

My dearest colleagues,

I am writing to you to express my desire to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for the 2026-2030 term. I love serving beside all of you and I am thrilled for another 4 years. I would like to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for many reasons; I'll enumerate a few for you.

In 4 years, I've missed one meeting and I hated missing it. I live and work in New Castle and protect Tuesdays fiercely. My hope is that I would never need to run a council meeting and that Grady is always there, however in that event I know I am only babysitting a seat. The seat is owned by the people of New Castle, and Grady will be Mayor. I would be honored to be his backup.

I am familiar with the rules of order, and thoroughly enjoy knowing and understanding the weeds that make meetings run efficiently.

I am a problem solver at heart. I love connecting people to find effective solutions, and I'm equally invested in understanding what caused the problem in the first place — because that's how we prevent the next one. Getting to the root of something is, to me, is just as important as fixing it.

I believe in servant leadership. I have a deep respect and love for our staff. Looking for ways to serve and support our staff is extremely important to me. We see how hard they work and the extra hours they spend out of their commitment to New Castle. I want to honor them by serving them and the Town with my very best. It's what I think I was made to do, and I will do it from whichever seat I hold or whatever station I am in.

I don't often speak of my faith. It is as old as I am and has many stories to tell. I have spent a good portion of life working through my faith and I believe I will be a more whole person in the end. What that work has shown me is that serving others is what I was made to do. We are all still growing, and I do believe that if we stop serving, stop growing, stop being humble, and stop welcoming the challenges to what we know, we die.

I was made with a deep desire to serve those around me. When I started Roaring Fork Leadership in 2017 they asked us to bring a picture that describes what we thought leadership looked like. I tried (twice, and it was hilarious) to paint a picture of a shepherd guiding the sheep from behind, through the sheep droppings, to the next place to water or feed. Traipsing through the difficult, detail, challenging, and sometimes controversial stuff to work to make sure New Castle and those who live here are able to move into the next iteration of us, is my favorite thing outside of being a mom. My passion to serve New Castle, my friends, my family — is what drives me to persevere in the work.

Serving alongside you – and while I know our makeup is changing and the “you” will be defined differently- has been and will continue to be one of the best parts of my life.

Serving alongside Graham has helped me learn to have a more critical eye in the mechanical, if you will, details of development, creation of ordinances, and seeing how things match up.

Bruce has taught me the longevity effect and modeled how patience results in lasting change.

Brandy has taught me, and I welcome the learning, to say less – though we all know I process verbally; I am learning to quiet that some too.

Crystal has shown me a glimpse into perspectives of a culture I cannot be a part of but that I have come to love, admire, and respect and has deepened my desire to serve those I cannot place myself in the shoes of, better.

Grady is my iron – as iron sharpens iron so one sharpens another. The perspectives I've been shown by him have opened my eyes and challenged me deeply, and I am better because of it.

Art has embodied that verse that has informed my life so much: Do not grow weary while doing good, for in due season you will reap if you do not lose heart. I know we have butted heads, and every time my thoughts and perspectives are challenged, and I grow from it.

I look forward to learning from Emily. The bits and pieces I have gotten to know recently have shown me already her grit and determination and I am confident she will serve New Castle well.

I cannot begin to share all I have learned from our staff, a group of people I will fight for and care for as best I can.

I may not have been born and raised here, but this is my home. I would rather live, work, and serve nowhere else, and would rather do it alongside no one else. People ask if I'm sad I didn't win the commissioner seat and I can honestly say no. I learned so much. I met so many people who made me think. Part of what I learned is that I want to serve here, as best I can, in whatever capacity, for as long as I can.

Thank you for being part of my life and my continued growth. I would appreciate your consideration for Mayor Pro Tem, and look forward to serving alongside you in that capacity or not. Thank you for being part of my why.

Always,  
Caitlin