TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, COLORADO RESOLUTION NO. TC 2021-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE NEW CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE COLORADO RIVER FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT'S BALLOT ISSUE TO BE DECIDED BY THE VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 2, 2021 ELECTION

WHEREAS, Colorado River Fire Rescue ("CRFR") provides fire and emergency rescue services within the Town of New Castle ("Town"); and

WHEREAS, the services CRFR provides are of great value and importance to the citizens of the Town; and

WHEREAS, Town Council now desires to make known its support of CRFR's ballot issue and the requested mill levy increase, which stands to positively impact the health, safety, and welfare of the Town and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NEW CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. <u>Recitals</u>. The foregoing recitals are incorporated by reference as findings and determinations of the Council.
- 2. <u>Statement of Support</u>. By this Resolution, the Town Council hereby expresses its support for the following ballot issue being proposed by CRFR at the November 2, 2021, election:

BALLOT ISSUE 6A

SHALL COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$4,873,747.72 (FINAL 2026 FISCAL YEAR AMOUNT AFTER ALL PHASED-IN INCREASES) ANNUALLY FROM AN ADDITIONAL 6.75 PHASED-IN OPERATING MILL LEVY IMPOSED AT A RATE OF 3 MILLS IN 2021 (COLLECTED IN 2022), AN ADDITIONAL 2 MILLS IN 2023 (COLLECTED IN 2024), AND AN ADDITIONAL 1.75 MILLS IN 2025 (COLLECTED IN 2026), FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION, AMBULANCE, EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE, RESCUE, SAFETY, AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE RESIDENTS, PROPERTY OWNERS, AND BUSINESSES SERVED BY THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- ADDRESSING LOST REVENUE AND BUDGET CONSTRAINTS ON THE DISTRICT'S REVENUES CAUSED BY ECONOMIC DOWNTURN;
- ADDRESSING COMMUNITY GROWTH BY RECRUITING AND RETAINING FIREFIGHTERS AND PARAMEDICS TO MAINTAIN EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIMES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AND BRING THEIR SALARIES IN-LINE WITH NEARBY COMMUNITIES;

- PROVIDING TRAINING AND LIFE-SAVING MEDICAL, FIRE AND OTHER EMERGENCY RESPONSE TECHNIQUES TO PROMOTE FIREFIGHTER AND CITIZEN SAFETY:
- ONGOING MAINTENANCE AND SCHEDULED REPLACEMENT OF FIRE, MEDICAL, AND RESCUE EQUIPMENT, FIRE TRUCKS, AND AMBULANCES TO MAINTAIN RELIABILITY AND PROTECT FIRST RESPONDERS AND CITIZENS;
- ENSURING FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY BY MAKING THE MOST CURRENT DISTRICT BUDGET AND AUDIT AVAILABLE TO EVERY TAXPAYER ON THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE;

AND SHALL ALL REVENUE AND ANY EARNINGS ON THIS PHASED-IN TAX CONSTITUTE A PERMANENT VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, AND ANY OTHER LAW?

3. <u>Further Action</u>. The Town Clerk and Town Manager are hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary and appropriate action to effectuate the provisions of this Resolution, including reporting the passage of or distribution of this Resolution through established, customary means, other than paid advertising, pursuant to C.R.S. § 1-45-117(1)(b)(III)(B).

INTRODUCED, PASSED, AND ADOPTED by a vote of \leq to \geq at a regular meeting of the New Castle Town Council held on September 21, 2021.

TOWN COUNCIL OF TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, COLORADO

Mayor Art Riddile

ATTEST:

Town Clerk Melody/Harrison, CMC