the CML Spring District meeting last Thursday, which New  
6 Castle hosted at the Lakota Clubhouse, was great attendance. He said the CML  
7 Conference is at the end of June.

8 Administrator Reynolds said he has a meeting with New Castle Trails and RFMBA  
9 tomorrow about another bike event they would like to do. The event would be sponsored  
10 by Sunlight Mountain.

11 Administrator Reynolds said the annual Christmas Party will be at Vaudeville.

12 **Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said about 9 months ago she had reported that her department  
13 was moving forward with a new agenda, packet and meetings platform due to ADA  
14 compliance. She said she had some concerns and was going back and for with the  
15 company. She said the concerns and issues have been resolved and will be going live  
16 starting either June 29 or 30, 2026. As part of the platform there is an option to create a  
17 mailing list for when agendas and packets are published. She said she would continue to  
18 email council as normal.

19 Clerk Andis said at a prior meeting Mayor Hazelton had mentioned having a proclamation  
20 for Jackie Davis who was retiring from Coal Ridge High School Principal. She asked Mayor  
21 Hazelton if he was able to get information about Ms. Davis. Mayor Hazelton said he had  
22 spoken with the family and with the new principal and they were going to get information  
23 to Mayor Hazelton. Councilor Carey said she would like to recognize the track teams and  
24 she will get me the information and would like to do the recognition after school starts.

25 **Town Treasurer** – not present

26 **Town Planner** – Planner Smith gave an update on the R2 project. He said they are  
27 working on paving the connection of North Wild Horse Drive and planning on opening the  
28 road up in the next week. The parking will probably not be stripped.

29 **Public Works Director** – not present

30

### 31 **Commission Reports**

32 **Planning & Zoning Commission** –have not met

33 **Historic Preservation Commission** – Councilor Sampley said they worked on the  
34 cemetery dedication ceremony and they are also working with CMC for videography  
35 project.

36 **Climate and Environment Commission** – Councilor Carey said they didn't have a  
37 quorum.

38 **Senior Program** – Clerk Andis said they did meet. There are concerns about the  
39 ridership of the Traveler is down and they are trying to find out why and how to increase  
40 the numbers.

41 **RFTA** –have not met

1 **AGNC** –Mayor Hazelton said there’s nothing to report.  
2 **GCE** – have not met.  
3 **EAB** – have not met  
4 **POSTR** – have not met

5  
6 **Council Comments**

7 Councilor Copeland asked to have a conversation about having a public restrooms in the  
8 downtown.

9 Councilor Leifeld said in the last couple weeks, asked a lot of people what they are  
10 concerned about. He said first was they wanted the community to stay family friendly,  
11 more amenities such as a rec center, splash pad and such. He said we need the residents  
12 to shop locally and to allow for business development and help make it easier for a  
13 business to start up. He said there are a lot of areas for expansion. He said t-ball and  
14 softball season is starting soon and asked for everyone to attend and to support the  
15 teams.

16 Councilor Carey said she would like to have a Hot Topics section on the website for  
17 resources on wildfire mitigation, best practices for watering and lawn maintenance during  
18 a drought.

19 Administrator Reynolds said he would be more than happy to meet with any councilor  
20 especially with Councilor Samley and Councilor Leifeld and he would be more than happy  
21 to answer any questions or do a tour of the town.

22 Councilor Carey asked about the July 7, 2026, meeting if it was going to be canceled.

23 Clerk Andis said at this time there is a presentation regarding the regional housing needs.  
24 Administrator said we will need to have the July 7, 2026, meeting because of the regional  
25 housing needs. He said the presentation is required to make the housing study legitimate  
26 for DOLA.

27 Mayor Hazelton said the Memorial Day event at the cemetery was well done and Assistant  
28 Michelle Huster did a great job. He said the PD Bike Rodeo went well and had a great turn  
29 out. He said Councilor Sampley was awarded the Classified Staff Person of the Year at Elk  
30 Creek Elementary.

31  
32 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

33 There were no items for future council agenda  
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1  
2 **Adjourn**  
3 **MOTION: Mayor Hazelton made a motion to adjourn.**  
4 The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

5  
6 Respectfully submitted,

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8  
9  
10 \_\_\_\_\_  
11 Mayor Grady Hazelton

12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

DRAFT