

**New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 01, 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

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

Presentation – Lift Up – Ivan Jackson, Executive Director

Town Administrator Dave Reynolds introduces Executive Director Ivan Jackson to the council. Mr. Jackson said Lift-Up is a critical resource for the New Castle community, addressing food insecurity and providing essential assistance to residents in need. Their services include food pantries, meal delivery programs, and emergency financial support for rent, utilities, and medical expenses. They provide Meal Monkey on Fridays, which ensures that children from low-income families have access to nutritious meals, especially during the summer months when school-based meal programs are unavailable. By delivering thousands of meals each year, Lift-Up plays a vital role in ensuring that no

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family in New Castle goes hungry. Mr. Jackson said due to the increase of individuals served per year, Lift-Up was able to purchase a Food Distribution Center in Glenwood Springs at the end of 2023. The center is a 9,000 sq ft warehouse, which has a cold storage for fresh produce, meat and dairy. Lift-Up is currently working with 32 local farmers, ranchers and small businesses to bring fresh food.

The Council thanked Mr. Jackson for his time and work in the community.

Presentation – High Country Volunteers – Mary Moon, Executive Director

Administrator Reynolds introduced Executive Director Mary Moon to the council. Administrator Reynolds said High Country Volunteers play a vital role in the community of New Castle by connecting residents with meaningful volunteer opportunities. It supports a range of local organizations, including schools, community programs, and nonprofit initiatives. From opportunities to assist with town events to providing aid for senior citizens, High Country Volunteers focuses on civic engagement, helping residents give back in ways that enhance the town's quality of life. Their work builds lasting relationships between volunteers and the community, enriching both the lives of those who serve and those they support. Ms. Moon said High Country Volunteers has a Tax Assistance Program that has trained volunteers to help prepare and electronically file state and federal income taxes at no cost for individuals. High Country Volunteers as has Medicare Counseling with trained and certified State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). The program helps seniors understand medical bills, identify gaps in coverage and assist with enrollment. Ms. Moon said High Country Volunteers hosted Red Cross mass care shelter training and have created systems to be able to quickly mobilize a large-scale volunteer response. Ms. Moon said they have hosted several service events and projects. Currently High Country Volunteers has 2,209 individual volunteers.

The Council thanked Ms. Moon for his time and work in the community.

Discussion – Mountain Waste & Recycling – Bill Cira & Doug Goldsmith

Administrator Reynolds introduced Bill Cira District Manager & Doug Goldsmith to the council. Mr. Cira explained the proposed new pricing for 2025. He said the pricing is set up with a base rate plus a fuel charge. The base rate for the 96-gallon tote will be \$35.29 which is an increase of about 3.33 percent and for the 64-gallon tote the price will be \$32.08 which is about 3.33 percent higher. Mr. Goldsmith said New Castle is at the state average for trash and recycling, however significantly higher than other communities of New Castle's size.

Mayor A. Riddile asked for an explanation on recycling. Mr. Cira said they take all of the recycling to Carbondale then it goes to Denver for assorting and processing. By the end of 2025 the goal is to have Mountain Waste and Recycling own center ibn Denver. Mr. Cira said about 65 percent of recycled materials get recycled. The most needed recycling material is aluminum and other metals. Paper, cardboard and plastics 1 and 2 are also in high demand. Glass is a season material and goes up down for being needed.

Mayor A. Riddile asked how long the recycling sits on the dock before it gets shipped out. Mr. Cira said the metals, paper, cardboard and plastics 1 and 2 get shipped out right away and there is a high demand. Plastics 3-7 will sit on the dock until it is needed.

Councilor Hazelton asked about what does and doesn't get picked up. He has had a cardboard box that is broken down but is bigger than the recycle bin and placed under the recycle bins and many times the cardboard box doesn't get picked up. Then, also used to be able to put yard waste in a separate container and get picked up, and now that doesn't get picked up. Councilor Hazelton has seen where there are some homes that have multiple trash cans at a single-family home that gets picked up each time and they have a full recycle bin. Mr. Cira said if there are additional trash cans then they are billed for the extra cans. Mr. Goldsmith said they used to pick up extra outside of the container and then it became a problem that there was so much extra that was being picked up. Then, they made a policy that if it wasn't in the can, don't pick it up. Mr. Cira said it might be time to have the conversation about having full-size recycling bins when the contract comes up for renewal at the end of 2025.

