New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting
Community Center
423 W. Main Street, New Castle
Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 7:00 PM

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 (virtual)
	Councilor Leland
	Councilor G Riddile
Absent	None

Also present at the meeting were Town Administrator Dave Reynolds, Town Clerk Melody Harrison, Town Treasurer Loni Burk, Town Planner Paul Smith, Recreation Director Hannah Bihr, Assistant Town Attorney Gazda and members of the public.

Meeting Notice
Town Clerk Melody Harrison verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2022-1.

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 – nothing to report.
Consultant Engineer – not present.

Items for Consideration

Proclamation Honoring Steve Rippy
Mayor A Riddile said that Steve Rippy had a remarkable tenure with the Town of New Castle, spanning many years. He invited Mr. Rippy to the front of the room and read the proclamation into the record.
Mr. Rippy thanked the council and said he appreciated the honor. Councilor Hazelton said that the appreciation went both ways.

Administrator Reynolds told the council that representatives from Garfield RE-2 School District had yet to arrive, and he suggested that the Talbott trail item could be heard first. The council agreed.

Consider Approval of the Talbott Trail Agreement
Administrator Reynolds said that the town, New Castle Trails group and the Talbotts had worked together on a trail easement agreement on the Talbott land west of town. He said that C.R.S. 33-41-101 provided the way for private property owners to create easements across their property for municipal use and provided the property owner protections under the law. Administrator Reynolds said that the same type of trails agreements were in place in town with private property owners Atkinson, Romero and Craven.
Administrator Reynolds said that the proposed trail will be open to non-motorized use with the exception some ADA equipment such as motorized wheelchairs.
Administrator Reynolds said that maintenance of the trail will be a town responsibility. In addition, the town will be responsible to put up some gates and cattle guards to protect the landowners' use of the land. The owner maintains the right to develop the land. The trail easement will be 15-feet wide, but the trail itself will likely be a single-track trail. Administrator Reynolds said that the state statutes did not allow fees to be charged for use of the trail.
Administrator Reynolds reviewed the insurance requirements of the contract as well as the term. The term was ten years with three automatic renewals unless the landlord provided notice of termination. The contract stayed with the land in the event the land was sold.
Administrator Reynolds voiced his appreciation of the Talbott Family for allowing the town to build a trail through their property, and he noted that the trail will likely be a destination trail once it was built.
Administrator Reynolds said that the agreement was the starting point and that there were other agreements that needed to be in place with the school and ditch companies before anything could happen.
Councilor Hazelton asked about #6 in the agreement that stated the town would install fencing and gates to keep the landowners cattle operation separate from the trail. He said that would be a lot of fencing and he wanted to understand better what the parameters were of the condition.
Administrator Reynolds said that the purpose was not to separate the trail from the cattle operation, it was at trail heads.
Russel Talbott responded and said that his family ran cattle in between the two ditches and that would be where there could be potential 'cattle interference'. He described the areas where gates would need to be installed.
MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve the trail easement agreement between the Town of New Castle, Colorado and Burning Mountain Land and Cattle, LLC. Councilor Owens seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Talbott asked if he could make a comment. The council agreed. Mr. Talbott said that he appreciated the town for their willingness to engage in the trail agreement, but it did not erase the concerns of the interference of the use of the property. In particular, he noted that his nephew and family lived on the property, and they were concerned about trespass by trail users. Mr. Talbott said that the biggest concern was regarding trespass onto areas where they did not want people to be. He said it was likely the greatest risk for them, and for the town because it imposed a default of the agreement if there are trespassers in areas that are not designated as trail easement. Councilor Owens asked what Mr. Talbott felt the mitigation would be. Mr. Talbott said that the agreement provides that it would be the responsibility of the town to provide proper signage and controls for access and use of the trail. If there was trespass, the Talbotts will notify the town and the agreement had a process for resolution of the problem. Mr. Talbott apologized for interrupting and said that he wanted to make sure everyone was aware of the provisions of the agreement before the vote was completed. Councilor Owens said the town had several other trails agreements and he asked if there had been any problems with trespassers on those properties. None of the council members said they had heard there were problems, and Administrator Reynolds said that he had also not heard of any issues.
The motion passed unanimously.

