



# MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA  
EL GARCES – 950 FRONT STREET, NEEDLES

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**TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025 - COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION – NONE - CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Jernigan called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

## ROLL CALL

### PRESENT

Council Member Zachery Longacre  
Council Member Jamie McCorkle  
Vice Mayor Ellen Campbell  
Mayor Janet Jernigan  
Council Member JoAnne Pogue  
Council Member Tona Belt  
Council Member Henry Longbrake

Also present were City Manager Patrick Martinez, Deputy City Attorney Lena Wade, Director of Development Services Kathy Raasch, and Interim City Clerk Candace Clark

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Led by Mayor Jernigan

**INVOCATION** - given by Pastor Marty Souter of Set Free Church

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Vice Mayor Campbell, second by Council Member Pogue to approve the agenda.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST** - None

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None

**INTRODUCTIONS** - Mayor Jernigan acknowledged former Council Members Shawn Gudmundson and Tim Terral, and former City Manager Rick Daniels in attendance.

**CITY ATTORNEY** – Parliamentary Procedures given by Deputy City Attorney Wade.

### PUBLIC APPEARANCE

Wayne Colburn spoke about the election turnout and stated that he received feedback from the community about feeling left out.

Roxanne (?) stated that she is concerned about the growing number of coyotes and asked staff to look into a solution

Denise O'Dell stated that there is a conflict on F street between Dr. Cooper's office and a neighboring business over parking and asked staff to look into a parking solution for Dr. Cooper.

### PRESENTATIONS

1. Mayor Jernigan presented a plaque of appreciation to Frank Valenzuela for his years of service as City of Needles Water Foreperson.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE COUNCIL ITEMS

Rick Daniels acknowledged Frank Valenzuela for his years of service to the City of Needles.

### COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

3. Approve the Minutes of December 10, 2024

Council Member Longbrake pulled item 3 and asked that it be amended as follows:

Under Planning Commission Interviews (Insert the following:)

*Council Member Pogue made a motion, second by Council Member Longbrake, to appoint Wayne Colburn to the Planning Commission, with a term to expire 12/31/2026.*

*Motion failed by the following roll call vote:*

Ayes: Council Members Pogue and Longbrake  
Noes: Council Members Longacre, McCorkle, Campbell, and Belt  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

Under Recreation and Parks Interviews (change as follows:)

*Council Member Longbrake (not Longacre) made the motion to re-appoint Lori Long.*

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Longbrake to approve item 3 (minutes) with amendments.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**Consent Items 2, 4, 5:**

Motion made by Vice Mayor Campbell, second by Council Member Pogue to approve consent calendar items 2, 4, 5. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

2. Approved the Warrants Register through January 14, 2025
4. Adopted Resolution 2025-7 authorizing destruction of certain city records pursuant to Government Code Section 34090
5. Authorized the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority for the Caltrans Sustainable Communities Grant

**END OF COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR**

**REGULAR COUNCIL ITEMS**

6. Adopt City Council Resolution No. 2025-8 supporting enhanced investments, equitable services, and workforce development programs by Palo Verde Community College (PVCC) in the Needles community.

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Former City Manager Rick Daniels, Jon McNeil, Jaclyn Randall, and Glenda Williams spoke about Palo Verde College and answered questions from Council.

Jared Johnston spoke about the need for skilled trade workers and the challenges Cal-Trans faces when hiring.

Former Council Member Shawn Gudmundson expressed concerns over PVCC not delivering services currently that citizens are paying taxes on and urged staff to be proactive in working with PVCC to move forward.

Former Council Member Tim Terral spoke in favor of PVCC and the need for their services in our community, but also urged staff to look at ways to raise the public school ratings in Needles, reporting that potential investors have expressed concern over the current NUSD ratings.

Council Member McCorkle made a motion, second by Vice Mayor Campbell to Adopt City Council Resolution No. 2025-8 supporting enhanced investments, equitable services, and workforce development programs by Palo Verde Community College (PVCC) in the Needles community.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

7. Adopt City Council Resolution No. 2025-9, authorizing an affordable housing loan of \$135,000 from the State of California Prohousing Incentive Pilot Program (PIP) to Dannie Brayboy and Cynthia Brayboy (Brayboy Family Trust) for the rehabilitation of 108 Chestnut Street, Needles, CA 92363, and granting authority to the City Manager to execute the agreement

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council asked questions and Michael Bracken (DMG) and Dannie Brayboy (applicant) responded. Considerable discussion ensued.

Mayor Jernigan opened public comment at 7:34 pm

Wayne Colburn spoke about rent control issues faced by a community where he resided prior to moving to Needles.

Former Council Member Shawn Gudmundson asked questions about landlord responsibilities and asked City staff to look into building affordable housing.

City Manager Martinez responded to the suggestion that the City build affordable housing.

Michael Bracken addressed the question about landlord responsibilities and reported on another upcoming affordable housing project.

Further Council discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue to Adopt City Council Resolution No. 2025-9, authorizing an affordable housing loan of \$135,000 from the State of California Prohousing Incentive Pilot Program (PIP) to Dannie Brayboy and Cynthia Brayboy (Brayboy Family Trust) for the rehabilitation of 108 Chestnut Street, Needles, CA 92363, and granting authority to the City Manager to execute the agreement.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, and Longbrake

Noes: Council Member Belt

Absent: None

Abstain: None

8. Authorize the City to cosponsor the Run for the Wall with an approximate amount of \$2,500 for services

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council had minimal discussion regarding traffic control for the event.

