

**New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 7:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Councilor Carey  
Councilor Mariscal  
Councilor Hazelton  
Councilor Copeland  
Mayor A. Riddile  
Councilor Leland  
Councilor G Riddile

Absent      None

Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds, Town Treasurer Viktoriya Ehlers, and members of the public.

**Meeting Notice**

Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with resolution TC 2024-1.

**Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest

**Agenda Changes**

Clerk Mindy Andis noted that the liquor license name was misspelled. The applicant's name is CRS Frens, LLC.

**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**

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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Consider Resolution TC 2024-20 – A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of New Castle Approving an Application from CRS Frens, LLC for a Retail Liquor Store License**

Clerk Andis said CRS Frens, LLC. dba New Castle Liquors applied for a Retail Liquor Store License for 820 Castle Valley Boulevard, #104, on July 31, 2024. The application is complete, and all fees have been paid. The application included an Affidavit of Transfer from the previous liquor license holder. New Castle Liquors currently operates the liquor store and sells alcohol on the Temporary Liquor License issued by the Town Clerk. Staff is waiting on the background checks from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. Staff recommends that the council approve the application based on the applicant's representations concerning the lack of criminal convictions on the application. If the CBI report shows otherwise, then such could be grounds for future notice of violation.

Owner Rajesh Ranjitkar introduced himself to the council. Mr. Ranjitkar's attorney Mr. Carl Ream was also present via ZOOM. Mr. Ream asked Mr. Ranjitkar some questions and they were answered. The council welcomed Mr. Ranjitkar to New Castle.

**MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve Resolution TC 2024-20 – A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of New Castle Approving an Application from CRS Frens, LLC for a Retail Liquor Store License. Councilor Carey seconded the motion and passed it passed unanimously.**

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

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

**Presentation – Casa of the Ninth – Traci Gurley-Tomashosky**

Ms. Traci Gurley-Tomashosky Executive Director explained the services that they offer in Colorado's Ninth Judicial District which includes Garfield, Pitkin, and Rio Blanco counties. As a nonprofit organization that helps protect children in our area, *Casa of the Ninth* is eligible to apply for grant funding from New Castle's outgoing grants program. In the past years *CASA of the Ninth* has received \$1,600.00 in grant funding from the town. *CASA of the Ninth* is committed to providing well-trained, court-appointed volunteer advocates to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in Colorado's 9th Judicial District. Their vision is to ensure that every child they serve finds a safe, permanent, and nurturing home. *CASA of the Ninth* is dedicated to ensuring that every child in the 9th Judicial District has a voice and a safe, permanent home.

The council thanked Ms. Gurley-Tomashosky for the presentation.

### **Update - Alpine Legal Services – Jennifer Wherry – Executive Director**

Ms. Jennifer Wherry Executive Director, updated the Town Council on the work that they do on behalf of residents in our area. As an area nonprofit organization that assists residents of New Castle, Alpine Legal Services is eligible to apply for grant funding from the Town's outgoing grant program. She explained Alpine Legal Services' mission is to advance justice in our community and improve lives through legal advocacy, outreach, and education. Alpine Legal Services offers a spectrum of legal support for their clients from referrals to direct representation in court. In service to our mission, they aim to help the largest number of people possible who meet their eligibility criteria. However, they also have a finite capacity, which means they dedicate their limited resources to the most urgent cases first.

The council thanked Ms. Wherry for the work that is done in the community.

### **Discussion – Sink Hole Reclamation Update**

Craig Basett with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety, along with Rick Dorsey from Gould Construction, explained the sink hole reclamation project along County Road 335. Mr. Basett explained the process of closing the sink. He said the hole is a 30-foot diameter hole and is 75 feet deep. The sink hole is an old mine vent that went into the old Coryell mine. The filling of the sink hole will be done in phases or layers of material. The time frame for the project is roughly 30 days to complete.

### **Update – Rides and Reggae – Adam Cornely**

Administrator Reynolds said Adam Cornely from the New Castle Trails Group was presented to share the successes of the 2024 *New Castle Rides and Reggae and a Little Grass Festival*. Held this summer on August 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> at VIX Park, the event included the Dirty Dozen Trail Running Race, the Dirty Half Dozen MTB Race, a musical lineup of eight nationally recognized bands, food vendors, product vendors, and beer sales. Sponsored by the town and managed by the New Castle Trails Group, the event attracts runners, riders, and music fans from in town and from out of the area. Proceeds from this ticketed event go toward trail building and maintenance in our area.

Mr. Cornely said the event was well attended and the event is still 100 percent volunteer. According to the police department there were no issues. Mr. Cornely said comparing 2023 costs of around \$68,000 and 2024 costs were just under \$88,000. He said sponsorship revenue in 2023 was \$56,750 and in 2024 \$59,000. The net profit for the event in 2023 was \$64,000 and in 2024 estimated to be about \$40,000.

Councilor Copeland asked about the ticket sales. Mr. Cornely said the gross profit at the event was \$47,600 which included the ticket sales, beer sales and race.

Councilor Hazelton said that there was a band that had cancelled however, the town had written a check for \$3,000 deposit. Councilor Hazelton asked where is that money. Mr. Cornely said the deposit was refunded back to RFMBA and will be included in the reimbursement to the town.