Garfield RE-2 Mill Levy Correction Presentation
Theresa Hamilton, Director of Communications, Garfield RE-2 School District. Director Hamilton introduced Jeff Blanford, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the district.
Director Hamilton said that they were present to speak to the council about a mil levy correction that would be happening, and the district had been directed to make the correction although the problem was by no fault of the school district.
Director Hamilton and CFO Blanford provided a power point presentation that thoroughly described the history of the situation.
Director Hamilton and CFO Blanford explained that in the 1990s and 2000s, many school districts obtained voter approval to retain and spend revenue in excess of the property tax revenue limitation imposed on the district by the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR.) This is commonly referred to as "de-Brucing" or "de-TABORing."
Garfield RE-2 passed a de-TABOR vote in 1998.
Districts that de-TABORed had permission from the voters to keep their local property tax mill levies or their local share, at the level in place at the time of the de-TABOR vote. They said that without de-TABORing, districts would not have been able to retain revenues above their TABOR limitation due to interactions of various factors unique to Colorado. Those included rapid and significant growth in residential property value; TABOR, which prevents taxes from increasing without voter approval; and Gallagher, which has driven the residential assessment rate down in order to preserve the required ratio of residential/commercial property tax rates.
The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and others interpreted the statute such that some de-TABORed districts should reduce their local share through 2007. However, because de-TABORed districts had permission from the voters to keep their mill levies at a higher level, it is now clear that local share should not have been reduced. In 2007,

school district mills were frozen through legislation, then litigated in a debate about how local school districts should have treated their local mills per statute. Because of the reduction to mill levies made between the early 1990s and 2007, the local share collected by those districts went down, and state share went up.
The legislature has now taken steps to restore, going forward, the local share that was erroneously reduced. It created a reduction in local share and resulted in the non-collection of local property taxes that were already authorized by voters. The legislature is only seeking to fix the issue going forward--it is NOT seeking to recover local tax property revenue that should have been collected in the past.
Director Hamilton and CFO Blanford said that the Mill Levy Correction is a state law. While the responsibility for setting the mill levy lies with the local school board, the local school board must set the Total Program levy in accordance with state law.
HB21-1164 requires CDE to implement a correction plan that reduces a district's temporary tax credits as quickly as possible, but by no more than 1 mill per year.
The council, Director Hamilton and CFO Blanford discussed how complicated the issue will likely appear to the public. Director Hamilton said that the district will be reaching out to key community leaders such as town councils as well as Rifle Regional Economic Development Corporation (RREDC) so that those leaders can respond appropriately to citizen inquires or concerns.
Councilor Leland said that was a great idea because often people cannot distinguish where property tax monies went, and towns will be implicated in the mill levy increase as well.
Director Hamilton said that the school district will be creating a series of informational videos that will be on the district website and social media. She said they were also working on an informational mailer that will be sent out. Director Hamilton said that they will have to address it each year, and although one mill is not a lot, in five years people will really notice the increase, so the conversation will be ongoing.
Mayor A Riddile said that he felt that teacher salaries in the district were too low, and he would be an advocate of a mill levy increase to improve teacher salaries. He also said that with the mill levy correction taking place in the foreground, it would be impossible to pass a bond issue or mill levy increase for salaries or capital improvements.
Director Hamilton said she had been considering the same thing and understood that the district will eventually reach a milling capacity and the correction will certainly max that out.
Councilor Hazelton said that the mill levy correction will cause the district's budget to remain even because the state contributions will decrease as the local property taxes increase, while the state's budget will increase since they would no longer fund school districts. Councilor Hazelton suggested that the school district speak to the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC).
Director Hamilton agreed with Councilor Hazelton's summary of the mill levy correction.
Councilor Leland asked if there were any legislators were sympathetic to the school district's plight. He said that the legislators gave the school districts bad advice many years ago and now were not taking any responsibility for that. He felt that there had to be legislators who saw that.
CFO Blanford said that he believed there were legislators who were sympathetic, at least to the tax payors being burdened.
Councilor Leland agreed with Councilor Hazelton that the AGNC was the best way to get the ear of some of the legislators.

