

1 **New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting**  
2 **Tuesday, May 19, 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 Carey  
11 Mayor Hazelton  
12 Councilor Copeland  
13 Councilor Sampley  
14 Councilor G Riddile

15  
16 Absent none  
17

18 Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds,  
19 Chief Stu Curry, Attorney Haley Carmer and members of the public.  
20

21 **Meeting Notice**

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

25 **Conflicts of Interest**

26 There were no conflicts of interest  
27

28 **Agenda Changes**

29 Clerk Mindy Andis said Esther Von and Chris Pezel had decided to withdraw their letters of  
30 interest for the vacant council seat.  
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  
41 **Review MOU with SPEAR**

42 Administrator Reynolds said during the regular town council meeting held on April 7,  
43 2026, town council reviewed the SPEAR MOU and discussed potential ratification,  
44 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)

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

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

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

## 20 **Conclusion**

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

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

34  
35 Administrator Reynolds went on to say it is difficult to understand how information is  
36 gathered and exactly where it is disseminated. There were laws that went into place  
37 federally following 9-11 back in 2001. There were federal laws that talked about how  
38 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 she doesn't have a stake with SPEAR. He said if the town is not part of  
17 the 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, I really  
6 don't want us to be in that position. Ms. Boughton said The other thing that is really  
7 concerning to me, is the communication from the leader of SPEAR, said when Glenwood  
8 withdrew, he threatened to not show up and support when there were things happening in  
9 Glenwood. She said it's very concerning, the lack of transparency, the lack of protection in  
10 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. I think that's something

1 we need to acknowledge and to look at. She said transparency is an issue, because we  
2 have been operating very much in the blind. She said she does acknowledge that there  
3 have been comments that this is not being shared from SPEAR. She said she believe our  
4 officers, when they say their policies are that this information is not gathered. There are  
5 certain pieces, though, that are considered personal information that could be abused in  
6 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 the task force has been  
9 incredibly helpful and instrumental in making our communities safer. She said the  
10 unfortunate part is that there are concerns that it may have made it unsafe for some  
11 individuals. She said we can do is try to ensure that it is not doing that moving forward.  
12

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

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

37 Council decided to go into executive session.  
38

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

43 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a Motion at 7:46pm to go into Executive**  
44 **Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving**

1 **legal advice on specific legal questions regarding SPEAR memorandum of**  
2 **understanding Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed**  
3 **unanimously.**

4  
5 Executive session concluded.

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

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

18 No concerns were stated.  
19

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

22 Councilor Riddile said would be willing to make a motion for the conditions laid out earlier.  
23

24 **MOTION: Councilor Riddle made a motion to Continue to Participate with SPEAR**  
25 **and to Ratification the MOU with SPEAR with the Following Conditions: Review**  
26 **the MOU in Three to Six Months, SPEAR Task Force to revise the Mission**  
27 **Statement to Include no Federal or Civil Immigration Enforcement, Revise**  
28 **Section 6.1 to conform with CRS 2474, and to Make Available Meeting Minutes**  
29 **and Voting Records in Accordance With Section 2, and the Operational Guideline**  
30 **Manual. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote.**  
31 **Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Councilor Riddile: yes; Councilor**  
32 **Mariscal: yes; Mayor Hazelton: yes; Councilor Sampley: yes.**  
33

34 Councilor Mariscal said she was happy to hear that the New Castle Police Department was  
35 not taking any immigration status.  
36

37 Mayor Hazelton said that the discussion was not a bord discussion and it was not  
38 something that was pointed at the police department as something that they have done  
39 wrong. He said he appreciated the work Chief Curry has put into clarifying the issues.  
40  
41

1 **Recognition Trails Town Designation**

2 Mike Prichard Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA) and Trent McHaffy New  
3 Castle Trails. Mr. Prichard gave an update on the new event that will replace Rides and  
4 Reggae. The event is called Down Valley Dirty Dozen which will be on August 1 and 2,  
5 2026. He said the award ceremony will be at Down Valley Brewing with live music on  
6 Saturday, August 2, 2026. He said all the proceeds made during the event will be turned  
7 back into the local trails. Mr. Prichard said New Castle, Colorado, has officially been  
8 designated 2026 International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Trail Town. He said New  
9 Castle 1 of 28 rural communities nationwide to receive the designation. Mr. Prichard said  
10 they has some new signs made up for the designation and he passed the signs onto  
11 Administrator Reynolds. Mr. Prichard explained the standards in which RFMBA operates.  
12 Mr. Prichard said a trail town is a designation that recognizes communities that  
13 understand the powerful role that trails play in shaping vibrant places to live, work, and  
14 play. He said the designation is a testament to the dedicated volunteers, partners, and  
15 community members who build, maintain, and champion our incredible trust system. Mr.  
16 Prichard explained to secure this Trail Town Award, RFMBA actually submitted information  
17 about New Castle area's trails in 8 categories. He explained what the categories were and  
18 gave an explanation of why New Castle scored high enough to be in this inaugural set of  
19 Trail Towns:

- 20
- 21 1) Access - Not only do we have excellent public trail access on our adjacent federal  
22 lands, but the town has invested in building trails on town-owned lands, and also  
23 negotiated agreements for public access on private lands, including on Burning Mountain.  
24
  - 25 2) Existing Trails and Infrastructure – New Castle has nearly 40 miles of rideable or  
26 hike able or runnable trails right here from downtown New Castle, and we have nearly 60  
27 miles in total when we include some of the nearby White River National Forest Trails.  
28 These trails have a healthy mix of easy, intermediate, and challenging offerings. We also  
29 have the VIX Bike Park. We have great signage on the majority of the trail system.  
30
  - 31 3) Community Engagement and Advocacy - RFMB's staff, Town and New Castle Trails  
32 Committee volunteers taking the lead over the past 10 plus years, and with support from  
33 the town, during every phase of the local trail system's evolution, real progress has been  
34 made to create high-quality trail experiences that so many people can now enjoy.  
35
  - 36 4) Ongoing Assessment - Cameras are in place at BLM's seasonal closure gates to  
37 monitor winter use. Our local trail agent volunteers are sharing current conditions and  
38 reports of work needed frequently. Adding more summer use trail counters at key  
39 locations remains a feedback tool we'd like to pursue.  
40
- 41

1 5) Funding - Funding is a key category. As we've shared at past meetings, the Town of  
2 New Castle has played a really meaningful role in making these trail system  
3 improvements possible. RFMBA and New Castle Trails have secured matching funds for  
4 many trail projects from our members, our event sponsors, and from generous  
5 foundations. Future funding will remain a key issue even as we transition from our past  
6 expansion efforts to a growing focus on maintaining and improving the trail system.  
7

8 6) Trail Planning - Although we didn't start with a town-wide or an area-wide master  
9 plan, we have worked closely with BLM and the town and others to engage professional  
10 trail planners. These planners helped us best assess and then design high-quality trails for  
11 specific land areas when the opportunity arose.  
12

13 7) Stewardship - We have independent volunteers maintaining trails through our Trail  
14 Agent program. We have paid staff maintaining and improving trails with our seasonal  
15 trail crew program. We're happy to partner with Roaring Fourk Outdoor Volunteers and  
16 other smaller groups to schedule volunteer events. We conduct outreach about trail  
17 etiquette and the reasons to respect seasonal trail closures.  
18

19 8) Vision, or Community Vision - Trail systems like New Castle's often emerge thanks  
20 to a trail champion. Much of this vision really is based on a spin of RFMBA's Simply stated  
21 mission, which is to create and sustain the best possible trails and experience in New  
22 Castle. Best possible really is our guiding light when we're creating and sustaining these  
23 trails.  
24

25 Mr. Prichard said, adding up all of this information paints a clear picture of New Castle is a  
26 real trail town and it deserves this recognition. We don't want to rest on any morals.  
27 There is real work ahead to leverage being a trail town, and with your help on local trails.  
28 We'll continue to work to boost the local economy, and to benefit the health and wellness  
29 of locals. So, thank you so much, and real congratulations to New Castle.  
30 Administrator Reynolds said we sincerely appreciate the work that's going into these  
31 trials, and don't take lightly the fact that you've earned this award on behalf of them.  
32 Thank you.

33 Councilor Riddile said he has been to talk to people about the stories of trails in New  
34 Castle, but I think it's also largely a larger story of Garfield County, of where we were 10-  
35 15 years ago to where we are now, just how much more riding trails there is at the lower  
36 valley. Went from 10-20 miles of trails, to 100 miles now.

37 Council thanked Mr. Prichard and Mr. McHaffey for all the work RFMBA and New Castle  
38 Trails have done.  
39  
40  
41

1 **Consider Ordinance TC2026-4 Creating a Background Check process for**  
2 **Prospective Massage Facility Operators, Owners and Employees (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)**

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

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

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

9  
10 **MOTION: Councilor Carey made a motion to approve Ordinance TC-2026-04 –**  
11 **Creating a Background Check process for Prospective Massage Facility**  
12 **Operators, Owners and Employees (2<sup>nd</sup> reading). Councilor Mariscal seconded**  
13 **the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote. Councilor Sampley: yes; Councilor**  
14 **Riddile: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Mayor Hazelton: yes;**  
15 **Councilor Mariscal: yes.**

16  
17 **Consider Letters of Interest From: Esther Von, Phil Weir, Steven Kyle, Chris**  
18 **Pezzel, Mark Kinghorn, Mari Riddile, Alison Cotey, Katrina McAlpine, Daniel**  
19 **Leifeld to Fill Vacant Council Seat.**

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

21  
22 Mayor Hazelton explained the voting process: The first ballot vote required each councilor  
23 to vote for three different individuals. The highest three winners would then go to a  
24 second vote where each councilor weigh the three individuals. The person with lowest  
25 number would be considered for appointment to the vacant council seat.

26 Clerk Andis passed out ballots to each councilor that had the councilors' name on it as well  
27 as all seven candidates. The council voted their ballots and returned them to Clerk Andis.

28 Clerk Andis read the results:

29 The highest number of votes went to Daniel Leifeld and there was a tie for second  
30 between Alison Cotey and Steve Kyle.

31  
32 Clerk Andis passed out ballots to each councilor that had the councilors' name on it as well  
33 as three candidates. The council voted their ballots and returned them to Clerk Andis.

34 Clerk Andis read the results:

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

37  
38 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to appoint Daniel Leifeld to the vacant**  
39 **council seat, serving the remainder of the term until April 2028. Councilor Carey**  
40 **seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

1 **Consent Agenda**

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

5  
6 May 5, 2026, Minutes

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

9  
10 **MOTION: Councilor Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**  
11 **Councilor Copeland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

12  
13 **Staff Reports**

14 **Town Administrator** –Administrator Reynolds said he would be out of the office starting  
15 Wednesday afternoon through Monday. Administrator Reynolds said the police department  
16 has created an e-bike flyer and have been in the schools doing educational outreach.  
17 Administrator Reynolds said there will be some lane closures on Main Street on June 9 and  
18 10, 2026, as the girders for the bridge are being set. Councilor Riddile explained the  
19 colors of the bridge. CDOT was trying to make the colors of the pedestrian bridge. It will  
20 be a weathered steel; it will be similar to Rollie Gordon Park Bridge and at the interchange  
21 (brown rust color). The bridge will have curves will be a darker brown and below (girders)  
22 will be lighter brown. The guardrail will be stained with a rust color. Councilor agreed with  
23 the colors. Administrator Reynolds said he has been talking with First Baptist Church  
24 about the senior citizen who has been living in her car. The church would like to renovate  
25 her garage to make it habitable. The garage is detached from the house. Administrator  
26 Reynolds said he has been talking with Town Planner Smith about it because there is not  
27 much in the building code to address such a situation. He said other municipalities have  
28 codes for such an emergency situation. As part of the emergency planning there would be  
29 something in the code to let people know what is allowed for temporary shelters. It would  
30 be a hardship exemption in the building code. Councilor Riddile said this would not be  
31 something that would be normal unless there was a major disaster. He said has concerns  
32 about there would be a sunset clause. Councilor Carey said it is two separate situations.  
33 One could follow the emergency plan and the other is a hardship plan would be  
34 discretionary. Administrator Reynolds said the codes he has looked at has timeline,  
35 criteria and who qualifies. Administrator Reynolds said staff is already working on the  
36 parade for Burning Mountain Festival and have the Grand Marshall. Administrator  
37 Reynolds said he has a meeting with RE2 School District regarding the LOVA Trail. He said  
38 staff has also met with Riverside Middle School about the playground equipment. He said  
39 the school is thinking about going for a fall FML grant and partner with the town.  
40 Administrator Reynolds said he was also going to talk to the school district about the  
41 bypass at Elk Creek Elementary school. Administrator Reynolds and Assistant Rochelle

1 Firth met with Russell Talbott who owns property on Burning Mountain and there are  
2 some old foundations on the property. Mr. Talbott is interested in possibly having the site  
3 historically designated through the state. Administrator Reynolds reminded council about  
4 the CML District Meeting that New Castle is hosting on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at  
5 5:00pm at the Lakota Clubhouse. Administrator Reynolds said he attended the RFTA  
6 stakeholder meeting in Carbondale today. He said the stakeholders meeting quarterly.  
7 Administrator Reynolds said Mayor Hazelton will be at the cemetery on Memorial Day  
8 along with HPC for the historic designation dedication of the cemetery.

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

21 **Town Treasurer** – not present

22 **Town Planner** – not present

23 **Public Works Director** – not present

#### 24 **Commission Reports**

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

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

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

28 **Senior Program** –have not met

29 **RFTA** –have not met

30 **AGNC** –nothing to report.

31 **GCE** – have not met.

32 **EAB** – have not met

33 **POSTR** – have not met

#### 34 **Council Comments**

35  
36 Councilor Carey said she would like to have Coal Ridge Track Team and the Riverside  
37 Middle School Track Team come to council. She said the boys’ teams won and there were  
38 school records that were broken at both schools. Councilor Carey said KSE is doing a  
39 better job at not watering the road. Councilor Carey asked if the town could partner with  
40 Mr. Talbott, HPC, RFMBA and New Castle Trails to have signage on the trails on Burning  
41

1 Mountain about the history of Burning Mountain, what the foundations were and the water  
2 since the trail runs along the ditch.

3

4 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

5 There were no items for future council agenda

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7 **Adjourn**

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

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

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11 Respectfully submitted,

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Grady Hazelton

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

DRAFT