Council Member Longacre made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue to authorize the City cosponsor the Run for the Wall with an approximate amount of \$2,500 for services.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

9. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-01 appointing a primary representative and an alternate to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD)

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council engaged in minimal discussion.

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member McCorkle to adopt Resolution No. 2025-01 appointing Council Member McCorkle as the primary representative to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD).

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Longacre to adopt Resolution No. 2025-01 appointing Mayor Jernigan as the alternate representative to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD)

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

10. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-02 appointing a delegate and an alternate to represent the City of Needles at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council engaged in minimal discussion.

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Longacre to adopt Resolution No. 2025-02 appointing Mayor Jernigan as the delegate to represent the City of Needles at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

Council Member McCorkle made a motion, second by Vice Mayor Campbell to adopt Resolution No. 2025-02 appointing Council Member Pogue as the alternate to represent the City of Needles at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

11. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-03 appointing a City of Needles representative and an alternate to San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council engaged in minimal discussion.

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue to adopt Resolution No. 2025-03 appointing Mayor Jernigan as the City of Needles representative to San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Council Member Pogue made a motion, second by Council Member McCorkle to adopt Resolution No. 2025-03 appointing Vice Mayor Campbell as the City of Needles alternate to San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

12. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-04 appointing a City of Needles Director and alternates to the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA)

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council engaged in minimal discussion.

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue to adopt Resolution 2025-04 appointing Council Member Belt as the City of Needles Director and Mayor Jernigan and Council Member McCorkle as alternates to the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA)

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

13. Adopt Resolution 2025-05 Mojave Desert and Mountain Integrated Waste Joint Powers Authority Board and Solid Waste Advisory Task-Force (SWAT) Two Year Appointments

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council engaged in minimal discussion.

Vice Mayor Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue to adopt Resolution 2025-05 appointing Vice Mayor Campbell as the primary delegate and Council Member Pogue as the alternate to the Mojave Desert and Mountain Integrated Waste Joint Powers Authority Board and Solid Waste Advisory Task-Force (SWAT)

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

14. Resolution 2025-06 Appointing a Delegate and an Alternate for the League of California Cities Desert Mountain Division Meetings

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council engaged in minimal discussion.

Council Member McCorkle made a motion, second by Council Member Longacre to adopt Resolution 2025-06 appointing Vice Mayor Campbell as the delegate and Mayor Jernigan as the alternate for the League of California Cities Desert Mountain Division Meetings.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

15. Assign a member to the Budget Committee to fill the seat vacated by former Vice Mayor Kirsten Merritt.

City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council engaged in minimal discussion.

Council Member Longbrake made a motion, second by Council Member McCorkle to appoint Council Member Longacre to fill the seat vacated by former Vice Mayor Kirsten Merritt on the Budget Committee.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Longacre, Vice Mayor Campbell, Council Members McCorkle, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT** - Deputy City Attorney Wade had nothing to report.

**CITY CLERK REPORT** - Given by Interim City Clerk Clark.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT** – Given by City Manager Martinez

**COUNCIL REQUESTS**

**Council Member Longacre** - Asked staff to look into getting a slurry truck; urged staff to get a jump on spring and keep the parks clean; suggested staff look into a Mobi-Mat as an alternative ADA solution for the Rodeo grounds; requested staff remove overgrown brush around town as a fire prevention measure; reported on damages in the flood control channels; asked about Cal-Trans graffiti coverup colors; asked about Military Mom's banners, urging staff to get them put up; suggested staff and council make a trip to Kingman to see their historic downtown district; asked for Sheriff to enforce parking restrictions and reported on possible revenue the city would get for issuing citations.

**Council Member McCorkle** - urged staff to address fire hazards and get RiverLux cleaned up; reminded everyone that residents should also participate in keeping our town clean; stated that housing rent needs to be reasonable.

**Vice Mayor Campbell** - Announced PVCC deadline for enrollment is January 17; reminded everyone to use the Needles Connect App; reported that Military Mom's has ordered some new banners and will be

putting all of them up once the new banners arrive; reported on League of California Cities event she attended with the Mayor.

**Council Member Pogue** - Complimented staff on painting the curbs red (no parking areas) around town; reports River Front Cafe has new owners and is being renovated; January 25 City Cleanup/Junk Removal; asked staff if DNR can help with coyote problem; asked about the status of the Denny's building and Riverlux.

**Council Member Belt** - Asked about getting the recreation center registration online; asked about planting winter rye grass in the parks; urged city to check fire hydrants.

**Council Member Longbrake** - reported the Westside Chevron is bringing in a Crispy Chicken; advocated for owners and urged city to be proactive with permitting process so local businesses can build and expand and get more people here; requested city staff look into the fire hydrant and city vehicle maintenance schedules; asked about the longevity of the sun canopies the city installed around town; reported the umbrella at Bob Belt Beach Park was shaking in the wind.

**Mayor Jernigan** - reported on the recent VASH grand opening at the former Sage Motel; January 18 cleanup on third street; Tri-State food drop off; urged city staff to be prepared in case of fires; reported the Route 66 Info fair has been cancelled due to a conflicting event; March 19 is the Resource Fair at El Garces; March 28 is Art in the Park and March 29 is the Craft Fair.

**ADJOURNMENT** - Mayor Jernigan adjourned the meeting at 8:53 PM

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Mayor Jernigan

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Interim City Clerk Clark