

1 **New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting**  
2 **Tuesday, January 6, 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 **Roll Call**

8 Councilor Mariscal  
9 Councilor Carey  
10 Councilor Hazelton  
11 Mayor A. Riddile  
12 Councilor Copeland  
13 Councilor Leland  
14 Councilor G Riddile

15  
16 Absent None

17  
18 Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds,  
19 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 2025-1.

24 **Conflicts of Interest**

25 There were no conflicts of interest  
26

27 **Agenda Changes**

28 There were no agenda changes

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

30 There were no Citizen Comments

31 **Consultant Reports**

32 Consultant Attorney – not present  
33 Consultant Engineer – not present  
34

35 **Items for Consideration**

36  
37 **Discussion of Town Hall Safety**

38 Police Chief Stu Curry and Lieutenant Mick Vasquez review safety protocols for town  
39 council meetings and suggested ideas. Lieutenant Vasquez said the first and most  
40 important is to try to defuse and calm the person down if possible. Remember you can  
41 always call 911 and leave the line open.

1 **Discussion of E-Bike Usage**

2 Administrator Reynolds said Chief Curry will inform the council about current laws and  
3 regulations related to e-bike and e-scooter use by young people. As electric two-wheeled  
4 vehicles, including bicycles, scooters, and dirt bikes have become more affordable and  
5 increasingly marketed to younger riders. While e-bikes and e-scooters can encourage  
6 outdoor activity and provide convenient transportation for young people, rider safety and  
7 compliance with existing laws have become growing concerns. As an initial step in  
8 understanding how these vehicles fit within our community, Chief Curry will provide an  
9 overview of where these types of vehicles currently fall under existing law. The discussion  
10 was intended to serve as a starting point for future discussion, should the council  
11 determine that additional consideration of policies, education, or regulations is warranted.  
12 Chief Curry said the state law does not restrict where the e-bikes can go which allows for  
13 municipalities to create their own rules. He said most municipalities allow class 1 e-bikes  
14 which are pedal assist and class 2 and 3 e-bikes have not only pedal assist but also have  
15 throttles. The speeds of class 1,2 and 3 are limited. Chief Curry recommends being  
16 consistent with other mountain municipalities to restrict trails to class 1 e-bike. It  
17 becomes more of a challenge when the path is a multi-use path. He said Colorado laws do  
18 restrict people under the age of 16 to operate a class 3 e-bike and helmets are required.  
19 Chief Curry said starting January 1, 2027, Colorado law will require the manufacturer to  
20 have labels on e-bikes showing what class the bike is and what the top speed the bike can  
21 go. Once that happens it will be much easier to identify the class of the e-bike. Chief  
22 Curry said most municipalities restrict no use of sidewalk. Chief Curry said when creating  
23 restrictions for e-bikes the restrictions also need to apply to scooters. Councilor Carey said  
24 the most important issue is keeping the kids safe but also need to educate the parents  
25 and the kids. Chief Curry said there might be an opportunity to go to the schools and  
26 there also might be a grant program for e-bike education for the schools. He said CDOT  
27 already has information on their website both in English and Spanish regarding e-bikes.  
28 Councilor Leland suggested registering the bikes with the police department. When the  
29 bike is registered, they get a registration sticker for the bike and a packet of information  
30 with rules and regulations. Councilor Hazelton asked if the police department had  
31 considered getting an e-bike for the department. Chief Curry said they have talked about  
32 it and apply for a grant to purchase a couple of e-bikes. He said having an officer on a  
33 bike makes it easier for them to be able to do community policing. Chief Curry said he  
34 create a draft policy and will bring it back to council for their review.

35  
36 **Climate and Environment Commission Update**

37 Administrator Reynolds introduced Climate and Environment Commission (CEC) Chair  
38 Sharon Morris to council. Chair Morris will provide and update on CEC accomplishments in  
39 2025 as well as CEC direction for 2026.  
40 Chair Morris reviewed CEC 2025 Annual Report with council (**Exhibit A**). Chair Morris said  
41 in 2024 CEC had three new commissioners and in 2025 two new commissioners. She said

1 when she became chair a report was done after each event. The purpose for the report  
2 was to review what went well and not so well and what can be done better for next year.  
3 Also, putting together a year-end report and procedures for the next board. The purpose  
4 of the end of year report is to give the commission accountability to the council and to the  
5 residents of New Castle. Chair Morris said the commission did create a grant program for  
6 the bag fees. In the fall of 2025, they awarded two grants and will open the grant cycle  
7 again the Spring.

8 Chair Morris reviewed the Strategic Plan for 2026-2028 (**Exhibit B**).

9 Chair Morris briefly reviewed the calendar of events and project (**Exhibit C**).

10 Chair Morris said the commission has been discussing a mural to bring awareness to  
11 pollinators. She said there is an artist who paints murals of bees. The artist painted a  
12 mural in Rifle of the library building. The commission would like to fund raise in order to  
13 have a mural done in 2027 or 2028. The council reviewed the proposal (**Exhibit D**). Chair  
14 Morris said the library is interested in having the mural on the building and she has also  
15 spoken with the Garden Club for support. Councilor Hazleton asked what does the money  
16 go for a cause. Chair Morris said the money goes to the artist. The council agreed it's a  
17 good cause however they need more information.