Review: Potential Ballot Language for the Lodging Tax Issue
Administrator Reynolds said that the council had asked staff to bring the potential ballot language back to the council for discussion. He read the ballot language for the council. He said also that there had been some discussion with the attorney whether the collection of new taxes were for the first fiscal year, or the first full fiscal year (ie 2023). That decision affected the amounts used in the language for what would be collected.
Administrator Reynolds said that staff had been considering the implications of the issue and suggested that if the lodging tax increase was approved by the voters, that collection of the tax begin in January 2023. The reasoning behind the suggestion was that while it seemed to leave money on the table by not being collected in the second half of 2022, staff felt that it may be rushing the VRBO owners. He said that if the voters approved the tax in April, there would then be a process for the town to adopt the tax by ordinance, and then get the information out to lodge owners. The expectation is that by then they would have taken reservations beyond July, placing them in a predicament to have to collect higher tax rates on reservations that were made prior to the tax increase.
Administrator Reynolds said that the staff suggestions were to begin the tax collection in January 2023, and that the amount for the first full fiscal year to be $70k, which was approximately double the actual expectation.
Councilor Leland said that the amount of the tax and when it would begin was not something that will affect the voters, rather, it will only affect the VRBO owners and their guests. He agreed that beginning the tax in 2023 was better.
Administrator Reynolds said that the final ballot language will come back to the council for approval at the next council meeting in resolution form. Clerk Harrison said that if the voters approve the issue, the council will then see an ordinance that would implement the tax in the code.

Consider Resolution TC 2022-5 - a Resolution of the New Castle Town Council Amending the Directory of Town Fees and Charges Regarding Recreational Facilities Development Fee
Administrator Reynolds told the council that the town collected a recreational facilities development fee in the amount of $500 on every new home building permit. The purpose of the fee was to set aside funds for capital projects such as building new recreation facilities, parks, trails and recreation centers. The funds were not to run programs.
He said that staff had reviewed the history of the fee and found that it was developed in 1998 and was $436 per home. In 2001 the fee was raised to $500 to accommodate new facilities that were being built and has not been adjusted since.
Administrator Reynolds said that in the council packet was a report put together by himself, Recreation Director Hannah Bihr, Public Works Director John Wenzel, Treasurer Loni Burk and Administrative Assistant Rochelle Firth. The report included costs of parks that had been build since 1998 which included Bear Dance Park, Grand River Park and VIX Ranch Park. The report broke out the costs of those parks as well as how much had been collected in the recreation development fee during the same time period. The amount of funds invested in parks equaled $2.7 million dollars, some of which were grant funds, and the recreation fees collected equaled $518K. He said that the town still carried debt on

VIX Ranch Park. Administrator Reynolds said that the town had done much more with the recreation development fees than they had amounted to.
Administrator Reynolds said the team then looked forward to future projects. At the advice of the town attorney, they looked at justifications for increasing the recreation development fee, and those included that fact that the town still carried debt for VIX Ranch Park, as well as the noted shortfall in collected fees and monies spent. Upcoming development in New Castle for in-fill lots, Castle Valley Ranch and Lakota Canyon Ranch will be approximately 1,075 new homes. Coincidentally, from 1998 until now, 1,060 homes had been built. Without any additional annexations, the town was about half built-out. The team looked at what parks were being considered for improvements: there are conceptual plans for Frank Breslin Memorial Park as well as conceptual plans for the rebuild of Burning Mountain Park, and there are trails projects. He said there were a lot of projects upcoming, and the recreation development fee at its current rate would not suffice. Administrator Reynolds said there could be other facility improvement projects that had yet to be anticipated such as a new recreation center facility, and the current rate of collection of the fee would certainly not be enough. Identified future project costs were approximately 3.5 million dollars, and the current rate of collection will be $537k. Administrator Reynolds referenced a table in the report that offered calculations on various rates, which he reviewed for the council.
The council and staff discussed the issue in depth and agreed that the recreation development fee should be raised to $3,000.00.
Mr. Russel Talbott: Mr. Talbott said that he felt the council could justify an increase to the recreation development fee, not based on inflation rates, but instead on the increase in value on homes. He said that builders looked at the percentages in the cost versus the value of a home they build and try to keep their percentages within a particular range. He though using the same thinking would be helpful with the recreation development fee.
MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve Resolution TC 2022-5 - a Resolution of the New Castle Town Council Amending the Directory of Town Fees and Charges Regarding Recreational Facilities Development Fee to be increased to $3,000.00 per building permit. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion: CDOT Roundabout Funding
Administrator Reynolds said that the traffic circle at Highway 6 & 24 and Castle Valley Boulevard was making its way towards the top of CDOT's priority list. He said he will be attending the Intermountain Transportation Planning Region (IMTPR) meeting to ensure the project stayed out front and on the top of the priority list.
Administrator Reynolds said that there had not been much in the way of discussion with the council or with CDOT regarding financing of the project with the exception that CDOT has let the town know they had responsibility for landscaping the center area.
Administrator Reynolds said that the town had been collecting the Lakota Traffic Impact fee for many years and carried a balance of $345,396.00. Those funds were eligible to use for the traffic circle.
Administrator Reynolds said that Councilor G Riddile and staff wanted to have a discussion to determine if they felt it was appropriate to use those funds for the traffic circle project.

