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Agenda

New Castle Climate and Environment Commission Special Work Session
Thursday, December 08, 2022, 3:30 PM

Due to concerns related to COVID-19, this meeting will be open to the public as a virtual meeting only.

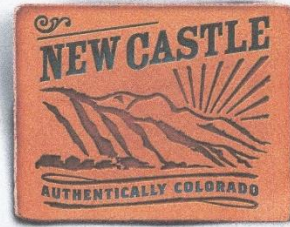
[To join by computer, smart phone or tablet click HERE](#)

If you prefer to telephone in:
Please call: 1-346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 709 658 8400

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

- 1. Updates: Chili Cook-Off, EV Charging Station, Council Memo**
- 2. Discussion: Pollinator Signs, Earth Day Assignments and End of Year Budget**
- 3. Agenda Items for January**

Climate and Environment Commission



TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, COLORADO

This shopping bag is courtesy of the Climate and Environment Commission (CEC). Starting January 1, Colorado state law requires that stores like City Market, Walmart, and convenience stores charge 10 cents for each plastic bag they pack for you or provide an environmentally friendly alternative.

Why did Colorado pass this law? Simply put, these plastic bags are bad for the environment, taking centuries to decompose in landfills, clogging equipment in facilities that collect curbside recycling, and consuming millions of barrels of oil to manufacture. The bottom line is that shopping with your own bags helps the environment and avoids possible fees.



The CEC is an advisory agency of the town government, helping the town reduce waste, conserve energy, support pollinators, reduce greenhouse gasses. Residents are invited to join CEC members in projects such as Earth Day, planting pollinator gardens.

Best wishes for a healthy and happy new year!

To Mayor and Council

From Denise Scheberle, Chair Climate and Environment Commission

December 6, 2022

Dear Mayor and Council,

The CEC has two matters for the Council to consider. The first is the Garfield Clean Energy (GCE) Energy Action Plan. The plan is an update of the a plan initiated by Xcel and CLEER five years ago. The update was developed, like the original plan, over a series of three meetings with GCE members, energy companies, municipal officials and interested residents.

At its October meeting the GCE board adopted the plan as their guiding document and asked that all member entities endorse it. At its November meeting the CEC reviewed the plan and recommended that it be forwarded to the Council. We understand that endorsement of the Plan does not commit the town to act on any or all the elements, only that we see them as appropriate goals for GCE and as desirable directions for the town. GCE recommended that the town select one or two of the focus areas. CEC identified Goal 1, “energy savings in the built environment,” particularly Focus Area 1 (residential energy efficiency) and Goal 2, titled “carbon free electricity,” particularly Focus Area 2 (residential solar, including participation in the Solarize program) as areas for continued effort.

Second, CEC commissioners met with Martín Bonzi, Clean Energy Programs Coordinator for Clean Energy Economy for the Region (CLEER) to learn more about state grant opportunities for installing EV charging stations. Our thought was perhaps to participate in the February grant call. Since that time, Councilman Leland has explored the idea with Administrator Reynolds, among others. While the CEC feels that charging stations should be part of the New Castle infrastructure, in concert with state and national initiatives, as an advisory commission we seek the Council’s input and direction.

On behalf of all CEC commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to serve the town.