18  
19 **Consider Ordinance 2025-4, An Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council**  
20 **Recommending the Amendment of Provisions of Title 17 of the Town Municipal**  
21 **Code Concerning Food Trucks (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)**

22 Administrator Renyolds said the State of Colorado passed a law for food trucks. Food  
23 Trucks would only need to be inspected once and receive a state food license which would  
24 be good anywhere in Colorado. He said there were not changes between the first and  
25 second reading.

26  
27 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-4, An**  
28 **Ordinance of the New Castle Town Council Recommending the Amendment of**  
29 **Provisions of Title 17 of the Town Municipal Code Concerning Food Trucks (2<sup>nd</sup>**  
30 **reading) Councilor Carey seconded the motion, and it passed on a roll call vote.**  
31 **Councilor A. Riddile: yes; Councilor Mariscal: yes; Councilor Leland: yes;**  
32 **Councilor Carey: yes; Councilor Hazelton: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Mayor A.**  
33 **Riddile: yes.**

34  
35 **Consider Approving Resolution TC 2026-04 – Authorizing a Mail Ballot Election**  
36 **on April 7, 2026, and Setting Forth Other Details Relating Thereto**

37 Clerk Andis said the resolution authorizes for a Mail Ballot Election on April 7, 2026. The  
38 resolution also appoints the Town Clerk as the Election Official and to authorize and direct  
39 the clerk to appoint election judges. Clark Andis said New Castle has been conducting  
40 their elections by mail ballot since 2000.

1 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve Consider Approving**  
2 **Resolution TC 2026-04 – Authorizing a Mail Ballot Election on April 7, 2026, and**  
3 **Setting Forth Other Details Relating Thereto. Councilor Mariscal seconded the**  
4 **motion, and it passed unanimously.**

5  
6 **Consent Agenda**

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

10  
11 December 16, 2025, Minutes

12 December Bills \$627,349.76

13 Resolution TC2026-01 – Designating Public Notice Posting Places

14 Resolution TC2026-02 – Waiving the Requirement for Posting Bonds by Certain Town  
15 Officers

16 Resolution TC2026-03 – Authorizing Bank Accounts and Signers on Bank Accounts

17 Liquor License Renewal - Hacienda San Miguel Corp

18 Liquor License Renewal – Spirits

19  
20 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**  
21 **Councilor G. Riddile seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

22  
23 **Staff Reports**

24 **Town Administrator** – (Staff report was given during the work session) Administrator  
25 Reynolds said council retreat has tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026,  
26 location for the retreat has not been determined yet. Administrator Reynolds said The  
27 oath of office for Police Chief and Lieutenant will be at 4pm on Friday, January 9, 2026, at  
28 the Community Center. Administrator Reynolds informed the council the CML Conference  
29 will be June 23 – June 26, 2026. Administrator Reynolds said the Energy Symposium is in  
30 April at New Hope Church registration maybe open or will be soon. He said the symposium  
31 maybe be a good meeting for a couple of the CEC Commissioners to attend. Administrator  
32 Reynolds said he has been in contact with the organizer for Genesis Adventure Race. They  
33 would like to come back but the race would be scaled back to only biking and hiking.  
34 Administrator Reynolds said there is a new state law that affects how the recycling is  
35 done. He said there is a tax put onto products that are shipped such plastic bottles. The  
36 state has been collecting the new tax and now they have to decide how to disperse the  
37 money to the municipalities. The goal is to have the money be able to offset what the  
38 residents pay for recycling portion of the trash. Administrator Reynolds and Assistant  
39 Rochelle Firth will be meeting with the organizer from the state to help come up with a  
40 plan and submit an application to the state.

41 **Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said she Assistant Huster will be out for rest of the week for a

1 family emergency. Clerk Andis said the April Election process started today. Candidate  
2 packets are available in her office. She reminded the council that Councilor Leland,  
3 Councilor Copeland, Councilor Carey and Mayor A. Riddile are up for election. Candidate  
4 packets must be turned in into her office by 5pm Monday, January 26, 2026.

- 5 **Town Treasurer** – not present
- 6 **Town Planner** – not present
- 7 **Public Works Director** – not present

8 **Commission Reports**

- 9 **Planning & Zoning Commission** – have not met
- 10 **Historic Preservation Commission** – have not met
- 11 **Climate and Environment Commission** – update was given during the agenda item.
- 12 **Senior Program** –have not met
- 13 **RFTA** – have not met
- 14 **AGNC** – have not met
- 15 **GCE** – have not met
- 16 **EAB** – have not met
- 17 **POSTR** – have not met

18 **Council Comments**

19 Councilor Leland said several years ago the council approved a water emergency policy  
20 and would be a good idea to look at it since we are in a drought and very little snow this  
21 year.  
22 Councilor Copeland said the speed limit sign on Castle Valley Boulevard seems to be  
23 broken, it is stuck on Speed 27.

24  
25 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

26 Councilor Leland said with 250 America Anniversary people are going to want fireworks.  
27 We need to discuss how we are going to handle fireworks.

28 **Adjourn**

29 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to adjourn.**

30 The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

31  
32 Respectfully submitted,

33  
34  
35  
36 \_\_\_\_\_  
37 Mayor A. Riddile

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