Councilor G Riddile said that he felt the town needed to seriously consider the impacts of upcoming development on the highway 6 & 24 and Castle Valley Boulevard intersection. Councilor G Riddile said that he knew the state was collecting more funds for transportation projects and were reevaluating the ten-year plan for fresh prioritization. He said that he felt that on one hand, it was the time for New Castle to make their case and figure out how much they wanted to put into the project. In addition, he said that he would like the BOCC to commit to an amount as well. He thought that perhaps it was something they could discuss with the BOCC at the joint meeting on February 1, 2022.
Councilor G Riddile said that he felt that if CDOT that New Castle and the County were ready to go, that would put their project in a place to move forward. He said that he knew that the town would want the roundabout more than CDOT would, and thought it was time for the town to show an interest with money. Councilor G Riddile said that he would like to reach out and tell the commissioners that the town had $500k to commit to the project. He also felt that they could show that the intersection served a lot of county needs, including Peach Valley, CR 335 and Canyon Creek.
Councilor G Riddile said that the hope was to get it all more formalized and then approach CDOT through IMTPR and through the local offices to show them the town was committed in order to push the project up the priority list.
Mayor A Riddile said that at the last IMTPR meeting it appeared that New Castle's roundabout was third on the list. He said that he felt the BOCC were interested in financially supporting New Castle, but he did not know how much that might be. Mayor A Riddile said that he wanted the commissioners to commit to an amount before the town did.
Councilor Hazelton asked if Councilor G Riddile had seen anything similar done. Councilor G Riddile said that up-valley they had more resources and it had been done very successfully up there. He said that he believed local dollars helped a lot, and it was a way to show that the town was serious and committed.
Councilor Hazelton said that he felt it was a good idea and he wanted it to be a main focus for the meeting with the BOCC.
The council discussed it briefly and agreed that they wanted to speak with the BOCC about the roundabout at the February 1 joint work session. They also agreed that the town would commit $500k to the project.

Consider Ordinance TC 2022-2 - an Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Chapter 1.20 of the Municipal Code to Comply with HB19-1148, Regarding General Penalties (1st reading)
Clerk Harrison told the council that the house bill had changed some of the rules regarding general penalties. The first was that it reduced jail sentences to 364 days rather than one year. Second it increased possible fines for code violations to be as much as $2,650.00 whereas the municipal code allowed for just $1,000.00. She said that regarding the sentence length, the ordinance would bring the town code into compliance with the house bill. Regarding the fines, the council could change the code to allow for up to the $2,650.00, thereby providing the municipal judge some leeway to fine anyone who violates the town codes.
The council agreed that the maximum fine of $2,650.00 would be appropriate to provide the municipal judge with discretion in fining offenders.

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance TC 2022-2, an Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Chapter 1.20 of the Municipal Code to Comply with HB19-1148, Regarding General Penalties on 1st reading. Councilor Owens seconded the motion and it passed on a roll-call vote: Councilor Leland: yes; Councilor Mariscal: yes; Councilor G Riddile: yes; Councilor Owens: yes; Councilor Hazelton: yes; Mayor A Riddile: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes.

Consider Resolution TC 2022-3 - a Resolution of the New Castle Town Council Authorizing a Mail Ballot Election on April 5, 2022, and Setting Forth Other Details Relating Thereto

Clerk Harrison said that the resolution was a standard resolution that was passed each even-numbered year that the town held elections. It authorized a mail-ballot election, appointed the clerk as the election official and authorized other election duties as necessary.

