



Town of New Castle
450 W. Main Street
PO Box 90
New Castle, CO 81647

Administration Department
Phone: (970) 984-2311
Fax: (970) 984-2716
www.newcastlecolorado.org

Agenda

New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 7:00 PM

Agenda

New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 7:00 PM

Virtual Meetings are subject to internet and technical capabilities.

To join by computer, smart phone or tablet:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7096588400>

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

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Meeting Notice

Conflicts of Interest

Agenda Changes

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

-Comments are limited to three minutes-

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney

Consultant Engineer

Items for Consideration

- A. Update - Garfield County Emergency Manager – Chris Bornholdt**
- B. Presentation – YouthZone**
- C. Update – LoVa Trail Expansion– Jeanne Golay**
- D. Fire Resiliency Review**
- E. CIRSA Onboarding Video**

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.

[May](#) 19, 2026, minutes

June 2, 2026, minutes

Staff Reports

Town Administrator

Town Clerk

Town Treasurer

Town Planner

Public Works Director

Commission Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission

Historic Preservation Commission

Climate and Environment Commission

Senior Program

RFTA

AGNC

GCE

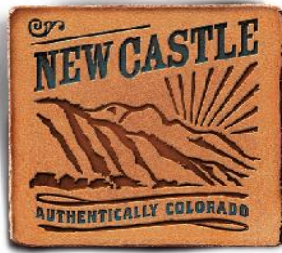
EAB

POSTR

Council Comments

Items for Future Council Agenda

Adjourn



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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Update from Garfield County Emergency Manager Chris Bornholdt
Date: 06/16/2026

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Garfield County Emergency Manager Chris Bornholdt to update Town Council on local emergency preparedness, as well as explain his department's role in local disasters along with the role of local staff and elected officials during time of crises.

Background:

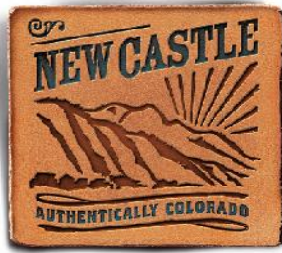
The Garfield County Emergency Manager's Office is responsible for helping Garfield County prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of emergencies and disasters. The office serves as the countywide coordinator for emergency planning and response efforts among local governments, fire districts, law enforcement agencies, schools, utilities, state agencies, and federal partners.

Key responsibilities include:

- **Emergency Planning** – Developing and maintaining the county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), hazard mitigation plans, continuity of operations plans, and other preparedness documents. The EOP serves as the link between municipal emergency plans and the State of Colorado's emergency plan.
- **Disaster Response Coordination** – Coordinating county resources and partner agencies during wildfires, floods, severe weather, hazardous materials incidents, public health emergencies, and other disasters. The office helps operate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when incidents occur.
- **Wildfire Preparedness and Evacuations** – Managing countywide evacuation planning, public information, and the "Ready, Set, Go" evacuation framework used during wildfire incidents.

- **Emergency Notifications** – Working with the Garfield County Emergency Communications Authority to provide emergency alerts through the Garco911 notification system for fires, floods, severe weather, road closures, and evacuations.
- **Training and Exercises** – Conducting emergency preparedness training, tabletop exercises, and drills with local agencies to improve disaster readiness.
- **Search and Rescue and Specialized Response Support** – Coordinating and supporting search and rescue operations, wildfire response, hazardous materials response, and other specialized emergency functions through the Sheriff's Office Emergency Operations Division.
- **Disaster Recovery** – Assisting local governments, businesses, and residents with recovery efforts following disasters, including coordination of state and federal assistance programs when available

The Emergency Manager serves as an important regional partner by helping coordinate multi-jurisdictional incidents, supporting emergency operations planning, facilitating training exercises, and assisting local governments during large-scale emergencies that exceed local resources.

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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Presentation and Update from Youth Zone
Date: 06/16/2026

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Executive Director Jamie Hayes from Youth Zone to update Town Council on the work that Youth Zone is doing in our area.

Youth Zone operates from offices in Glenwood, Rifle, Aspen, and Carbondale. Offering services that include Juvenile Diversion, CYDC Screening and Monitoring, Substance Use Prevention, Mental Health Services, Life Skill Training, Community Service, and Peer Support Groups, Youth Zone is sure to touch the lives of youth and families in New Castle and throughout our region.

MISSION

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

VISION

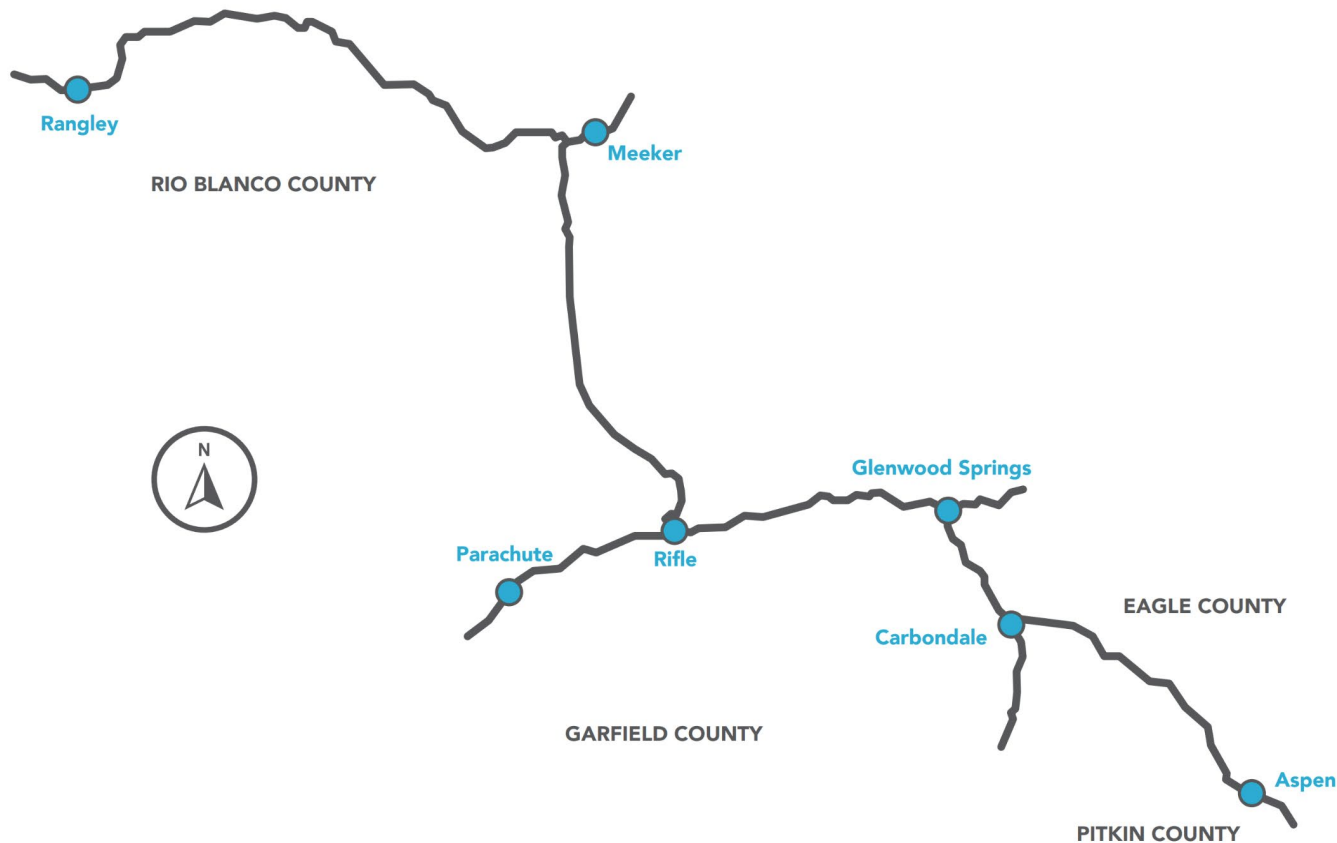
Hopeful Youth, Strong Families, & Safe Communities

CORE VALUES

Inspire with Integrity, No judgements, Stewardship and believe in Possibilities, Inclusiveness, Restoration and Encouragement



9th Judicial District and YouthZone



GOALS AND OUTCOMES



- To intervene with youth who exhibit risky, disruptive or criminal juvenile behaviors,
- YouthZone:
 - Provides youth tools and resources to **reduce risk** and elevate success
 - Supports the entire family unit and promotes **healthier family** relationships
 - Supports **mental health** through coaching, counseling and education
 - Intervenes with **substance** use through intervention, education and counseling
 - Heals communities through **restorative processes**

**Evidence Based: Sensitive to program effectiveness, completion, and client recidivism. The screener includes 60 questions, of which seven are identifying and demographic. Staff collect quality screening answers, as well as assets and risks. The screener is at a 7th-grade reading level and takes about 15 minutes to complete.*

The YouthZone survey measures the following five domains:

- Substance Use
- Alcohol Use
- Optimism and Problem Solving
- Delinquency and Community Engagement
- Trauma



PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Youth Services

Assessments – Youth and Family
Youth Advocacy - Case Management
Counseling – Individual
Substance Use Counseling & Education
Restorative Justice
Victim/Offender Mediation
Peer Support Groups
Useful Public Service
Deferred Sentencing Programs through Courts
Diversion
Life Skills Classes
Youth Coaching
CYDC Detention Screening 9th District

Parent Support

Parent Consultation
Parent Education
Family Mediation
Peer Support Groups

[Online Referral Form](https://www.youthzone.com)

www.youthzone.com

COST & SOURCES OF INCOME

- \$200 fee per client to initiate services- Sliding fee schedule for reduced or waived fees
- Average overall cost per youth is \$2,000-\$4,000 for a 3-6 month program
- Avg. cost to detain a youth is \$66,000 for 6 months
- FY25.26 budget at \$2.0m
- FY26.27 budget at \$2.1m



OUR GOALS:

- 1) Leverage **community partnerships** for better outcomes and outreach. This includes coordinating with schools and law enforcement agencies to identify pre-ticket youth
- 2) Reduce **barriers to access**, including transportation, language, cost, and timeliness.
- 3) **Improve capacity** to serve youth and families in need of mental health and substance use intervention



DEMOGRAPHICS AND OUTCOMES

- 56% of referrals come from courts, offering both pre- and post-file diversion.
- 30% of referrals are from schools and pre-ticket law enforcement contact, allowing us to provide preventative services prior to formal engagement with the judicial system.
- 15% of referrals are self-referrals or referred by a partner organization.
- 6% of our clients are adults.



