

**New Castle Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 2, 2019, 7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present	Councilor Mariscal
	Councilor Owens
	Councilor Hazelton
	Mayor A Riddile
	Councilor Copeland
	Councilor Leland
	Councilor G Riddile

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Dave Reynolds, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Town Planner Paul Smith and Town Treasurer Loni Burk.

Meeting Notice

Town Clerk Melody Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2019-1.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes

There were no agenda changes.

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no citizen comments.

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney – not present.

Consultant Engineer – not present.

Items for Consideration

Update: Judge Amanda Maurer & Prosecutor Angela Roff

Judge Amanda Maurer and Prosecutor Angela Roff greeted the council. Judge Maurer told the council that she and Prosecutor Roff had conferred before the meeting and they noted that there was little to update the council on regarding new law, as there had not been any real changes since their last visit to council. Judge Maurer and Prosecutor Roff discussed the effects that the legalization of marijuana seemed to have had on youth and

what other issues they were seeing in the courts. They also discussed the problem of minors using vape pens. Law enforcement and the school districts were working hard to come up with some solutions. One solution was to have school resource officers in the schools.

Judge Maurer and Prosecutor Roff briefly discussed other court issues and they agreed that traffic and criminal citations in New Castle had remained steady, neither increasing or decreasing. Prosecutor Roff said that communication with the police department was very good.

Judge Maurer and Prosecutor Roff invited the council to attend court some time if they were interested in watching the court process.

The council thanked Judge Maurer and Prosecutor Roff.

Downtown Alliance Presentation

Administrator Reynolds introduced two members of a very active downtown group which recently changed their name to the Downtown Alliance.

Bronwyn Rittner and Summer Lajoie greeted the council. Ms. Rittner thanked Administrator Reynolds and the council for allowing the group to continue their work in the downtown. She said that they would continue the Ritter Plaza Music in the Park event. The "Welcome to New Castle" sign was being repainted, and the group was continuing their work on Liberty Park.

Ms. Lajoie told the council that she was very interested in nature and conservation. She passed out information to the council regarding pollinators. She said she had contacted the town regarding pollinator gardens and was subsequently invited to attend a Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation meeting to present her idea of planting native species of plants to support native pollinators. Ms. Lajoie spoke in detail regarding pollinator gardens and her efforts to educate and involved the community. She also said she had been hired as the Town of New Castle's Horticulturalist.

Administrator Reynolds told the council that the Downtown Alliance was considering a scavenger hunt in the downtown as well as a ghost walk for Halloween and caroling around Christmastime. He said that the Alliance was also working on advertising. He said that Garfield County was putting together a magazine and it would feature each of the towns in the county. In addition, Administrator Reynolds said that the Downtown Alliance was considering a full-page ad. One-third of the page would be dedicated to the Community Market; one-third would be for the Ritter Plaza Music in the Park event and the remaining third would be a "Welcome home to New Castle" section with photos of town events and Main Street and the town brand. Administrator Reynolds said the magazine would run seasonally.

The council thanked Ms. Lajoie and Ms. Rittner.

Discussion: Golf Carts on Town Streets

Administrator Reynolds described in detail the work that staff had done in researching the idea of allowing golf carts on town streets. This included the available connections between Castle Valley, Lakota and the downtown; the types of off-highway vehicles that could be used; the benefits it would provide to the residents and businesses and the rules or regulations that may need to be in place. Administrator Reynolds said that the ordinance would come to the council very soon, but not until after an open house was

held to inform the public of the idea and to gather thoughts, concerns and ideas from the citizenry. The council agreed an open house was a good idea.

Review: The Downtown Plan

Administrator Reynolds told the council that the downtown plan was a document that was a long time in the making. He said that Councilor Leland and the Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Commission had spent a lot of time rewriting the document, and it had been a great learning tool for them since many of the commission members were new. Administrator Reynolds reviewed some of the changes that P&Z had made including the removal of specific business names, property owners and language that threatened vested rights in other areas of town.

Administrator Reynolds said that staff was asking council to review the downtown plan and offer suggestions for revisions that would go back to the P&Z as recommendations. After that, it will go to a P&Z public hearing for approval. Once approved it will be incorporated as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.

The council briefly discussed their thoughts on the downtown plan, and clarified that the document would be approved during a public hearing that would be noticed. They generally agreed that it may be a good idea to do some additional outreach to the downtown area.

Mayor A Riddile asked that each council member review the plan and bring their comments back at the next meeting.

Update: Senior Housing

Administrator Reynolds said that staff expected to be able to issue the TCO. He said that the escrow agreement was signed, but the wire transfer of the funds had not happened, so the TCO was not issued. The escrow account was to ensure that the necessary work was completed on the project. He said that the TCO will be good until May 31, 2019.

Administrator Reynolds also said that unfortunately staff had fielded a number of calls complaining that the town had delayed residents from moving into senior housing. He also said that the manager, Leslie Means, was no longer with the project and they had a temporary person handling both locations.

Councilor Art Riddile made a motion at 8:46 p.m. to go into Executive Session (1) to discuss the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of real, personal or other property interest under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(a); and (2) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e) and concerning town-owned property. Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Executive session concluded.