MOTION: Councilor G Riddile made a motion to approve Resolution TC 2022-3, a Resolution of the New Castle Town Council Authorizing a Mail Ballot Election on April 5, 2022, and Setting Forth Other Details Relating Thereto. Councilor Leland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Ordinance TC 2022-1 - an Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Chapter 17 of the Municipal Code to Comply with HB21-1222 Regarding Family Child Care Homes (2nd reading)

Administrator Reynolds told the council that there had been no changes to the ordinance since first reading. He said the ordinance brought the municipal code into compliance with the new state law that essentially said that the town could zone out family childcare homes.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve Ordinance TC 2022-1, an Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Amending Chapter 17 of the Municipal Code to Comply with HB21-1222 Regarding Family Child Care Homes on 2nd reading. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed on a roll-call vote: Councilor Hazelton: yes; Councilor G Riddile: yes; Councilor Mariscal: yes; Councilor Leland: yes; Councilor Owens: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Mayor A Riddile: yes.

Recess the Town Council Meeting, Convene as the Water & Sewer Enterprise

MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to recess the town council meeting and to convene as the water & sewer enterprise. Councilor Owens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Ordinance E-2022-1 - an Ordinance of the Town of New Castle Water and Sewer Enterprise Amending Chapters 13.32 & 13.36 of the New Castle

Municipal Code Concerning the Regulation of Wastewater Discharge and Cross Connections (2nd reading)
Town Planner Paul Smith told the council that there had been no changes to the ordinance since first reading.
Administrator Reynolds recalled for the council when Utilities Supervisor Daniel Becker, Public Works Director John Wenzel and Planner Smith gave a presentation regarding the code change to implement additional regulations regarding wastewater discharge and cross-connections.
MOTION: Councilor Owens made a motion to approve Ordinance E 2022-1, an Ordinance of the Town of New Castle Water and Sewer Enterprise Amending Chapters 13.32 & 13.36 of the New Castle Municipal Code Concerning the Regulation of Wastewater Discharge and Cross Connections on 2nd reading. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed on a roll-call vote: Mayor A Riddile: yes; Councilor Hazelton: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Owens: yes; Councilor Mariscal: yes; Councilor G Riddile: yes; Councilor Leland: yes.

Adjourn the Water & Sewer Enterprise, Reconvene the Town Council Meeting
MOTION: Councilor Hazelton made a motion to adjourn the water & sewer enterprise and to reconvene the town council meeting. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda
January 4, 2022 minutes
Resolution TC 2021-4 - a Resolution of the New Castle Town Council Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Garfield County Senior Programs
K2 Spirits Inc. dba Spirits of New Castle Retail Liquor Store License Renewal
MOTION: Mayor A Riddile made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Owens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff Reports
Town Administrator – Administrator Reynolds said that he had gotten word from meeting attendees that the microphone setup they were using worked well for those in the virtual world. He said that the microphones were run through a computer system in the utility closet, and the sound was wired through the Clerk's computer. Administrator Reynolds said that staff was still working on the ice rink and it was getting likes on Facebook. He said they were learning a lot about ice and were dealing with something called shale ice which he previously did not know existed. He also said they hoped to have the rink opened for the weekend. Administrator Reynolds said that he had toured VR Cabinet Makers that was in the old Mr. T's building. He said their technology was quite impressive and that they employed 24 people, many of whom live locally. Administrator Reynolds said he had a meeting with the owner of Nutrient Farms, which was east of River Park Condominiums, south of the river. Nutrient Farms has a lot of things planned for their business and expect that they will soon go to the county with applications for their property. Administrator Reynolds said that he had met with them because they had

agreed to allow the LoVa Trail to go through their property and discussions had begun about that trail easement. Administrator Reynolds said that Public Works Director John Wenzel had readvertised for the empty position he had for Streets Foreman. He said hopefully they will fill the position soon. Administrator Reynolds said there was a new manager at senior housing. Unfortunately, she has been sick, so staff has not had much contact with her yet. Administrator Reynolds said that he, Director Wenzel and Planner Smith had been working on updates to the code book and public works manual related to streets and sidewalks. He said there were some inconsistencies that needed to be corrected. The changes will go to P&Z and then council for approval. Administrator Reynolds said that he had been talking with the manager of the Town of Silt about holding a joint meeting, and what that might look like. Certainly, conversations about the LoVa Trail would happen because Silt is interested in completing a westward section. He said the towns might benefit from supporting one another's projects. Councilor G Riddile said he was wary of the conversation about LoVa because New Castle had their own LoVa struggles. Administrator Reynolds said that Silts primary interest is getting to the high school, and he said he thought they would appreciate it if the council simply said they were unprepared to consider LoVa west of New Castle because the sections the town was working on to the east were still incomplete. Administrator Reynolds said that they had also discussed maybe staff or equipment sharing.