DEMOGRAPHICS & OUTCOMES

	Organization-wide	New Castle
Top Reasons for Referral	Possession of marijuana	Possession of marijuana
	Possession of alcohol	Petty theft
	Petty theft	Possession of alcohol
	Criminal mischief	Harassment/Menacing
	Parent consultation	Reckless driving
Top Referral Sources	Garfield District Court	Glenwood Muni Court
	Glenwood Muni Court	Garfield District Court
	Rifle Muni Court	New Castle Police
	Garfield County Court	Garfield County Court
	Carbondale Muni Court	Internal/Other



DEMOGRAPHICS & OUTCOMES

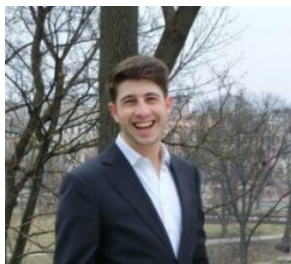
	Organization-wide	New Castle
Total assessments	449	48
Unique clients	378	38
Total community members served	1020	113
CYDC cases	50	9
Non-recidivism rate	84%	87%
Contract completion rate	92%	83%
Survey improvement	48%	35%
Gender	39% female, 61% male	35% female, 65% male
Ethnicity	44% Caucasian, 49% Latino, 7% other	43% Caucasian, 51% Latino, 6% other



Support Staff and Key Consultants



Jami Hayes, ED



Ali Naaseh-Shahry-
Development Director



Lyn Williams, Director of Ops



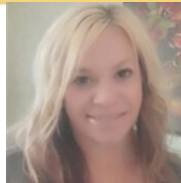
Vanessa Otero,
Administrative Assistant



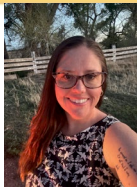
Tania Beltran, Business
Manager

Direct Service Staff

**Airen Goodman,
Program Director**



**Zyra Guyon, LPC
Clinical Supervisor**



Substance Program



**Michelle Medrano,
Substance Coordinator**



**Erin Greenwald,
Substance Specialist
and Youth Advocate**



**Keri Sorenson,
Substance Specialist
and Youth Advocate**

Restorative Justice Program



**Pete Durrance,
Restorative Justice
Specialist**

Mental Health Program



**Clarissa Fortier, LSW
Mental Health
Counselor**

CYDC/Diversion Program



**Airen Goodman,
CYDC/Diversion
Coordinator**



**Aida Bonilla,
Pretrial and
Diversion Specialist**



**Abigail Jurado,
Youth Advocate**

Municipal and County Court Program



**Mariah Dickson,
Court Coordinator**



**Becca Paturalski,
Youth Advocate**



**Lupe Loya Elliott,
Youth Advocate**

Key Partnerships



COLORADO
Department of Human Services



COLORADO
Division of Criminal Justice
Department of Public Safety

Office of Gun Violence Prevention

Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (CYDC)



Contact:

Jami Hayes, Executive Director

970-945-9300

YouthZone Main Line

970-945-9300

Donations to support our work can be made at:

www.youthzone.com



YouthZone

Connect and Grow

Glenwood Springs
413 9th Street
GWS, CO 81601
970-945-9300

Rifle
136 E. 12th Street
Rifle, CO 81650

Dave Reynolds
Town Administrator
450 W. Main Street
New Castle, CO 81647

April 2026

Dear Dave and New Castle Board of Trustees,

Thank you for your continued support of YouthZone. We provide court, prevention, and intervention services to youth across the 9th Judicial District — from Aspen to Rangely — and are funded annually by 11 municipalities, 4 counties, and partners including the 9th Judicial District Attorney, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, school districts, and departments of human services.

This fiscal year, we have served 48 New Castle youth, referred primarily for possession of alcohol and marijuana. Of these clients, **87% did not reoffend** while working with YouthZone, and **83% completed their court contracts successfully**. Without diversion support, the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice estimates a recidivism rate of 49% for youth remaining in the standard court and probation system.

Beyond court services and case management, YouthZone provides individualized screening and assessment, substance use education and counseling, mental health services, parent education, life skills, restorative justice, and community service — at no cost to youth and families. We provided more than **500 of these services** in your community this year. At exit, **35% of clients reported measurable improvement** in at least one area, including drug and alcohol use, school engagement, problem-solving, and trauma response.

These outcomes are made possible thanks to our highly trained and certified staff. The cost of providing our services ranges from \$2,000 to \$8,000 per client, with an annual program cost of approximately \$1.5 million. Our team dedicates about 10% of their time to New Castle clients—equivalent to **\$143,000 in services**. For comparison, detaining a single youth in Colorado costs approximately \$132,000 per year. These services are made possible through partnerships with municipalities like yours, as well as support from county funding, state grants, and individual and corporate contributions.

In 2026, we received \$4,000 from the Town of New Castle. As such, we respectfully request that the Town of New Castle include \$6,000 in its 2027 budget to support YouthZone's court diversion services.

While this represents an increase, it remains significantly below the actual cost of services provided to your community. Your partnership makes this work possible, and we are committed to continuing to work alongside you.

Thank you & warm regards,

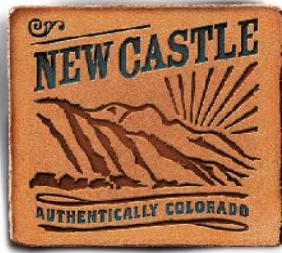
Jami Hayes

Executive Director

Jhayes@youthzone.com

970-945-9300

"YouthZone helped me respect myself and understand that all my choices affect people."



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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Consider LOVA Trail Expansion
Date: 06/16/2026

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to hear and discuss a proposal from Jeanne Golay from the LOVA Trail group regarding a LOVA Trail expansion project at the west end of town. With the replacement of the bridge and pedestrian walkway over Elk Creek on Main Street, the LOVA Trail Board and Jeanne are exploring an opportunity to partner with RE-2, RFTA, and the Town of New Castle to construct approximately 775 linear feet of hard-surface trail extending from the west side of Elk Creek to the existing sidewalk near the entrance to Elk Creek Elementary School.

The project would include a short section of trail within CDOT right-of-way along Route 6, with the majority of the trail located on RE-2 property at Elk Creek Elementary School. The proposed trail would serve both as a safe route to school connection and as the next segment of the LOVA Trail system.

Jeanne will provide an overview of the proposed alignment, project scope, potential funding partnerships, and grant opportunities.

Following the presentation, Town Council may discuss the community benefits of the project and consider potential partnership, and grant participation opportunities.



Elk Creek Elementary Sidewalk



CDOT is replacing the Highway 6 bridge over Elk Creek, including a new pedestrian bridge.

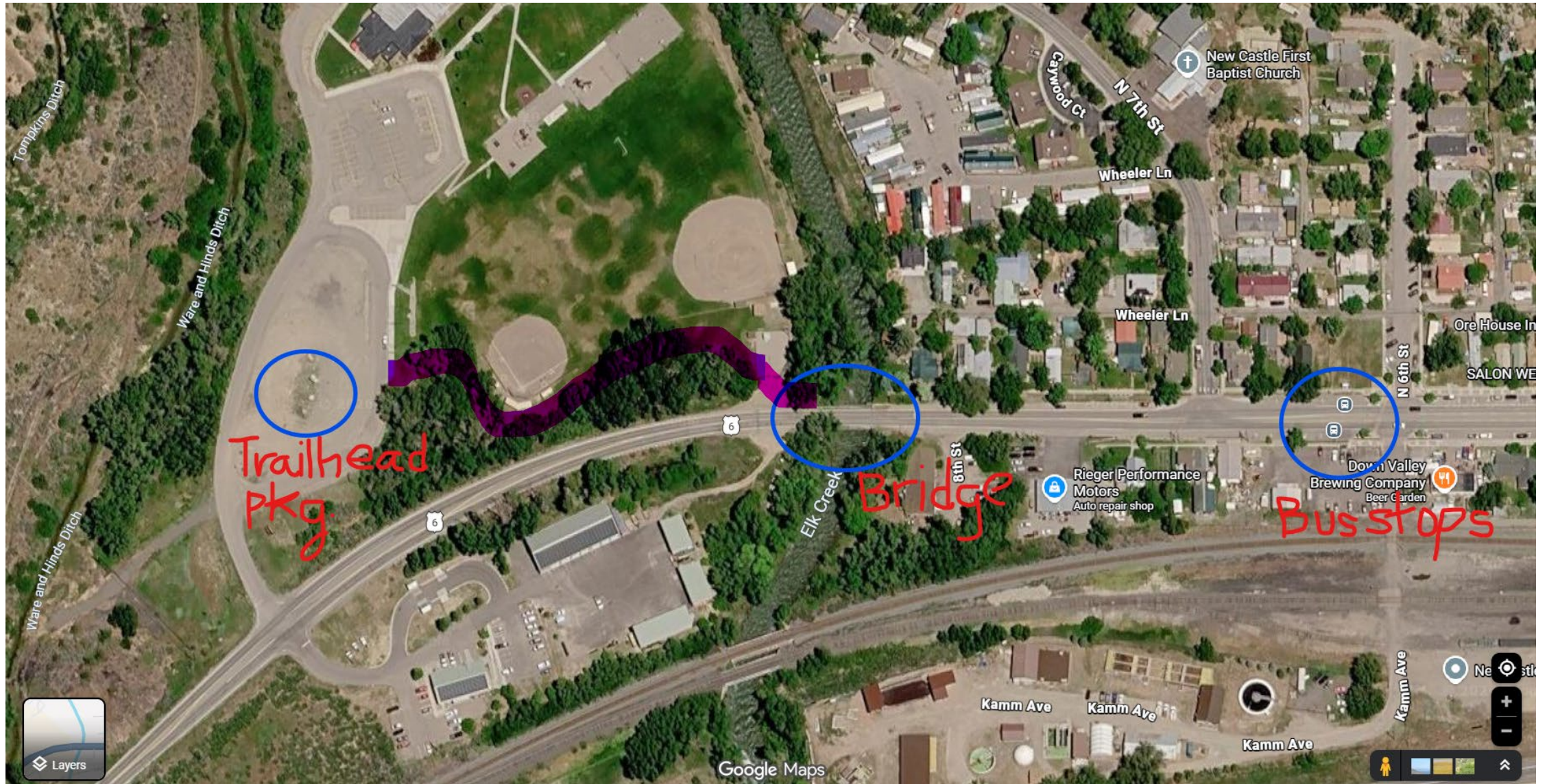
- Plans call for CDOT to build a 30' path extending from the west bridge abutment, parallel to the highway
- It will have a negative 5% grade (ADA-compliant) to bring it down to the existing asphalt surface
- No additional pedestrian corridor is planned along the shoulder of Highway 6 to the west

NEW PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE



LoVa proposes to seek grant funding to build a new sidewalk connecting the bridge to Elk Creek Elementary

- The new sidewalk will connect from the west bridge abutment to the existing sidewalk at the school parking lot.
- Sidewalk length is approximately 700 linear feet. It will be built to CDOT and Town specifications of 10' wide concrete, 6" thick with a 30-year lifespan.
- It will lie entirely on RE-2 School District property.
- The School District will build, own and maintain the sidewalk.
- Project construction will be at no cost to the Town or School District.





PROJECT ATTRIBUTES

SAFETY

- Provides a safe, separated path for students and families to the school campus
- Directs non-school related traffic away from school buildings, ball fields & students

CONNECTIVITY

- Connects downtown to the school, Burning Mountain trailhead and eventual LoVa Trail alignment to the west

TRANSIT

- The RFTA bus stop is just east of the bridge
- The parking lot supports RFTA operations as an official bus turnaround/ staging location

PROJECT BUDGET (draft)

• Survey, design and engineering	\$13,000
• Construction	\$325,500
• Transit stop signal beacons	\$10,000
• <u>Contingency</u>	<u>\$1,500</u>
• Estimated total project budget	\$350,000

POTENTIAL GRANT SOURCES

Grant match provided by RFTA funding earmarked for the LoVa Trail

OPTION 1 (August 2026 award for 2027 build)

- RFTA First-Last Mile Mobility (FLMM) program grant

OPTION 2 (Summer 2027 award for 2028 build)

- Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District Joint Grant Program
-combined with-
- RFTA FLMM grant

OPTION 3 (October 2026 award for 2028 build)

- Safe Routes To School federal grant program *-combined with-*
- CDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE OBLIGATIONS

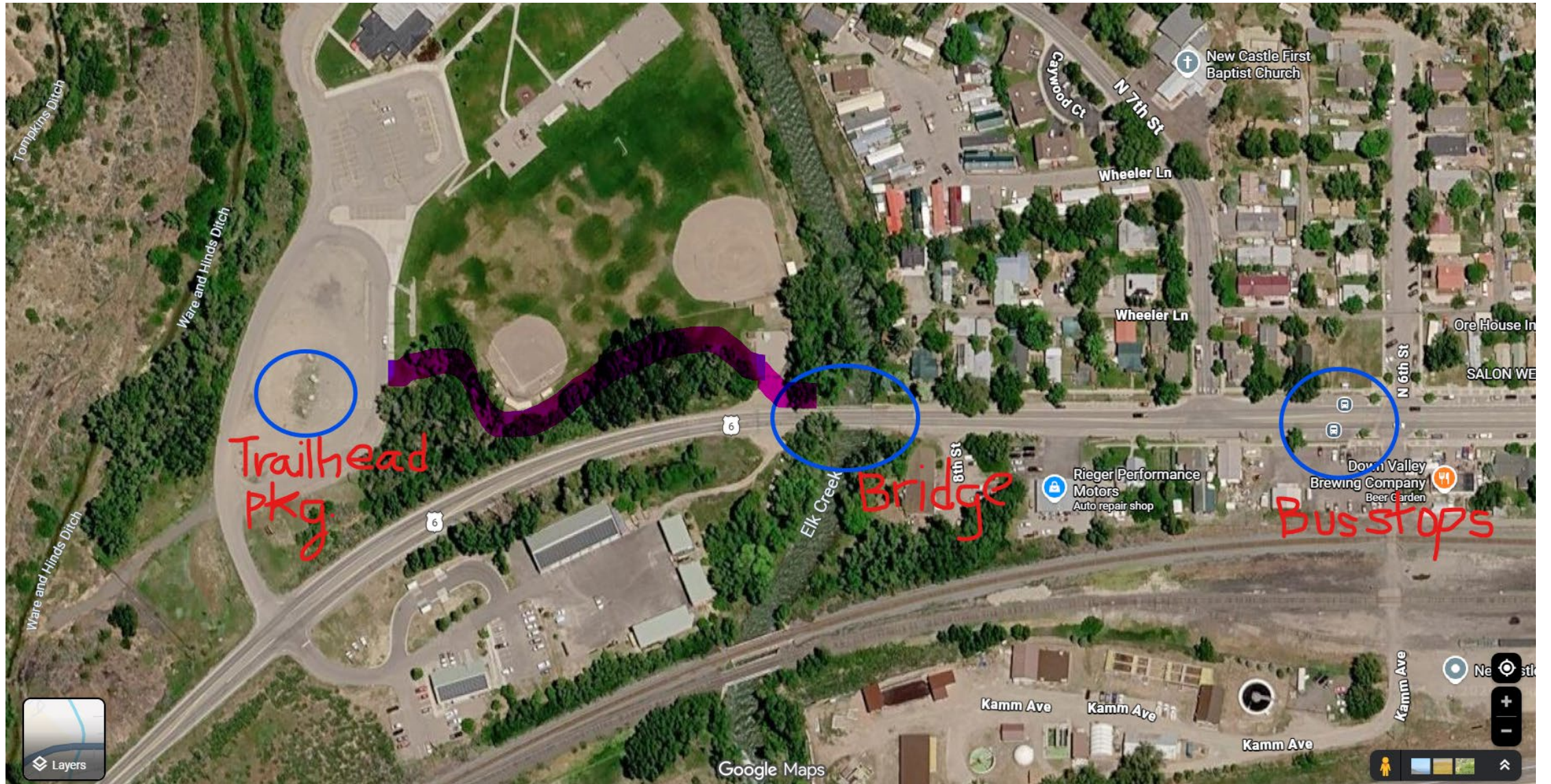
- LoVa will prepare the grant application in collaboration with Town staff
- FLMM grants must be awarded to a RFTA member-community
- If awarded, the Town will pass funds through to the School District for project management and construction
- Town will coordinate with LoVa, RFTA and New Castle Trails on signage, messaging and promotion

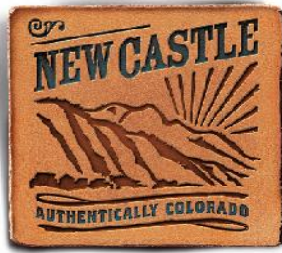
QUESTIONS/ CONCERNS

What's the alternative?

- No build, “bridge to nowhere”
- Dangerous situation for pedestrians stranded on the shoulder of Highway 6
- Random trespassing on school property
- Lack of connectivity to transit







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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Fire Resiliency Review
Date: 06/16/2026

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Town staff to provide information regarding fire resiliency related to home construction, exterior building materials, and community wildfire preparedness. As the risk of wildland and urban fires continues to increase throughout Colorado due to continued drought conditions, weather patterns, and expanding development within wildfire-prone areas, it is important to understand how wildfires and ember storms can impact homes, neighborhoods, and entire communities.

Staff will share educational research, videos, and other resources developed by the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) and other wildfire resiliency organizations. These materials demonstrate how modern construction methods, fire-resistant building materials, and defensible space practices can significantly improve a structure's ability to withstand wildfire exposure and ember intrusion.

Staff will also provide information regarding recent changes in Colorado law that require local governments to adopt wildfire resiliency standards and building code provisions for development occurring within designated Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas. The 2025 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code (CWRC) is a state-mandated minimum code for wildfire-prone areas that requires ignition-resistant construction and defensible space standards. Municipalities with mapped Wildland-Urban Interface areas are required by state law to adopt a code meeting or exceeding the state's minimum standards. While the statute does not currently establish specific fines or financial penalties for non-adoption, failure to adopt could place a municipality out of compliance with state law and expose it to legal or legislative remedies.

These state requirements reflect a growing recognition that communities must proactively address wildfire risk through land use planning, building design, and construction practices.

As homeowners, developers, insurance providers, and local governments increasingly focus on reducing wildfire risk, there is growing demand for homes and neighborhoods that are built to modern

resiliency standards. Research indicates that wildfire-resistant construction practices can help reduce property losses, improve community survivability during wildfire events, and may positively influence insurance availability, ratings, and premiums over time.

Wildfire-resilient building codes such as the WUI and CWRC fit within the broader framework of modern building regulation. Just as building codes in earthquake-prone regions incorporate seismic standards and coastal communities adopt hurricane-resistant construction requirements, wildfire-prone communities are increasingly utilizing WUI and related code provisions to address the unique hazards associated with wildfire exposure.

The intent of this agenda item is informational and intended to provide Town Council with a better understanding of wildfire resiliency, evolving state requirements, and the potential benefits associated with adopting and implementing modern wildfire-resistant construction standards.

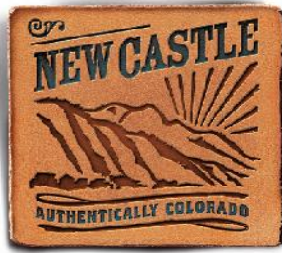
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvbNOPSyys>

<https://abc11.com/post/fire-proof-house-couples-home-resilient-features-survives-pacific-palisades-heres-what-homeowners-installed/15813629/#>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ev0eyjkUSJU>

<https://headwaterseconomics.org/natural-hazards/redefining-the-urban-wildfire-problem-in-the-west/>

<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/wui-issues-resolutions-report.pdf>

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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: CIRSA Onboarding
Date: 06/16/2026

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for staff to present a brief CIRSA onboarding video. As mentioned during our last meeting, this video is meant as a introduction to the topic of Council and staff roles, actions, and responsibilities. Staff will arrange for a more formal presentation in July.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfhxn1c1lA&t=348s>

**New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 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 Mariscal
Councilor Carey
Mayor Hazelton
Councilor Copeland
Councilor Sampley
Councilor G Riddile

Absent none

Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds, Chief Stu Curry, Attorney Haley Carmer and members of the public.

Meeting Notice

Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2026-1.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes

Clerk Mindy Andis said Esther Von and Chris Pezel had decided to withdraw their letters of interest for the vacant council seat.

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no Citizen Comments

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney – present for agenda items
Consultant Engineer – not present

Items for Consideration

Review MOU with SPEAR

Administrator Reynolds said during the regular town council meeting held on April 7, 2026, town council reviewed the SPEAR MOU and discussed potential ratification, withdrawal, and other available options. During that meeting, four residents provided

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

1 public comment expressing a variety of concerns regarding the MOU and the town's
2 continued participation in the SPEAR Task Force.

3 To ensure a complete understanding of the concerns raised, town council continued the
4 agenda item to a future meeting and directed staff to gather additional information and
5 report back to council.

6 Since that time, staff has met with residents, spoken with SPEAR representatives and
7 neighboring law enforcement agencies, and reviewed the MOU along with applicable state
8 and federal guidelines relating to criminal intelligence sharing and the dissemination of
9 personal information. Through this process, staff have worked to develop a more
10 comprehensive understanding of the concerns raised, the operational structure of the
11 SPEAR Task Force, and the legal frameworks governing information-sharing practices.
12 Residents' collective concern can generally be summarized as follows:

13 Residents appear primarily concerned that a multijurisdictional criminal intelligence-
14 sharing arrangement, as described in Section 6 of the SPEAR MOU, involving agencies
15 such as Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), could unintentionally or structurally allow
16 information collected by local law enforcement agencies to be used for federal immigration
17 enforcement purposes in ways that may conflict with Colorado Article 74. Residents
18 further express concern that such information sharing could expose the Town to legal
19 liability and negatively impact public trust in local policing.

20 Colorado Article 74 generally limits state and local agencies from sharing non-public
21 personal identifying information for civil immigration enforcement purposes, while 28 CFR
22 Part 23 permits properly managed criminal intelligence sharing for legitimate criminal
23 investigations when supported by reasonable suspicion and appropriate safeguards.
24 These legal frameworks can coexist when information sharing remains focused on criminal
25 investigations rather than civil immigration enforcement. However, some residents
26 perceive the potential for a blurring of these distinctions if routine law enforcement
27 information were to become accessible to federal agencies involved in immigration
28 enforcement activities.

29 While reviewing these concerns, staff has noted the following provisions contained within
30 the SPEAR MOU:

- 31
- 32 * The SPEAR MOU states that information gathering and sharing between
33 participating agencies shall comply with all applicable provisions of Colorado law
34 and federal regulations.
 - 35 * The MOU establishes and maintains a centralized computerized criminal intelligence
36 information system for the purpose of assisting local, state, and federal law
37 enforcement personnel in ongoing multijurisdictional criminal investigations and
38 prosecutions relating to specified criminal activity. (MOU Section 6.1)
 - 39 * The MOU establishes criteria governing information submission, inquiry/access,
40 dissemination, retention and purging, security, audit trails, and agency
41 representation. (MOU Section 6.1)

- The MOU requires compliance with U.S. Department of Justice operating policies, including 28 CFR Part 23, where applicable. (MOU Sections 6.1 and 6.2)
- The MOU places responsibility on participating agencies to maintain the confidentiality of intelligence information and prohibits dissemination except as authorized by SPEAR and applicable policy. (MOU Section 6.2)
- The MOU states that the agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with Colorado law. (MOU Section 10.4)

Staff's current understanding regarding data gathering and sharing practices is as follows:

- Town police officers do not collect immigration status information as part of routine law enforcement activities.
- Town police officers do not knowingly share confidential personal information in violation of Colorado law.
- Routine information gathered and stored within the New World database is not automatically accessible to HSI or other outside agencies.
- The Town Police Department follows Colorado law regarding the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of personal information.
- Information shared with SPEAR is intended for legitimate criminal investigative purposes and staff does not currently understand those practices to conflict with either Colorado law or 28 CFR Part 23.

Conclusion

- Staff understands that residents' concerns are sincere and stem from a desire to ensure that personal information is handled lawfully, appropriately, and transparently.
- Staff recognizes the value that the SPEAR Task Force partnership provides for regional law enforcement coordination and criminal investigations.
- Staff also understands that recent incidents, combined with what some perceive as ambiguity within portions of the SPEAR MOU, have contributed to public concern.
- Based on staff's present understanding of applicable laws, policies, and current practices, staff believes the Town is operating in compliance with both Colorado and federal law.

Staff recommends remaining a partner agency within SPEAR while continuing efforts to strengthen transparency, public communication, and clearly written agreements and policies that reinforce public trust and legal compliance.

Administrator Reynolds went on to say it is difficult to understand how information is gathered and exactly where it is disseminated. There were laws that went into place federally following 9-11 back in 2001. There were federal laws that talked about how federal agencies can gather information. There are currently ways that

1 federal agencies can gather information from people that are incarcerated in jail, criminal
2 charges, and fingerprints have been taken, that the type of information sharing is out of
3 our realm, out of our jurisdiction. If we arrest somebody on criminal charges, they end up
4 in jail. We can rest assured that what our police department is doing is legal and not
5 asking for or sharing immigration status. Then what happens at the jail is somewhat
6 defined by federal law and the information gets to the FBI through fingerprinting. The
7 laws that were created following 9-11 then can then be disseminated, taken by HSI and
8 ICE and others. Administrator Reynolds said the concern is information sharing.

9 Administrator Reynolds said staff is okay with how the MOU is written. He said it could be
10 better and could be worked on. Administrator Reynolds said in order to do that you need a
11 seat at the table, you need to be part of the board, and enough of the board can get
12 together and dress the concerns that the MOU needs to be rewritten, we do have concerns
13 about how the information is disseminated and could it be clearer. Administrator Reynolds
14 said it is reason to walk away from a task force that can do a lot of good for the valley, in
15 our opinion, probably not at this point.

16 Chief Curry said he doesn't have a stake with SPEAR. He said if the town is not part of the
17 discussion, then we are on the outside. He said Section 1 of our task force governing
18 board, which is made up of all of the agency heads. He said under 1.5, it is key, the
19 governing board will address any issues of mutual concern of participants in the task
20 force. This may include major issues that will impact other members of the task force,
21 such as budget matters, matters of policy and procedure, and other matters of mutual
22 concern. Chief Curry said it's probably in our agency's best interest to be in the room,
23 especially since we already share with all the agencies in Garfield County. The town is part
24 of what's called integrated dispatch. The integrated communications, police, fire, we all
25 share New World, which is the software that allows us to all interact with each other on
26 incidents. Chief Curry said if there is any potential for information that we input to the
27 system to be utilized, and we're not in the room to voice that concern, we lose that
28 ability. And so, in a very pragmatic sense, to protect the town, Chief Curry believes it's in
29 the town's best interest to stay in that MOU, and for now and to be part of the
30 conversation and to bring up the concerns.

31
32 Sally Boughton New Castle resident said she appreciated the time Administrator Reynolds
33 shared with her. She said one of her biggest concerns in all of this is the lack of
34 transparency from SPEAR. She said from 2022 to 2025, they operated with no founding
35 documents. They still have no finalized operational guidelines. So, what is concerning to
36 her is that she doesn't know, as a citizen, what specific Sections are in place to stop
37 information from flowing from our local law enforcement agencies to the Spear Task
38 Force, to any member of the Spear Task Force, who then per the MOU, are able to share
39 with every other member, what are the firewalls? What are the protections in place? She
40 said she would also like to know is how did they assess and share data in the past. She
41 said SPEAR has a full-time analyst on staff. Ms. Boughton said the MOU was to create an
42 intelligence network that is then accessible to all other members. All other members
43 includes HSI. She said you don't have to be gathering information about immigration
44 status and then sharing it to be in violation of Colorado law. It's just PII that's been used

1 for the purposes of immigration enforcement. She said for an example if her name and
2 location is shared and then used for the purposes of immigration enforcement. That is a
3 violation of Colorado law and it's a violation of \$50,000 of penalty to the town. Ms.
4 Boughton said while there's not a lot of protections in place for our data and information,
5 it's also a huge financial risk to the town, and as a taxpayer and a resident here, she
6 really don't want us to be in that position. Ms. Boughton said the other thing that is really
7 concerning to her, is the communication from the leader of SPEAR, said when Glenwood
8 Springs withdrew, he threatened to not show up and support when there were things
9 happening in Glenwood Springs. She said it's very concerning, the lack of transparency,
10 the lack of protection in place, and she would like those questions to be dug into more.

11
12 Mayor Hazelton thanked Ms. Boughton for her comments.

13
14 Councilor Riddile said there is a lot of work that SPEAR is doing that I think our
15 community members would support. We want them doing that. He said does think there
16 is a legitimate concern out there, in terms of what is being shared, in terms of
17 immigration enforcement and we want our police to keep doing the work they're doing,
18 but also make sure we have guardrails in place to make sure we're not infringing on that
19 immigration component and violating Colorado state law. He said we should have a seat
20 at the table and have Chief Curry there representing the town and what we think is
21 important. He said would like to continue our involvement with SPEAR on the condition
22 that council hears back from them in three to six months. Councilor Riddile said there
23 were four things the SPEAR board needs to look at:

- 24
25 1) Revise the mission statement to include some kind of statement that there would
26 be no federal or civil immigration enforcement component, and to call it out right there on
27 page 1.
28
29 2) Revise section 6.1 to specifically conform to CRS 2474, basically says it's not
30 intended to be sharing of any information. He said would like to see transparency, to get
31 the minutes published. In Section 2, it does say that there is a secretary who's supposed
32 to be keeping minutes at the meetings. He said he would like to get the minutes.
33
34 3) Receive a vote tally on certain policies and issues brought up.
35
36 4) Receive the operational guidelines manual published and available by the public.
37

38 Councilor Riddile said he trusts Chief Curry and the New Castle Police Department and
39 wants to support the department. However, he wants to make sure there are guardrails in
40 place to have the community trust when working with SPEAR.

41
42 Councilor Carey said the town does acknowledge the fact that there is a liability
43 component to this that is built into CRS2474, 103, and Senate Bill 25276 applied that
44 from state agency status, but also down to local municipalities. she thinks that's

1 something we need to acknowledge and to look at. She said transparency is an issue,
2 because we have been operating very much in the blind. She said she does acknowledge
3 that there have been comments that this is not being shared from SPEAR. She said she
4 believe our officers, when they say their policies are that this information is not gathered.
5 There are certain pieces, though, that are considered personal information that could be
6 abused in the wrong hands, and that a large part of the concern that she is hearing in the
7 community, is it is intended for good, but what happens when it gets into hands of people
8 who are maybe not intending it for good. Councilor Carey said it is difficult for the council
9 to make a decision based on the behavior of others. Councilor Carey said the task force
10 has been incredibly helpful and instrumental in making our communities safer. She said
11 the unfortunate part is that there are concerns that it may have made it unsafe for some
12 individuals. She said we can do is try to ensure that it is not doing that moving forward.
13

14 Mayor Hazelton said he liked Councilor Riddile's suggestion of having a three to six month
15 review and that is something council will be doing.
16

17 Attorney Carmer said with respect to council's decision is either withdraw or ratify the
18 MOU. She said there are a couple of provisions in the MOU to help some extent with
19 where the town's position is now in this discussion of liability. One of those is that the
20 MOU states and it is set up that each agency that is part of the MOU does continue to
21 operate as its own agency. Employees continue to be the employees of the agency, or
22 their parent agency. They don't become a partner or partnership through the agreement.
23 Attorney Carmer said there is language saying that, you know, the acts of one participant
24 are not imposed on the rest of the participant, so if one, agency or an actor from one of
25 the other agencies were to take an action that were in violation of a particular law or
26 regulation, that wouldn't fall back on the town. She said that is clear in the MOU itself.
27 The MOU does treat all of the participating agencies separately. Attorney Carmer said the
28 statutory language regarding disclosure, there's the intentional element and when we're
29 operating under an MOU that has clear intention of it being, for criminal purposes. She
30 said with the word intentional in the statute, there's some cover. She said Councilor
31 Riddile laid out the conditions well, and being a participant would help make those
32 changes is the best position for the town if there are benefits to continuing with the task
33 force, because that's the only way you're going to make those changes. Attorney Carmer
34 said with those two sort of pieces there working together, and then having that timeline,
35 and knowing that if those changes aren't made in the timeline we want to see them, we
36 can withdraw later on.
37

38 Council decided to go into executive session.
39

40 **Possible Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) for a conference**
41 **with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal**
42 **questions regarding SPEAR memorandum of understanding.**
43

44 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a Motion at 7:46pm to go into Executive**

1 **Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving**
2 **legal advice on specific legal questions regarding SPEAR memorandum of**
3 **understanding Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed**
4 **unanimously.**

5
6 Executive session concluded.

7 At the end of the executive session, Mayor Hazelton made the following statement:

8
9 "The time is now 8:05p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The
10 participants in the executive sessions were: Councilor Mariscal, Councilor Carey,
11 Councilors Copeland, Councilor Sampley, Mayor Hazelton, Town Administrator Reynolds,
12 Town Attorney Carmer, Town Clerk Andis and Police Chief Curry. For the record, if any
13 person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion
14 of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during
15 the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session
16 in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the
17 record."

18
19 No concerns were stated.

20
21 **Consider Ratification, Withdrawal, or Other Directives to Police Department**
22 **regarding MOU with SPEAR**

23 Councilor Carey asked Chief Curry as the MOU stands right now does HSI have direct
24 access to New World. Chief Curry said no, they do not. He said the only people who have
25 direct access to New World are the Garfield County Agencies.

26 Councilor Carey asked how HSI would get information. Chief Curry said they would have
27 to go through the same process as the public would by submitting a records request.
28 Councilor Carey said as the officers put a report into New World, what happens if someone
29 else utilizes the information. Chief Curry said New World has a log of everyone that has
30 accessed the system. The person would need to explain why and how they had accessed
31 New World.

32
33 Councilor Riddle said would be willing to make a motion for the conditions laid out earlier.

34
35 **MOTION: Councilor Riddle made a motion to Continue to Participate with SPEAR**
36 **and to Ratification the MOU with SPEAR with the Following Conditions: Review**
37 **the MOU in Three to Six Months, SPEAR Task Force to revise the Mission**
38 **Statement to Include no Federal or Civil Immigration Enforcement, Revise**
39 **Section 6.1 to conform with CRS 2474, and to Make Available Meeting Minutes**
40 **and Voting Records in Accordance With Section 2, and the Operational Guideline**
41 **Manual. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote.**

1 **Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Councilor Riddile: yes; Councilor**
2 **Mariscal: yes; Mayor Hazelton: yes; Councilor Sampley: yes.**

3
4 Councilor Mariscal said she was happy to hear that the New Castle Police Department was
5 not taking any immigration status.

6
7 Mayor Hazelton said that the discussion was not a bord discussion and it was not
8 something that was pointed at the police department as something that they have done
9 wrong. He said he appreciated the work Chief Curry has put into clarifying the issues.

10 11 12 **Recognition Trails Town Designation**

13 Mike Prichard Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA) and Trent McHaffy New
14 Castle Trails. Mr. Prichard gave an update on the new event that will replace Rides and
15 Reggae. The event is called Down Valley Dirty Dozen which will be on August 1 and 2,
16 2026. He said the award ceremony will be at Down Valley Brewing with live music on
17 Saturday, August 2, 2026. He said all the proceeds made during the event will be turned
18 back into the local trails. Mr. Prichard said New Castle, Colorado, has officially been
19 designated 2026 International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Trail Town. He said New
20 Castle 1 of 28 rural communities nationwide to receive the designation. Mr. Prichard said
21 they has some new signs made up for the designation and he passed the signs onto
22 Administrator Reynolds. Mr. Prichard explained the standards in which RFMBA operates.
23 Mr. Prichard said a trail town is a designation that recognizes communities that
24 understand the powerful role that trails play in shaping vibrant places to live, work, and
25 play. He said the designation is a testament to the dedicated volunteers, partners, and
26 community members who build, maintain, and champion our incredible trust system. Mr.
27 Prichard explained to secure this Trail Town Award, RFMBA actually submitted information
28 about New Castle area's trails in 8 categories. He explained what the categories were and
29 gave an explanation of why New Castle scored high enough to be in this inaugural set of
30 Trail Towns:

- 31
32 1) Access - Not only do we have excellent public trail access on our adjacent federal
33 lands, but the town has invested in building trails on town-owned lands, and also
34 negotiated agreements for public access on private lands, including on Burning Mountain.
35
36 2) Existing Trails and Infrastructure – New Castle has nearly 40 miles of rideable or
37 hike able or runnable trails right here from downtown New Castle, and we have nearly 60
38 miles in total when we include some of the nearby White River National Forest Trails.
39 These trails have a healthy mix of easy, intermediate, and challenging offerings. We also
40 have the VIX Bike Park. We have great signage on the majority of the trail system.

1 3) Community Engagement and Advocacy - RFMB's staff, Town and New Castle Trails
2 Committee volunteers taking the lead over the past 10 plus years, and with support from
3 the town, during every phase of the local trail system's evolution, real progress has been
4 made to create high-quality trail experiences that so many people can now enjoy.
5

6 4) Ongoing Assessment - Cameras are in place at BLM's seasonal closure gates to
7 monitor winter use. Our local trail agent volunteers are sharing current conditions and
8 reports of work needed frequently. Adding more summer use trail counters at key
9 locations remains a feedback tool we'd like to pursue.
10

11
12 5) Funding - Funding is a key category. As we've shared at past meetings, the Town of
13 New Castle has played a really meaningful role in making these trail system
14 improvements possible. RFMBA and New Castle Trails have secured matching funds for
15 many trail projects from our members, our event sponsors, and from generous
16 foundations. Future funding will remain a key issue even as we transition from our past
17 expansion efforts to a growing focus on maintaining and improving the trail system.
18

19 6) Trail Planning - Although we didn't start with a town-wide or an area-wide master
20 plan, we have worked closely with BLM and the town and others to engage professional
21 trail planners. These planners helped us best assess and then design high-quality trails for
22 specific land areas when the opportunity arose.
23

24 7) Stewardship - We have independent volunteers maintaining trails through our Trail
25 Agent program. We have paid staff maintaining and improving trails with our seasonal
26 trail crew program. We're happy to partner with Roaring Fourk Outdoor Volunteers and
27 other smaller groups to schedule volunteer events. We conduct outreach about trail
28 etiquette and the reasons to respect seasonal trail closures.
29

30 8) Vision, or Community Vision - Trail systems like New Castle's often emerge thanks
31 to a trail champion. Much of this vision really is based on a spin of RFMBA's Simply stated
32 mission, which is to create and sustain the best possible trails and experience in New
33 Castle. Best possible really is our guiding light when we're creating and sustaining these
34 trails.
35

36 Mr. Prichard said, adding up all of this information paints a clear picture of New Castle is a
37 real trail town and it deserves this recognition. We don't want to rest on any morals.
38 There is real work ahead to leverage being a trail town, and with your help on local trails.
39 We'll continue to work to boost the local economy, and to benefit the health and wellness
40 of locals. So, thank you so much, and real congratulations to New Castle.
41 Administrator Reynolds said we sincerely appreciate the work that's going into these

1 trials, and don't take lightly the fact that you've earned this award on behalf of them.
2 Thank you.

3 Councilor Riddile said he has been to talk to people about the stories of trails in New
4 Castle, but I think it's also largely a larger story of Garfield County, of where we were 10-
5 15 years ago to where we are now, just how much more riding trails there is at the lower
6 valley. Went from 10-20 miles of trails, to 100 miles now.

7 Council thanked Mr. Prichard and Mr. McHaffey for all the work RFMBA and New Castle
8 Trails have done.

9
10
11
12 **Consider Ordinance TC2026-4 Creating a Background Check process for**
13 **Prospective Massage Facility Operators, Owners and Employees (2nd reading)**

14 Administrator Reynolds said there were no changes to the ordinance between first and
15 second reading.

16 Attorney Carmer said as part of the process, CBI and FBI has to review the ordinance. CBI
17 has done their review and had no issues or concerns with the ordinance as drafted.

18 Attorney Carmer said if the ordinance gets approved CBI will forward onto the FBI for a
19 final approval.

20
21 **MOTION: Councilor Carey made a motion to approve Ordinance TC-2026-04 –**
22 **Creating a Background Check process for Prospective Massage Facility**
23 **Operators, Owners and Employees (2nd reading). Councilor Mariscal seconded**
24 **the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote. Councilor Sampley: yes; Councilor**
25 **Riddile: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Mayor Hazelton: yes;**
26 **Councilor Mariscal: yes.**

27
28 **Consider Letters of Interest From: ~~Esther Von~~, Phil Weir, Steven Kyle, Chris**
29 **Pezzel, Mark Kinghorn, Mari Riddile, Alison Cotey, Katrina McAlpine, Daniel**
30 **Leifeld to Fill Vacant Council Seat.**

31 The council reviewed each letter of interest and interviewed each candidate individually.

32
33 Mayor Hazelton explained the voting process: The first ballot vote required each councilor
34 to vote for three different individuals. The highest three winners would then go to a
35 second vote where each councilor weigh the three individuals. The person with lowest
36 number would be considered for appointment to the vacant council seat.

37 Clerk Andis passed out ballots to each councilor that had the councilors' name on it as well
38 as all seven candidates. The council voted their ballots and returned them to Clerk Andis.
39 Clerk Andis read the results:

40 The highest number of votes went to Daniel Leifeld and there was a tie for second

1 between Alison Cotey and Steve Kyle.

2
3 Clerk Andis passed out ballots to each councilor that had the councilors' name on it as well
4 as three candidates. The council voted their ballots and returned them to Clerk Andis.

5 Clerk Andis read the results:

6 The lowest number went to Daniel Leifeld and there was a tie for second between Alison
7 Cotey and Steve Kyle.

8
9 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to appoint Daniel Leifeld to the vacant**
10 **council seat, serving the remainder of the term until April 2028. Councilor Carey**
11 **seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

12 **Consent Agenda**

13 Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by
14 one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member
15 or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.

16
17 May 5, 2026, Minutes

18 Resolution TC2026-12 – Approving Supporting the Availability of Healthier Beverage
19 Choices and Alternative Offerings to Sugary Beverages and Promoting Public Health

20
21 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**
22 **Councilor Copeland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

23 **Staff Reports**

24 **Town Administrator** –Administrator Reynolds said he would be out of the office starting
25 Wednesday afternoon through Monday. Administrator Reynolds said the police department
26 has created an e-bike flyer and have been in the schools doing educational outreach.
27 Administrator Reynolds said there will be some lane closures on Main Street on June 9 and
28 10, 2026, as the girders for the bridge are being set. Councilor Riddile explained the
29 colors of the bridge. CDOT was trying to make the colors of the pedestrian bridge. It will
30 be a weathered steel; it will be similar to Rollie Gordon Park Bridge and at the interchange
31 (brown rust color). The bridge will have curves will be a darker brown and below (girders)
32 will be lighter brown. The guardrail will be stained with a rust color. Councilor agreed with
33 the colors. Administrator Reynolds said he has been talking with First Baptist Church
34 about the senior citizen who has been living in her car. The church would like to renovate
35 her garage to make it habitable. The garage is detached from the house. Administrator
36 Reynolds said he has been talking with Town Planner Smith about it because there is not
37 much in the building code to address such a situation. He said other municipalities have
38 codes for such an emergency situation. As part of the emergency planning there would be
39 something in the code to let people know what is allowed for temporary shelters. It would
40 be a hardship exemption in the building code. Councilor Riddile said this would not be
41

1 something that would be normal unless there was a major disaster. He said has concerns
2 about there would be a sunset clause. Councilor Carey said it is two separate situations.
3 One could follow the emergency plan and the other is a hardship plan would be
4 discretionary. Administrator Reynolds said the codes he has looked at has timeline,
5 criteria and who qualifies. Administrator Reynolds said staff is already working on the
6 parade for Burning Mountain Festival and have the Grand Marshall. Administrator
7 Reynolds said he has a meeting with RE2 School District regarding the LOVA Trail. He said
8 staff has also met with Riverside Middle School about the playground equipment. He said
9 the school is thinking about going for a fall FML grant and partner with the town.
10 Administrator Reynolds said he was also going to talk to the school district about the
11 bypass at Elk Creek Elementary school. Administrator Reynolds and Assistant Rochelle
12 Firth met with Russell Talbott who owns property on Burning Mountain and there are
13 some old foundations on the property. Mr. Talbott is interested in possibly having the site
14 historically designated through the state. Administrator Reynolds reminded council about
15 the CML District Meeting that New Castle is hosting on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at
16 5:00pm at the Lakota Clubhouse. Administrator Reynolds said he attended the RFTA
17 stakeholder meeting in Carbondale today. He said the stakeholders meeting quarterly.
18 Administrator Reynolds said Mayor Hazelton will be at the cemetery on Memorial Day
19 along with HPC for the historic designation dedication of the cemetery.

20 **Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said Assistant Michelle Huster and HPC Chair Riddile was
21 interviewed by the Post Independent Newspaper about the cemetery designation and the
22 article was in today's paper. Clerk Andis reminded council about the TIPS training on
23 Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at the Community Center at 9:00am. Clerk Andis said her and
24 Assistant Firth are taking a leadership class at CMC and as part of the class they were to
25 come up with a project that would leave a positive or Ripple Effect on the community. She
26 said their group came up with the idea of a Wind Phone. Clerk Andis explained what a
27 Wind Phone is. A Wind Phone is similar to a phone booth. There is a phone that is not
28 connected, but you would pick it up and talk into it as if you were talking to someone who
29 has passed and you were not able to say goodbye to. The conversation travels through
30 the wind to the person you are speaking to. Clerk Andis said they will be presenting their
31 project on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at CMC in Rifle. She invited the council to attend.

32 **Town Treasurer** – not present

33 **Town Planner** – not present

34 **Public Works Director** – not present

35 36 **Commission Reports**

37 **Planning & Zoning Commission** –have not met

38 **Historic Preservation Commission** –nothing to report

39 **Climate and Environment Commission** – have not met.

40 **Senior Program** –have not met

41 **RFTA** –have not met

1 **AGNC** –nothing to report.

2 **GCE** – have not met.

3 **EAB** – have not met

4 **POSTR** – have not met

5
6 **Council Comments**

7 Councilor Carey said she would like to have Coal Ridge Track Team and the Riverside
8 Middle School Track Team come to council. She said the boys' teams won and there were
9 school records that were broken at both schools. Councilor Carey said KSE is doing a
10 better job at not watering the road. Councilor Carey asked if the town could partner with
11 Mr. Talbott, HPC, RFMBA and New Castle Trails to have signage on the trails on Burning
12 Mountain about the history of Burning Mountain, what the foundations were and the water
13 since the trail runs along the ditch.

14
15 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

16 There were no items for future council agenda

17
18 **Adjourn**

19 **MOTION: Mayor Hazelton made a motion to adjourn.**

20 The meeting adjourned at 10:36 p.m.

21
22 Respectfully submitted,

23
24
25
26 _____
27 Mayor Grady Hazelton

28 _____
29 Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

**New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2026, 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 Mariscal
Councilor Leifeld
Councilor Carey
Mayor Hazelton
Councilor Copeland
Councilor Sampley
Councilor G Riddile

Absent none

Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds, Planner Paul Smith, Attorney Mike Sawyer and members of the public.

Meeting Notice

Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2026-1.

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 – present for agenda items
Consultant Engineer – not present

Items for Consideration

Oaths of Office – Councilor Daniel Leifeld

Clerk Andis swore in the newly appointed Councilor Daniel Leifeld.

Update – Confluence Early Childhood Development Service District

Kathryn Kuhlenberg Transitional Executive, gave an update on Confluence Early Childhood Development Service District. She said it has been 6 months since the tax measure had passed and there's been a lot happening behind the scenes. For the first 3 months, the

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2026

1 board has established itself, making sure to file the right paperwork, get things running to
2 collect the tax. She said she was hired as a part time executive and currently the board is
3 trying to find a full-time executive director. Ms. Kuhlenberg said this is a whole new
4 government agency, so a lot of work that she has been doing has been supporting their
5 board to get up and running, so they have conducted board training and been building out
6 internal board policies. Ms. Kuhlenberg said there has been some tax already collected
7 and they didn't anticipate it to be collected until after the first quarter. Currently the tax
8 revenue is being held in a trust. Ms. Kuhlenberg said the work that she is doing with the
9 board right now is building up their knowledge around early childhood. The tax district
10 runs from Parachute to Aspen. She said the foundation within the district varies greatly
11 from Aspen to Parachute. Ms. Kuhlenberg said they are also working on renaming the
12 special district. Right now, it is Confluence Early Childhood Development Service District
13 (CECDSD). The board did approve a name change to Every Child Colloquially. She said the
14 name change is not official until it has been approved by district court in all three
15 counties. Once the district courts approve the name change then it will be official and
16 they will make it public. Ms. Kuhlenberg said the board has adopted a mission and vision
17 statement. The mission is: We ensure every child from Parachute to Aspen has a strong
18 foundation for success by investing in accessible, high-quality early childhood education.
19 And the long-term vision is we envision a bright future where children flourish, families
20 thrive, and local economies prosper within our sustainable and livable communities. She
21 said the board wants the district to do right, to do it well and not to take shortcuts. Ms.
22 Kuhlenberg said she is the only employee of the government district and she is working
23 creatively to build out a first-year funding scheme that, hopefully, can get off the ground
24 and be ready to get some money out. She said they are also working on a long-term data
25 project. So hopefully getting out some data gathering mechanisms this fall to help the
26 district to truly understand what the needs are of families and providers. The district has
27 some general information, but that was really focused on a campaign, and that's different
28 than the information that you need when you're building out a program of support. And
29 early childhood is complex. Early childhood is very personal, and the notion that it can
30 just be an extension of K-12. The 0-5 years are very different, and families have a much
31 greater interest in the care for their child in those 0-5 years and so building out a mixed
32 delivery system that hits that and accounts for all of that is a complex task. Ms.
33 Kuhlenberg said this type of district is the first of its kind in our state and in the country.
34 It's been construction something from the ground up.
35 Councilor Leifeld asked if there was anything the council could do to help Ms. Kuhlenberg.
36 Ms. Kuhlenberg said the best thing that council could do was to support the elected board
37 as they step into their role.
38 Councilor Carey thanked Ms. Kuhlenberg for work on getting the groundwork started.
39 Mayor Hazelton said he would like to have another update as the program starts to move
40 forward.
41 Councilor Riddile asked when there would be some programming be available to the
42 public. Ms. Kuhlenberg said hopefully in the next 60 days would be ideal. It would be for
43 the first-year funding not long-term. Councilor Riddile asked if the district is picking a
44 priority or a full court press. Ms. Kuhlenberg said full court press and trying to come up

1 with one mechanism that hits a lot of them, and again, in a way that isn't overly
2 burdensome, because there is no staff.

3
4 **Update – CPW Zebra Mussels**

5 Robert Walters, Invasive Species Program Manager, reviewed the presentation with
6 council (**Exhibit A**).

7 Councilor Sampley asked if the cleaning stations were in along the Colorado River or will
8 be putting in. Mr. Walters said both. There are already some at the busier boat launches
9 in the Grand Junction area. He said their top priority is to place the cleaning stations at all
10 the boat launches that are infested which runs from Eagle to the state line.

11 Councilor Leifeld asked if CPW has done any testing or monitoring for Elk Creek. Mr.
12 Walters said not at this time.

13 Councilor Carey said one of her concerns is safeguarding the town's river pumps for when
14 the town has to pull water from the Colorado River from getting the Zebra Mussels into
15 the pumps and up to the water treatment plant and what can the town do. Mr. Walters
16 said it's a challenging scenario that the town faces there, because his recommendation
17 would be to try to limit the amount of water that the town is pulling from the river at the
18 times that have the highest probability that Zebra Mussels are passing through the
19 system. Unfortunately, that's when the water temperatures and the air temperatures are
20 really warm, which is probably when the town needs the water the most for irrigation
21 purposes, so there's not a great solution to offer there. He said could try to fill the pond
22 earlier in the season and then limit the amount you're taking in during the heart of the
23 summer, it would reduce the likelihood, but certainly not needed.

24 Administrator Reynolds said the Grand River Park is a standalone park. There is an inlet
25 that comes off the river, feeds the pond and the question is can it be eradicated from the
26 pond. He said what happens at the pond is it will drain from the pond into a pump house
27 that's over there, and there's a pit over there that will hold the water. And that's where
28 Administrator Reynolds believes the town is most susceptible. Administrator Reynolds
29 explained from there water is pumped out into the irrigation, so those lines pretty much
30 stay dry until such time as we pick up from the pit. So, there's a weak link there between
31 the pond and the internal pit in that pump house building. Administrator Reynolds there
32 are auxiliary pumps that can pull out of the river and pump over a mile uphill to the water
33 treatment plant, where it becomes filtered. Administrator Reynolds explained there are
34 still spots down by the river where there might be water being held. For example, we pull
35 of the head gate that will be pumped out of and then force it uphill. With the water being
36 stagnant the town will need to watch that. Once the water is picked up from there and is
37 flushed up the hill at a great velocity. Administrator Reynolds said the likelihood of
38 infestation along those lines and into the water treatment plant are slim, and the filtering
39 system, the chlorination system, will kill them at that point. So, our weakest spots are the
40 standalone irrigation in the park. Mr. Walters said it's the settling areas before the flowing
41 parts of the system that are at the highest level of risk, and certainly we would be more
42 than willing to come to help sample or survey those settling ponds if they were identified
43 within your respective system. He said it's really the flowing water is really not the
44 concern. The Bureau of Reclamation has done a lot of work on this in their systems, and if

1 you're seeing 60 CFS through the system, it's very likely that they're not going to attach,
2 but if that shuts off for an extended period of time. That's when you start to see some
3 risk. Mayor Hazelton asked if there was something that the town could do from the pump
4 system to the water treatment plant. Administrator Reynolds said the distance from the
5 water treatment plant back down to the pumps at the river don't have standing water in
6 it. The only time those pipes are charged is when we turn on the pumps, and then when
7 we turn them off and they're not used, the pipes are empty as well as the pumps empty
8 out. Administrator Reynolds said believes there could be a spot in the inlet, in the pickup
9 that's got the potential to have standing water there, and that would be our weak spot.
10 Mr. Walters said chemical treatment and any sort of remaining water is an option. Another
11 option is heating; mussels don't like water over 120-140 degrees. He said if the town
12 could dewater over the winter, that is another really effective measure. Mr. Walters said
13 the town might consider the same thing at the pond at Grand River Park. He said lowering
14 the water level would expose a lot of the mussels that were in there and killed them, so
15 that alone is going to help kind of limit the population expansion out of that pond. He said
16 if it's possible to completely dewater the pond in the winter would be a very effective way
17 to potentially kill them. Mr. Walters said if the town would use a chemical such as
18 Molluscicide treatment in the pond but then it could accidentally get released back into the
19 Colorado River and could have significant impacts on the fish population.
20 Councilor Leifeld asked how long it would take the mussels to die once they are out of the
21 water. Mr. Walters said about 30 days they can survive without water.
22

23 **Consider Water Lease Agreement**

24 Administrator Reynolds said at the last council work session Attorney Mike sawyer gave an
25 update to the council on the town's water rights, various water rights seniorities, water
26 delivery systems, and possible scenarios that may play out during extreme drought year.
27 He said one of the recommendations which was discussed the work session was Attorney
28 Sawyer suggested the possibility of temporarily leasing Coryell Ditch water rights from TC
29 Midwest to further secure additional Elk Creek water for the next several months.
30 Following work session, staff and attorney Sawyer contacted TC Midwest representatives
31 to discuss such a lease agreement. As a result of these discussions, council now has the
32 opportunity to consider a six-month lease agreement for use of Coryell Ditch Water Rights
33 that are currently owned by TC Midwest. Attorney Sawyer reviewed the lease with the
34 council. He said he was able to contact the attorney for TC Midwest, who then coordinated
35 with his client. TC Midwest has agreed to lease the full amount of water rights that TC
36 Midwest owns in the Coryell Ditch which is senior priority to the town of the 2026 water
37 year. Attorney Sawyer said TC Midwest have the town's form of lease that we've
38 previously used and made a few minor edits to the lease agreement. He said staff is
39 seeking the council's authority to have Administrator Reynolds sign the agreement. The
40 amount to lease the water rights is \$500.00 for the summer. Attorney Sawyer said he was
41 waiting for a couple of deeds to confirm how much TC Midwest obtained from CVR
42 Investors, who was their predecessor and interest, and unfortunately, the deed that was
43 used in the conveyance from CVR investors to TC Midwest was not specific to the
44 amount. Once he has received the information then Administrator Reynolds could

1 sign the lease if council approves the lease agreement. Attorney Sawyer said that
2 it would take the town's ownership in the senior Coryell water rights from about
3 1.6 CFS to around 2.1, 2.2 CFS. He said the Coryell Ditch Water Right, are senior
4 rights, therefore they can be used interchangeably, both at the water plant and at
5 the Red Rocks Ditch, to divert water for irrigation purposes.

6 Councilor Riddile asked what the seniority of the water rights from TC Midwest
7 were. Are the rights senior to Ware and Hinds and the Cameo. Attorney Sawyer
8 said the water rights are senior to Cameo but not to all of Ware and Hinds. The
9 water rights are more senior than the town's existing water rights.

10 Councilor Riddile asked once Castle Valley Ranch is built out and the town would
11 eventually take possession of all the water rights, do we know the amount of
12 water the would eventually end up with. Attorney Sawyer said there are two parts
13 to the question. The annexation agreement with Castle Valley Ranch contemplates
14 that the full believes it's 2.7 CFS in the senior Coryell Ditch water right would
15 ultimately come to the town's ownership, and that would be sufficient to serve
16 1400 units in Castle Valley Ranch. He believes includes the current anticipated
17 build-out, including the land on the west side of, the county road that Eric Williams
18 still owns, which is part of the Castle Valley PUD. Attorney Sawyer said the second
19 part to the question is a couple years ago, the town undertook an audit of water
20 rights dedications that had been made by previous developers, previous filings to
21 ensure that the town had received the appropriate amount of water, and what we
22 found is that the formula had been applied, correctly in previous donations. He
23 said assuming Castle Valley develops to its full potential of 1,400 units the full
24 amount of the senior water right would come to the town. Attorney Sawyer said
25 for some reason the density at Castle Valley ended up being less than 1400 units.
26 Then, the town would negotiate with Eric Williams to buy whatever the remainder
27 of that water right is available.

28
29 **MOTION: Mayor Hazelton made a motion to Authorize Town Administrator Dave**
30 **Reynolds to Sign the Water Lease Agreement. Councilor Carey seconded the**
31 **motion, and it passed unanimously.**

32
33 **Presentation –The Ripple Effect - Staff**

34 Assistant Rochelle Firth and Clerk Mindy Andis reviewed their presentation with council
35 (**Exhibit B**).

36 Assistant Firth said she and Clerk Andis had attend a CMC Leadership course called the
37 Ripple Effect for the past 5 weeks. Assistant Firth said the class focused on leadership
38 styles, different styles of communication and how to be leaders in your organizations.
39 Clerk Andis said as part of the course they were required to create a group community
40 project that would create a Ripple Effect in their communities. Clerk Andis said her group
41 chose to install Wind Phones in Silt and New Castle.

1 Assistant Firth explained what a Wind Phone was. She said Planner Smith had received a
2 call from a New Castle resident about a Wind Phone. The resident said she had lost her
3 husband and her children were unable to say goodbye to their father. Assistant Firth said
4 that was how the team got the idea for a Wind Phone. She said the Wind Phone began in
5 Japan in 2010 as a deeply personal way to cope with grief, created by Itaru Saski after
6 losing his cousin to cancer. The purpose of the Wind Phone was to carry words on the
7 wind to loved ones. Assistant Firth explained in 2011 there was a devastating earthquake
8 and tsunami that killed nearly 20,000 people. Survivors began hearing about the phone
9 and asked to talk to loved ones they had lost.

10 Clerk Andis said you can't simply install a phone and call it a Wind Phone. There are
11 specific conditions that would need to be met. Clerk Andis explained the phone would
12 need to be in a serene spot that gives visitors a sense of privacy for reflection, allowing
13 them to express their emotions without feeling exposed, such as parks, gardens and
14 natural preserves.

15 Assistant Firth said the project needed to be completed in a short amount of time, the
16 team had decided to install the phones in the cemetery at Silt and New Castle. Since the
17 class is over there, she said her and Clerk Andis have had some time to rethink the
18 location of the phone. Some of the ideas they came up with was at Frank Breslin Park
19 along the river and Rollie Gordon Trail along the creek. Clerk Andis said people in the
20 community suffer from different emotional disconnects such as heartbreaks, divorce and
21 passing of a loved one. Assistant Firth said the team had reached out to medical providers
22 about the project. The feedback that was received was to include information about crisis
23 resources.

24 Councilor Riddile asked to explain what the class was about. Assistant Firth said it was to
25 teach us the different leadership styles, communication styles and give a better
26 understanding about how to deal with coworkers.

27 Councilor Leifeld asked once the phone is installed who would be responsible to the
28 upkeep. Assistant Firth said she and Clerk Andis would keep an eye on it. There really is
29 nothing for upkeep, just making sure there is no vandalism and possibly stain it once a
30 year.

31 Mayor Hazelton said it was a great idea, and it screams New Castle.

32 Council agreed for Assistant Firth and Clerk Andis to move forward with the project.

33
34 Recess the Town Council Meeting, Convene as the Local Liquor Licensing Authority

35 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to recess the Town Council Meeting**
36 **and Convene the Local Liquor Licensing Authority. Councilor Carey seconded the**
37 **motion, and it passed unanimously.**

38
39 **Consider an Application from the New Castle Chamber of Commerce for a Special**
40 **Event Liquor License for their Block Party Event on June 12, 2026**

41 Clerk Mindy Andis said her office had received the special event liquor license on May 2,
42 2026. The event is for the Chamber of Commerce Block Party. The event will be held on
43 June 12, 2026, from 5:30pm to 9:00pm. The license is from 9:00am – 11:00pm which
44 would give the Chamber of Commerce enough time to set up and tear down. Staff is

1 recommending the last call to be half an hour before the end of the event. New Castle
2 Chamber of Commerce has legal possession of the intended premises through a rental
3 agreement. The event includes one food truck, The Rolling Fork has been approved by Garfield
4 County Health Department. There are chamber staff members who are Safe serve (TIPS)
5 certified and will oversee the alcohol service. If the Authority's consensus is to approve the
6 attached application for a special event liquor permit for the New Castle Chamber of
7 Commerce, the Clerk's Office staff recommends that Authority consider the following
8 conditions:

- 9 • That a 100% ID check be conducted because only individuals that meet the eligible
10 drinking age of 21 should be served alcohol.
 - 11 • That 'last call' for service of alcoholic beverages be a half-hour prior to the end of the
12 event to allow patrons to finish their beverages before leaving the venue.
- 13 The Clerk's Office staff recommends approval of the application.

14
15 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve a Special Event Liquor**
16 **License from the New Castle Chamber of Commerce for their Block Party Event**
17 **on June 12, 2026. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed**
18 **unanimously.**

19
20 Adjourn the Local Liquor Licensing Authority, Reconvene the Town Council Meeting

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

24
25 **Consider Ordinance TC2026-5 – Amending Chapter 15.25 of the New Castle**
26 **Municipal Code with the Adoption of the 2025 Edition of the Colorado Wildfire**
27 **Resiliency Code with Amendments (1st reading)**

28 Administrator Reynolds said a few years ago the town had adopted a version of the WUI
29 code. He said there is a state mandate that needs to be fulfilled. Administrator Reynolds
30 said Planner Smith has been working with CRFR for the mapping.

31 Planner Smith reviewed his staff report with the council. He said now the town needs to
32 adopt the state version of the WUI code which is now called the 2025 Edition of the
33 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code. Planner Smith said the WUI Code requires structure
34 hardening to make sure that if there was a wildland fire that the structure doesn't ignite.
35 He said there is also part of the code that addresses mitigation of trees and vegetation
36 that would be flammable around the structure. Planner Smith said in recognition of the
37 increasing threat of wildland fire to the community, Town Council adopted the 2021 ICC
38 Wildland Urban Interface Code with amendments to improve ignition resistance and fuel
39 reduction for new structures. At the beginning of 2026, Council further codified more
40 stringent ignition resistance requirements (Class A flame spread) for new structures. In
41 both instances, requirements for *existing* structures were not considered. He said

1 recently, the state of Colorado has mandated the adoption of its Colorado Wildfire
2 Resiliency Code (CWRC) statewide. After reviewing, Staff concludes that the Town's WUI
3 code and the CWRC are quite compatible. One notable difference is that the CWRC does
4 require resiliency upgrades with additions and alterations for existing structures beyond
5 certain square footage thresholds. These thresholds and requirements include (CWRC
6 Section 101.5):

- 7
- 8 * When the work increases the building footprint by 500sf or more, the increased
9 footprint of the structure must comply with CWRC – Only the increased area shall
10 comply.
- 11 * When 25% or more of the surface area of a roof is replaced – The entire roof shall
12 comply.
- 13 * When 25% or more of the total exterior wall surface area is replaced or
14 reconstructed – The entire wall surface area shall comply & the defensible space
15 with 5' must comply.
- 16

17 Planner Smith said Town permitting records demonstrate that very few existing properties
18 would have been affected by these provisions had the code been in effect over the past 10
19 years. Staff anticipates that approximately one existing home a year may be affected by
20 the CWRC. The state board for the CWRC has also performed a baseline risk assessment
21 (see mapping below) which projects varying levels of fire intensity throughout the Town
22 and prescribes treatments for structure hardening and defensible space commensurate
23 with those projections. Based on the CWRC mapping alone, different areas of New Castle
24 have different levels of risk (sometimes even on the same street) and thus different levels
25 of mitigation standards. However, upon review of the mapping, Colorado River Fire
26 Rescue (CRFR) maintains that due to the surrounding topography, fuel sources, and
27 evacuation constraints, New Castle in its **entirety** should be classified uniformly at the
28 highest hazard level and therefore governed by CRWC's most stringent structure
29 hardening. Since the provisions of the CWRC allow for local customization of the
30 mapping, staff recommends amending the following section of the CWRC to read:

31
32 *Section 303.1.2 shall read: "The AHJ may develop and adopt local maps designating*
33 *wildfire hazard and fire intensity classifications within its jurisdiction boundaries in*
34 *accordance with Sections 303.1 through 303.3. The AJI shall adopt intensity classifications*
35 *no less severe than those recommended by CRFR and/or other local fire authorities. Local*
36 *maps shall be updated accordingly."*

37
38 Planner Smith said in New Castle there is traditional siding. In Castle Valley Ranch there
39 are smart siding which is synthetic engineered type of material. That runs roughly about
40 \$10 a square foot. Hardy plank are fire-resistant and are used on the newer homes in
41 Castle Valley Ranch. He said the installation takes a little bit longer, takes a little more

1 specialty. Planner Smith said in Lakota Canyon Ranch the HOA requires wood siding and
2 in those cases, they do have to typically find fire-retardant treated wood, which bumps
3 the price up considerably. So, it's probably about 50%, that is driven by the design
4 review.

5 Councilor Riddile asked if the fire-retardant would need to be reapplied. Planner Smith
6 said no, it is infused into the wood. The code specifically says the fire retardant can't be
7 painted on or stained it has been infused wood. Planner Smith explained the fire hazard
8 map (**Exhibit C**). He said the mapping that's provided by the state shows the classifies of
9 where the various hazards are in the community based on technology. There are some
10 areas in New Castle where there is no color, specifically downtown. Planner Smith Said Mt.
11 Medearis, Castle Valley Ranch and Lakota Canyon Ranch does have yellow coloring which
12 is a higher hazard, and the BLM is red which is the highest hazard. He said the new code,
13 uses as its assessment; and it's the same data that we collected back to 2012. Planner
14 Smith said the recommendation from the fire department surrounding hilly topography
15 the types of fuel sources surrounding the town, within town, the open spaces within town,
16 and then also the evacuation routes, and some of the constraints there was the history of
17 the area based in small towns, that the threat to New Castle was more significant than
18 what the map really suggests. He said back in 2023 or 2024, the council wanted to go
19 with a higher risk assessment, and therefore more rigorous standard for fire protection
20 than what was being found.

21 Fire Marshal Orrin Moon said there's some similarities that CRFR has seen in the area for
22 example the Coal Seam Fire. He said the hillside of the Coal Seam Fire is similar to the
23 Burning Mountain hillside The area is unmapped. Fire Marshal Moon said if there was a
24 wildfire in the west and come up over the ridge, or come around from Appletree Park, the
25 town would get embers and have the same thing happen as it did with Coal Seam Fire. He
26 said the embers from the fire crossed the river and crossed the interstate and burning on
27 the other side of Highway 6 in Glenwood Springs. He said there is the same potential
28 here. Fire Marshal said Moon said there is a coal seam that's about 5 miles out of town up
29 Count Road 245. He said we get prevailing winds in the evening are coming from the west
30 and the northwest and the concern is the sending embers into the town. Fire Marshal
31 Moon said there's been a number of subdivisions where the fire didn't impinge on the
32 town, but the embers impinged on the town and started the fires in the homes, and then
33 there were wood fences around the homes and the fences kept the fire going. He said we
34 need to be as vigilant as we can about what our concerns are around here and what we
35 can do. Planner Smith said one of the peculiarities of the map is in Lakota Canyon Ranch
36 is some of the neighboring properties will be color, high hazard, and then across the
37 street is no hazard. He said Fire Marshal Moon has been in meetings with the state and
38 fortunately have provided a provision in the code that allows you to amend the map.
39 Planner Smith said staff is looking at moving forward with what we already have,
40 increasing the risk hazard for New Castle to a higher-level risk of resiliency than what
41 shows on the current map. Planner Smith said there are two levels Class 1 and Class 2 He

1 said the difference between Class 1 and Class 2 is the exterior siding.
2 Fire Chief Leif Sackett said it makes a difference, and it's a lot easier when we're
3 consistent across the board for this mapping for everyone.
4 Councilor Carey thanked Planner Smith and CRFR for being proactive with the code.
5 Councilor Liefeld asked if there was any data that shows the impacts of the fire resistance.
6 He said one thing he keeps hearing is it's too hard and too expensive to building in New
7 Castle. Councilor Liefeld said if it impacts the cost to build, he wants to make sure the
8 material would actually stop the spread of fire. Fire Marshal Moon said fire are funny. It
9 does weird things. It goes down through neighborhoods, and it takes out 4 or 5 houses
10 and will leave one or two, because just the way the wind went, or the way the separation
11 was, or maybe one had cottonwood tree in the yard. He said it depends on what's around
12 there because of the moisture in the cottonwood trees. Fire Marshal Moon said yes, there
13 have been homes have been saved that have done the ignition-resistant construction. Fire
14 Chief Sackett said it's not just the ignition-resistant material, it also has to do with
15 mitigation of the property. He said having wooded fences against the home will make a
16 difference if it's five feet away or having zeroscape right around your house for that first 5
17 feet. Fire Chief Sackett reiterated it's not just the ignition-resistant materials, it's also that
18 mitigation that goes along with it.

19
20 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance TC2026-5 –**
21 **2025 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code (1st reading). Councilor Carey seconded**
22 **the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote with one No vote. Councilor Mariscal:**
23 **yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Mayor Hazelton; Councilor Liefeld: no; Councilor**
24 **Copeland: yes; Councilor Sampley: yes; Councilor Riddile: yes.**

25 **Consent Agenda**

26 Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by
27 one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member
28 or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.
29

30 Councilor Carey asked for the minutes to be removed for further review
31

32 May 19, 2026, Minutes – removed
33 May bills \$909,587.81
34

35 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with**
36 **the removal of the minutes. Councilor Carey seconded the motion, and it passed**
37 **unanimously.**

38 **Staff Reports**

39 **Town Administrator** –Administrator Reynolds said Moo LLC was approved through a CUP
40

1 process to have two food trucks. He said there are two food trucks with an ice cream
2 parlor inside of the building along with a commercial kitchen. During the process there
3 was discussion about having any outdoor music at the time there would be no music. Now
4 since they are set up and had time to think about. They asking what it would look like to
5 have live music. Administrator Reynolds said staff agreed it would be an amendment to
6 the CUP because they were not approved for live music and be specific. Planner Smith
7 said there was also an issue with MOO, LLC not having a public restroom. The Garfield
8 County Health Department doesn't allow for a port-a-potty and that was part of the CUP
9 approval. Council agreed to bring MOO, LLC back for an amendment to the CUP if they
10 want to move forward with the live music.

11 Administrator Reynolds said last year for the staff review for the appoint staff, council and
12 staff did a 360 review for himself, Treasurer Ehlers and Clerk Andis. Reviews are coming
13 up again soon. He asked council how they would like to proceed with the reviews. Council
14 agreed to do the reviews as they were done in the past, there was no need to do the 360
15 reviews every year.

16 Administrator Reynolds said he has met with Jeanne Golay with LoVa Trail about building
17 a trail from the new pedestrian bridge over to Elek Creek Elementary School. He has also
18 spoken with school about the trail. He said the town would be happy to partner with them
19 and help with a grant but not to take responsibility of the project. LoVa Trail is hoping to
20 apply for the Fall FMLD grant. He said the town is looking at partnering with the middle
21 school for a Fall FMLD grant. He said if for some reason the town doesn't partner with the
22 middle school in the fall, then the town would be happy to partner with LoVa Trail.

23 Administrator Reynolds said we have put CEC in charge of spending the bag fee money,
24 however it is not being spent out. Staff has been looking at ways to spend the money. He
25 said one idea was to use part of the money for the annual dump days.

26 Administrator Reynolds said he has been working on the council retreat on September 19,
27 2026. He has been looking at locations and in the past council has struggled with the
28 Lakota Rec Center because of the noise. He suggested the retreat could be at the
29 community center, in the council chambers or at the Redstone Inn. He said he has had
30 managers meetings at the Redstone Inn and it is very quiet.

31 Administrator Reynolds said Lazy Bear is now open for dinner.

32 Administrator Reynolds said there will be longer delays at the bridge on Tuesday and
33 Wednesday, June 9-10, 2026. The girders for the bridge will be here and being placed.
34 The delays could be up to one hour.

35 Administrator Reynolds said he had received a call from Russell Talbott about the town
36 possible leasing Elk Creek water rights from the Talbott's. Administrator Reynolds said he
37 has spoken with Attorney Mike Sawyer about the water rights and Attorney Sawyer is
38 looking into it.

39 Administrator Reynolds said Attorney David McConaughy normally does the council
40 orientation. This year the town has received an offer from the DOLA Rep Dana to come
41 and do the presentation. He said Dana wouldn't be able to present until July 7, 2026,

1 meeting. Administrator Reynolds said CIRSA also does a presentation video. Councilor
2 Leifeld, Councilor Riddle and Councilor Sampley said they would not be at the July 7,
3 2026, council meeting. Administrator Reynolds said he will try to reschedule Dana for July
4 21, 2026, meeting.

5 Administrator Reynolds said the CML Spring District meeting last Thursday, which New
6 Castle hosted at the Lakota Clubhouse, was great attendance. He said the CML
7 Conference is at the end of June.

8 Administrator Reynolds said he has a meeting with New Castle Trails and RFMBA
9 tomorrow about another bike event they would like to do. The event would be sponsored
10 by Sunlight Mountain.

11 Administrator Reynolds said the annual Christmas Party will be at Vaudeville.

12 **Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said about 9 months ago she had reported that her department
13 was moving forward with a new agenda, packet and meetings platform due to ADA
14 compliance. She said she had some concerns and was going back and for with the
15 company. She said the concerns and issues have been resolved and will be going live
16 starting either June 29 or 30, 2026. As part of the platform there is an option to create a
17 mailing list for when agendas and packets are published. She said she would continue to
18 email council as normal.

19 Clerk Andis said at a prior meeting Mayor Hazelton had mentioned having a proclamation
20 for Jackie Davis who was retiring from Coal Ridge High School Principal. She asked Mayor
21 Hazelton if he was able to get information about Ms. Davis. Mayor Hazelton said he had
22 spoken with the family and with the new principal and they were going to get information
23 to Mayor Hazelton. Councilor Carey said she would like to recognize the track teams and
24 she will get me the information and would like to do the recognition after school starts.

25 **Town Treasurer** – not present

26 **Town Planner** – Planner Smith gave an update on the R2 project. He said they are
27 working on paving the connection of North Wild Horse Drive and planning on opening the
28 road up in the next week. The parking will probably not be stripped.

29 **Public Works Director** – not present

31 **Commission Reports**

32 **Planning & Zoning Commission** –have not met

33 **Historic Preservation Commission** – Councilor Sampley said they worked on the
34 cemetery dedication ceremony and they are also working with CMC for videography
35 project.

36 **Climate and Environment Commission** – Councilor Carey said they didn't have a
37 quorum.

38 **Senior Program** – Clerk Andis said they did meet. There are concerns about the
39 ridership of the Traveler is down and they are trying to find out why and how to increase
40 the numbers.

41 **RFTA** –have not met

1 **AGNC** –Mayor Hazelton said there’s nothing to report.

2 **GCE** – have not met.

3 **EAB** – have not met

4 **POSTR** – have not met

5
6 **Council Comments**

7 Councilor Copeland asked to have a conversation about having a public restrooms in the
8 downtown.

9 Councilor Leifeld said in the last couple weeks, asked a lot of people what they are
10 concerned about. He said first was they wanted the community to stay family friendly,
11 more amenities such as a rec center, splash pad and such. He said we need the residents
12 to shop locally and to allow for business development and help make it easier for a
13 business to start up. He said there are a lot of areas for expansion. He said t-ball and
14 softball season is starting soon and asked for everyone to attend and to support the
15 teams.

16 Councilor Carey said she would like to have a Hot Topics section on the website for
17 resources on wildfire mitigation, best practices for watering and lawn maintenance during
18 a drought.

19 Administrator Reynolds said he would be more than happy to meet with any councilor
20 especially with Councilor Samley and Councilor Leifeld and he would be more than happy
21 to answer any questions or do a tour of the town.

22 Councilor Carey asked about the July 7, 2026, meeting if it was going to be canceled.

23 Clerk Andis said at this time there is a presentation regarding the regional housing needs.
24 Administrator said we will need to have the July 7, 2026, meeting because of the regional
25 housing needs. He said the presentation is required to make the housing study legitimate
26 for DOLA.

27 Mayor Hazelton said the Memorial Day event at the cemetery was well done and Assistant
28 Michelle Huster did a great job. He said the PD Bike Rodeo went well and had a great turn
29 out. He said Councilor Sampley was awarded the Classified Staff Person of the Year at Elk
30 Creek Elementary.

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32 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

33 There were no items for future council agenda
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2 **Adjourn**

3 **MOTION: Mayor Hazelton made a motion to adjourn.**

4 The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

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6 Respectfully submitted,

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8
9
10 _____
11 Mayor Grady Hazelton

12 _____
13 Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

DRAFT