Councilor Hazelton asked when there is a special event that is outside of the contract how do you do the pricing. Mr. Cira said it depends on the event and what is being requested. Mountain Waste and Recycling does have a special event person who handles that. Councilor Leland said there are so much more cardboard boxes now with all of the Amazon shipments.

Councilor Carey said there is still a year and two months before there is a new contract. Is there something that can be done in the meantime. Mr. Cira said there could be an addendum added to the contract. He said he would look into the issues mentioned.

Presentation – Youth Zone – Ali Naasesh-Shahry

Administrator Reynolds introduced Lyn Williams Director of Ops. Ali Naasesh-Shahry was not able to make it to the meeting. Mr. Williams said Youth Zone partners with the Town of New Castle to support local youth by offering mentorship, family counseling, and educational programs. By working with at-risk youth, Youth Zone provides critical guidance and resources to help them succeed, promoting a safer and more supportive environment for the town's young residents. Town Council has been a proud supporter of Youth Zone for many years. Mr. Williams reviews the case numbers with the council (exhibit A).

Mr. Williams explained that YouthZone provides youth with tools and resources to help reduce risk and elevate success. They also support the entire family and promote healthier family relationships. YouthZone also supports mental health through coaching, counseling, and education. They also intervene with substance use through intervention, education and counseling. YouthZone heals communities through restorative processes. Mr. Williams explained all the programs that are available through YouthZone.

Councilor Carey asked what the driver is for the data. Mr. Williams said they use a program that gathers information from their system. The program allows to have a more

defined numbers depending on what is needed.

Councilor G. Riddile asked why the high schools are missing and why they are not being referred to YouthZone. Mr. Williams said each school has a different policy and some schools rely on SRO's which would be a ticket not a referral.

The Council thanked Mr. Williams for his time and work in the community.

Proposed 2025 Budget Presentation

Administrator Reynolds said following the recent budget work session on September 17, 2024. Staff have made adjustments to the preliminary budget that was presented to the council. In addition, the council retreat was on September 28, 2024, and more items discussed, and since that time, other items had changed.

Treasurer Ehlers and Administrator Reynolds reviewed the many changes in the following report:

After council discussion the following changes were made.

Proposed 2025 Budget Changes from 9/17/2024

General Overview

1. General Fund went from (\$262,851) to (\$54,116)
2. Utility Fund is at surplus of \$120,689

Personnel

1. 3% COLA is built into 2025 budget for both General Fund and Utility Fund. Each 1% increase equates to approximately \$40,773 - split \$28k to General Fund and \$12k to Utility Fund. Total salaries, employer taxes and retirement = \$4,077,347 (down \$28,000 from 2024 budget). General Fund portion = \$3,002,634. Utility Fund portion = \$1,074,713.

Administration

- Increased Animal Permits Revenue from \$1,500 to \$2,000 (10-4010-220)
- Increased Liquor License Revenue from \$2,000 to \$3,000 (10-4010-260)
- Increased Business License Revenue from \$7,000 to \$8,500 (10-4010-280)
- Decreased Computer Hardware/Software from \$15,000 to \$12,000 (10-5040-103)
- Decreased Internet Svc/Web Page from \$10,000 to \$8,000 (10-5040-145)
- Decreased Meals/Lodging from \$8,000 to \$7,000 (10-040-175)
- Increased Legal Services from \$55,000 to \$60,000 (10-5040-200)
- Decreased Other Professional Services from \$8,000 to \$7,500 (10-5040-220)
- Increased Economic Dev/Enhancement from \$10,000 to \$15,000 (10-5040-250) to include \$6,500 for Bill Ray and \$5,000 for CRVEDP.
- Decreased Branding/Marketing from \$2,000 to \$1,000 (10-5040-257)

- Decreased Historic Property Designation from \$5,000 to \$2,500 (10-5040-609)

Health & Welfare

1. Decreased Outgoing Grants from \$18,000 to \$15,000 (10-5080-500)

Parks Capital

1. Added \$20,000 for Engineering (10-5075-480)

Parks Maintenance

1. Moved \$23,550 in parks maintenance and equipment to CTF.

Recreation

1. Removed \$3,000 from Adult Volleyball (10-5070-470) for New Net System
2. Removed \$3,500 from Dirty Hog Dash (10-5070-972) for Bouncy Castle purchase
**** will attempt to secure both of those items with AGNC grant.*

Streets

1. Added \$20,000 to Sale of Assets (10-4010-394) – 2015 Chevy 2500 w/ plow

Utility Fund

1. Assumed rate increase for Water/Wastewater = 5%; each additional 1% rate increase equates to approximately \$27,898 in revenues
2. Trash rate increased calculated at 5%.

Notes & other considerations:

Capital/Other Items

- Added Assigned Items:
 - i. Shoshone Water Rights \$100,000
 - ii. Police Vehicles (2) \$135,000
 - iii. Roundabout commitment shortage \$90,000
 - iv. Streets/Parks Equipment \$31,500 – \$6,000 dump bed attachment, \$17,000 asphalt milling machine, \$5,800 backhoe forks, and \$2,700 for deep cut demo saw
 - v. Increased Long Term Capital reserves to \$600,000
- Roundabout plan set & construction observation - \$20,000
- 12th Police Officer - \$109,086 and additional \$26,403 in insurance cost.

A. Discretionary expenditures included in the current version of the 2025 budget are:
General Fund -

Donations to Special Interest Groups & Committees

- Branding and Marketing 10-5040-257 \$1,000 – decreased from \$2,000
- CRVEDP 10-5040-250 \$5,000 - decreased from \$8,000
- Chamber of Commerce 10-5040-254 \$7,000
- Downtown Group 10-5040-255 \$0.00 – removed from 2025 budget
- Rides & Reggae Event 10-5040-294 ~~\$20,000~~ \$10,000
- Economic Development 10-5040-250 \$10,000
- Historic Preservation 10-5040-609,610 ~~\$4,500~~ \$3500– decreased from \$7,000
- Climate & Environ Comm 10-5040-620 \$1,000 – decreased from \$2,000
- Other Special Events 10-5070-610 \$6,500 (Chili Cook-off, etc)
- Burning Mountain Festival 10-5070-974 \$18,500
- Community Market 10-5070-976 \$5,500
- Outgoing Grants 10-5080-500 \$15,000 – decreased from \$18,000
- River Center Donation 10-5080-504 \$18,000
- CMC Senior Programs 10-5080-502 ~~\$8,000~~ \$6500
- Garfield Cty Detox Center 10-5080-506 \$10,000
- Youth Zone 10-5080-516 \$4,000
- New Castle Trails 10-5075-704 ~~\$30,000~~ \$10,000
- Wildfire Collaborative 10-5040-280 \$2,000

Utility Fund -

Donations to Special Interest Groups & Committees

- Middle CO Watershed 20-6040,6080-220 \$ 2,500
- Garfield Clean Energy 20-6040,6080-220 \$17, 300

Discussion:

Administrator Reynolds said for the New Castle Trails budget could be taken to trails maintenance vs. building new trails. Other organizations could help with the trails. Administrator Reynolds said we have heard from Adam Cornely that Rides and Reggae had made \$40,000 and believe the funds have not been spent yet. That money should be going into the trails. Councilor Carey said she had a conversation with RFMBA member, and they do partner with municipalities for trail maintenance. She said there are several outdoor volunteer organizations that do this kind of work. The goal would be to get the trails to a place where there would be minimal maintenance required. Administrator Reynolds said there could be some money left in the budget for Rides and Reggae and could be used for different options. Councilor Leland said if the money is going to be left then, there needs to be a priority to have an organization of the trails and clarity about who will be maintaining the trails. Councilor Hazelton had strongly disagreed with having a budget for Ridges and Reggae. Councilor Carey said there should be money in the budget for Ridges and Reggae and if the money is not used for the event, then it could be used for another event such as the Burning Mountain Festival. Administrator Reynolds said with Ridges and Reggae the town fronts all the expenses and then donates \$20,000. The town could still work with the coordinator of Ridges and Reggae next year if the event does move forward. The town could still front the event because an organization group may not have the money to front the event. The issue has been that the town doesn't see the revenue side of the event. Administrator Reynolds said the town commitment would be the town funds the event and then get reimbursed for the expenses from the revenue and if there is money left over then it would back into the trails. Councilor Leland asked if the town has other obligations to Talbott's and BLM other than trail maintenance. Councilor G. Riddile said no just maintenance. Councilor Leland said Rides and Reggae intended to raise funds to build new trails, if the town is putting \$10,000 into trail maintenance, then the town wouldn't need the fund raiser to raise money for new trails and the event would pay for itself.

MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve the Rides and Reggae Budget of \$10,000. Councilor Copeland seconded the motion and passed with 5 yes and 2 no.

MOTION: Councilor Carey made a motion to approve \$20,000 for New Castle Trails for maintenance with new organizational structure. Councilor Carey withdrew the motion.

Administrator Reynolds said have \$10,000 for New Castle Trails and if Rides and Reggae doesn't happen then that money could be put into New Castle Trails for maintenance of the trails. Then, the town could go to RFMBA for maintenance of the bike park and the downhill bike trails.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to approve the \$10,000 New Castle Trails budget. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed with 6 yes votes and 1 no vote.

Administrator Reynolds said the town utility rates have gone up by 3% each year, would like to increase the rate to 5% for 2025.

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.

September 3, 2024, minutes

September 17, 2024, minutes

September Bills \$839,589.50

Maverik Liquor License Renewal

Maverik Liquor License – Change of Manager

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

Staff Reports

Town Administrator – Administrator Reynolds he will email his report to the council.

Rest of Staff reports were continued to next meeting

Commission Reports

Item continued to next meeting

Council Comments

Item continued to next meeting

Items for Future Council Agenda

Item continued to next meeting

Adjourn

MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Mariscal
The meeting adjourned at 9:58p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Art B. Riddile

Mayor Art Riddile

Mindy Andis

Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

YouthZone in New Castle

Exhibit A
10-1-2024 to Council Minutes

FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

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



17 Assessments provided to non-New Castle residents that were charged in New Castle Muni or attend school in New Castle

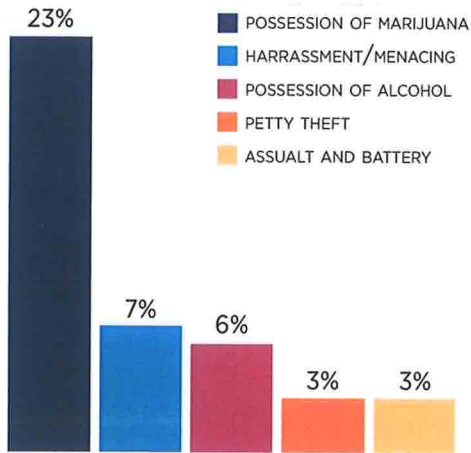
New Castle clients are **32% female, 68% male.**

They are **38% Caucasian, 57% Latino, and 5% other races.**

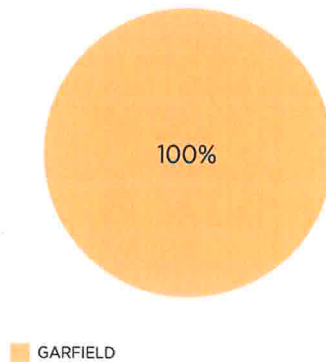
83% did not reoffend while working with YZ, and **92%** were able to **complete their contracts** successfully.

32% of clients **reported an improvement** in at least one post-survey focus area.

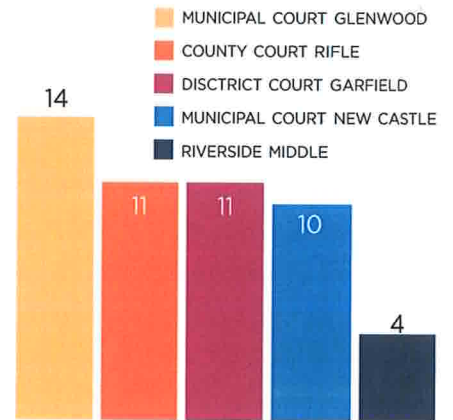
Top 5 Charges



County of Residence



Top 5 Referral Sources



Top 5 Schools attended by clients