Town Clerk – Clerk Harrison said she was working on scheduling a meeting with the ProVelocity owner and the towns' rep, Alexis, so they could begin restructuring how files were populated in the server. She said that files, such as scan files, were not stored all together in a scan folder. Instead, they were all over and the inconsistencies made it difficult for IT technicians to locate files and help recover documents or other computer errors. Clerk Harrison said that she was working on the election and as soon as the ballot language was written and approved, she will begin working on the TABOR notices. She also said she was scheduled with the county to utilize their ballot-counting machines as well as the printer for ballots.

Town Treasurer – Treasurer Burk said that sales taxes for November 2021 were approximately ten percent higher than the previous year. She said she was still waiting on December numbers for tobacco tax, so she did not know how the year ended for that. Treasurer Burk said that they were still working on W-2s and 1099s. They had some issues with Caselle on the forms and they were working through it. Treasurer Burk said she was finishing year-end and then will begin preparing for the audit which would be in May 2022.

Town Planner – Planner Smith said that there had been groundbreaking for the Colombo project, Eagle's Ridge Ranch. Planner Smith said he had the EV charging amendment to the building code drafted, and that will come to the council in the near future. Planner Smith said that he had noticed in the annexation agreement for Lakota that there was the annual 4 percent increase in the traffic impact fee, but it also said that the increase could be based on the consumer price index, which ever was higher. He felt it might be worth looking into because the fee could be collected at a higher rate.

Mayor A Riddile asked in RFTA had been in contact with planner Smith regarding WE Cycle. Planner Smith said they had been in contact, and it looked like New Castle wouldn't be considered for the First and Last Mile project until 2027, so it was a ways out. He said that New Castle was not actually participating in Destination 2040. The town was paying

for it but was not part of it. Planner Smith said there might be some bicycle and microbus options in the future.
Councilor G Riddile asked if staff was keeping track of mud on Castle Valley Boulevard from the Colombo project. Planner Smith said they had track pads at the upper and lower entrances, and staff will be monitoring it.
Public Works Director – not present.

Commission Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission – nothing to report.
Historic Preservation Commission – Councilor Hazelton said that the main thing was that Ambleside School asked to move forward with historic designation.
Climate and Environment Commission – nothing to report.
Senior Program – nothing to report.
RFTA – Mayor A Riddile said they elected new officers. The new Chairman of the Board for RFTA was Jeanne McQueeney, Eagle County Commissioner. The Vice Cahir was Bill Kane, Mayor of Basalt.
AGNC – nothing to report.
GCE – Councilor Leland said they had met the previous week and the 2022 project was ReEnergize Garfield County which was outreach and subsidy for low-income residents for energy efficiency. Councilor Leland said that some communities had trouble with the Navigator, so there will be some upgrades to it. He thought Director Wenzel should know since there was a Navigator in the public works building.
EAB – nothing to report.

Council Comments

Councilor Leland said that he wanted to add an item to the agenda for the meeting with the BOCC. He said he would like the BOCC to keep the town informed on the situation with Mind Springs.
Councilor Leland said that the upcoming newsletter was full but if anyone had anything for it to let him know.
Mayor A Riddile said that Bad Art Might was a lot of fun and he hoped it doubled attendance next year. He thanked Arts and Enrichment Coordinator Kelley Cox for the event.
Mayor A Riddile said that on Thursday there will be a Garfield County Economic meeting that he will attend.
Mayor A Riddile said that Founders Day will be on February 5 and he hoped everyone would come. There will be a tour of Ambleside School and a potluck dinner.
Mayor A Riddile said that Earth Day was coming up.
Councilor Leland said that the town had events each month except January, March and April. For Earth Day there would be several things going on in town including the river clean up done by Apple Tree, things the school kids will do with their teachers, and it will be on the next agenda for Climate and Environment Commission and they will have an event as well.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Art Riddile

Melody L Harrison CMC

Town Clerk Melody Harrison, CMC