Councilor Copeland asked Mr. Cornely if he keeps a balance sheet, income statement for the event. She said she has asked for the information in the past and still has not seen one. She said the council asks for the statements of any organization they give money to. Mr. Cornely asked what the council would like to see. Councilor Hazelton said he would

like to see in detail how the money was spent for the money that was raised in 2023. Mr. Cornely agreed to share that information with the council. Mr. Cornely said they did a lot of trail maintenance on East & West Colorow Trail by professional trail contractors, and part of the agreement with Russell Talbot on the Burning Mountain Trail was to install cattle retention fencing and sign the entire trail. Councilor Hazelton said he would like to see all the invoices for the projects. Mr. Cornely said he would email all the invoices. Councilor Copeland asked if there is a balance/income sheet for 2023. Mr. Cornely said he would have one prepared and would email it.

### **Consider Use of Security Camera's in Public Parks – Chief Burrows**

Administrator Reynold said the New Castle Police has been looking into the benefits of installing security cameras at the Burning Mountain Park, Castle Valley Skate Park, VIX Park, Frank Breslin Park, and the new Highway 6 Roundabout. Cameras in those areas would allow the police department to monitor activity in areas that are proven to have elevated mischief, vandalism, and other crimes. The camera at the Highway 6 Roundabout would be intended to also include a license plate reader that could inform officers of suspicious or wanted vehicles in our area. With success in finding grant funds earlier this year, our police department feels that they have freed up funding that would have otherwise been spent on police vehicle computers. The police department would like to explore the use of these funds to help fund a security camera project.

Chief Burrows said the cameras would link to the computers in the patrol cars and monitors at the police department. He said having cameras in parks would be more useful than having a mobile trailer. Administrator Reynolds said Chief Burrows, Lieutenant Curry and himself went out with the company who would be installing the cameras to discuss view angles. The cameras would not be pointing at homes but into the parks.

The council agreed to move forward with the project of installing cameras into the parks and Highway 6 Roundabout.

### **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.

Xcel Energy Easement Agreement

Dillon Companies, LLC dba: City Market #41 Fermented Malt Beverage and Wine License Renewal

**MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

### **Staff Reports**

**Town Administrator** – Administrator Reynolds said he is working with residents on Redstone and Foxwood Lane with parking concerns. Staff has handled the concerns. Administrator Reynolds said Steve Rippy would like to say thank you to everybody for the Burning Mountain Festival Parade float that he was on as the Grand Marshall. Mr. Mayor

did a fantastic job with Knighting Mr. Rippey as King of New Castle. Administrator Reynolds said Grandy and Suzanne Hazleton did a great job of being the MC's for the parade. Administrator Reynolds said Assistant Michelle Huster played the National Anthem on the violin and was fantastic. Assistant Huster is practicing for the Halloween Downtown Trick or Treat event. Administrator Reynolds said this is Officer Noah Buschner's last week with the police department. The police department has hired a new officer, Lorena Villagrana, who started this week. He reminded the council of the retreat next week. He said if the council has any ideas or thoughts to give them to him and he will get it on the agenda for the retreat. Administrator Reynolds said the town is working with Developer Jim Columbo with the release of security for the public improvements. Administrator Reynolds handed out job review forms for the administrator, town clerk and treasurer. The reviews are penciled in for November 5, 2024, the council meeting. All three reviews will be done on the same night. Administrator Reynolds said he has spoken with FMLD to let them know that one of the grants for the Blower Building would need to be extended due to the electrician. Administrator Reynolds discussed the traffic jam concerns and safety issues at the roundabout construction during peak time in the morning.

**Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said the clerk's office is trying an AI/Transcribing program for writing minutes. Clerk Andis said Deputy Bordelon is on vacation until September 25, 2024. Clerk Andis said her office was busy last week with Burning Mountain Festival Beer Garden. She said Municipal Judge, Municipal Prosecutor, Chief Burrows, Administrator Reynolds and Clerk Andis have been working on increasing the municipal traffic fine schedule since it has not been updated since 2016. They are also working on increasing the court costs.

**Town Treasurer** – Treasurer Ehlers said she is working on the budget. Treasurer Ehlers said her department processed on boarding for a new police officer and exit paperwork for a police officer who has quite.

**Town Planner** – not present

**Public Works Director** –not present

### **Commission Reports**

Planning & Zoning Commission – have not met

Historic Preservation Commission – Councilor Hazelton said they had discussed designating the cemetery as a historic landmark. They also discussed the Spirit Walk and what it would be like in the future. The Spirit Walk will not happen this year, but it will be possible in 2025.

Climate and Environment Commission – meets Thursday

Senior Program – have not met

RFTA – Mayor Riddile said the 27<sup>th</sup> Street Underpass in Glenwood Springs ribbon cutting will be October 15, 2024. There was a presentation on straightening the Castle Creek Bridge and discussed possible driver strike.

AGNC – meets tomorrow

GCE – Councilor Copeland said there was conversation about tax rebates for non-profits.  
EAB – have not met  
Detox – Councilor Mariscal said they will be meeting quarterly.

**Council Comments**

Council thanked staff for their hard work on a great Burning Mountain Festival.  
Councilor Carey said she had been asked about trash cans along Main Street during the parade. Also, was asked why there is not recycle or compost at the park during the event.  
Councilor Hazelton said Kelley Cox did a great job sending out duty roster for Burning Mountain Festival and there was no questions on who did what.  
Councilor Leland said the parade was great since there were no gaps between floats.

**Items for Future Council Agenda**

There were no items for future council agenda.

**Adjourn**

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:02p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mindy Andis  
Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

Arthur B. Riddile  
Mayor Art Riddile