At the end of the executive session, Mayor A Riddile made the following statement:

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"The time is now 9:05 p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were: Councilors Mariscal, Owens and Hazelton; Mayor A Riddile; Councilors Copeland, Leland and G Riddile; Town Administrator Dave Reynolds and Town Clerk Melody Harrison. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record."

No concerns were stated.

Clerk Harrison told the council that the last item on the consent agenda was a modification of the liquor license for cooler space for alcohol at Kum & Go. She said the store held a fermented malt beverage license for off-premises consumption. The modification was to expand from two cooler doors to four cooler doors and did not require a public hearing unless the council felt otherwise. In that case, they could remove the application from the consent agenda and set it for a public hearing. The council did not feel a public hearing was necessary.

Consent Agenda

February 19, 2019 council minutes

March 5, 2019 council minutes

March Bills of \$454,555.11

Kum & Go FMB Liquor License Cooler Modification

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

Staff Reports

Town Administrator – Administrator Reynolds said that the next town municipal court will be held on Monday, April 8, and the Ferrin Case will be heard. He said he, Town Prosecutor Angela Roff and Town Attorney David McConaughy had been in meetings regarding the case. Administrator Reynolds told the council that Debbie Guccini would be out of work indefinitely on medical leave, so finance would be short-staffed. He said staff was looking at how responsibilities could be shifted to ease the burden. Clerk Harrison suggested that shortening the hours the town hall was open might help and the council agreed that was a good plan. Administrator Reynolds said that staff had signed a contract to subcontract an operator in charge of the wastewater treatment plant since Greg Jacob had accepted employment elsewhere. Administrator Reynolds said that P&Z was working on the downtown plan, and their first big items will be Jim Columbo's subdivision application that will go to P&Z next week. Administrator Reynolds told the council that Town Planner Paul Smith was working on some possible revisions to the land use section of the town codes to make it more user-friendly for P&Z and citizens alike.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison told the council that she had attended the AGNC meeting on March 20 in Glenwood Springs. She said it was a great meeting and she was glad to be able to attend. She also said she had not yet heard if she had been awarded the grant from the AGNC, but hoped results would come in soon. Clerk Harrison said that

Spellebration would be on Friday and she hoped everyone could attend. Clerk Harrison said she had met with Sue Ruggles of the Downtown Group, and they would be moving forward with the Ritter Plaza Music in the Park series for 2019. She said that in 2018 the council had allowed Ms. Ruggles to use the town to obtain a special events liquor license for the event, and If they were amicable, Ms. Ruggles would like the same opportunity for 2019. The council agreed. Clerk Harrison said that she, Administrator Reynolds, and members of New Castle Trails had met with Attorney McConaughy regarding liability issues for special events, specifically the trails summer conference.

Town Planner – not present.

Public Works Director – not present.

Commission Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission – Councilor Hazelton suggested that Councilor Copeland might want to attend the next P&Z meeting since she was next in the council rotation.

Historic Preservation Commission – Councilor Copeland said that at the last HPC meeting they had heard and approved an application for an expansion for EAT Bistro.

Climate Action Advisory Committee -

Senior Program – Councilor Mariscal said that senior programs was hiring more instructors for Tai Chi classes, and they had also approached the County Commissioners for more grant funding.

RFTA – Mayor A Riddle said that RFTA will be sending a letter to CDOT requesting a speed reduction on US Highway 6 near the park and ride and Stop and Save because of safety concerns. He said that if they get CDOT permission, RFTA might install flashing yellow lights and crosswalk striping.

AGNC – Councilor Hazelton said Administrator Reynolds and Clerk Harrison had attended the AGNC meeting. Congressman Tipton gave an interesting update. The guest speaker was Andy Mueller from the Colorado River District who talked about the snowpack and advised that although the snowpack was wonderful, it would take 10 more years of the same snowpack to get Lake Powell back to normal levels.

GCE – nothing to report

EAB – nothing to report

Council Comments

Councilor Hazelton felt that a more aggressive stance on underage tobacco sales was appropriate and the council should consider it.

Councilor Hazelton asked if anyone had contact information for Cedar Networks. He said they had contacted him about installing fiber at his home, but no one had returned his call. Clerk Harrison said she had contact information she would send to him.

Councilor Mariscal asked the council for some assistance with the joint meeting with the Board of County Commissioners and the Mexican Consulate. She said she wanted to hold a luncheon at the Community Center. The council agreed the meeting was a great opportunity.

Councilor Hazelton complimented Councilor Mariscal because her name had come up a number of times at a school meeting regarding her wonderful ability to bridge the gap with the Latino community.

Councilor Leland noted that fire restrictions for New Castle had gone into effect on April 1 and the large amount of precipitation for the year seemed helpful, but in fact, it would

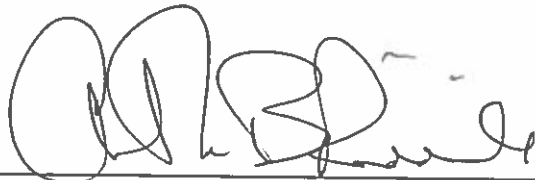
cause excess vegetation growth, which will dry out later on the summer and present a greater fire danger.

Mayor A Riddile told the council that they had received a thank you from the Senior Volunteer Program for the \$200.00 the town gave them.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectively submitted,



Mayor Art Riddile



Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC

