

1 **New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting**  
2 **Tuesday, June 2, 2026, 7:00 PM**  
3

4 **Call to Order**

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

6 **Pledge of Allegiance**  
7

8 **Roll Call**

9 Councilor Mariscal  
10 Councilor Leifeld  
11 Councilor Carey  
12 Mayor Hazelton  
13 Councilor Copeland  
14 Councilor Sampley  
15 Councilor G Riddile

16  
17 Absent none  
18

19 Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds,  
20 Planner Paul Smith, Attorney Mike Sawyer and members of the public.  
21

22 **Meeting Notice**

23 Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with  
24 Resolution TC 2026-1.  
25

26 **Conflicts of Interest**

27 There were no conflicts of interest  
28

29 **Agenda Changes**

30 There were no agenda changes  
31

32 **Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

33 There were no Citizen Comments  
34

35 **Consultant Reports**

36 Consultant Attorney – present for agenda items  
37 Consultant Engineer – not present  
38

39 **Items for Consideration**

40 **Oaths of Office – Councilor Daniel Leifeld**

41 Clerk Andis swore in the newly appointed Councilor Daniel Leifeld.  
42

43 **Update – Confluence Early Childhood Development Service District**

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

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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 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 (1<sup>st</sup> 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 39 **Staff Reports**

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

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 Riddile 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

30

### 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.

31  
32 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

33 There were no items for future council agenda  
34  
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1  
2 **Adjourn**  
3 **MOTION: Mayor Hazelton made a motion to adjourn.**  
4 The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

5  
6 Respectfully submitted,

7  
8  
9  
10 \_\_\_\_\_  
11 Mayor Grady Hazelton

12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

DRAFT