

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY CITY OF NEEDLES
CITY OF NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1111 BAILEY AVENUE, NEEDLES**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024
COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 5:30 PM
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Jernigan called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm
ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Council Member Jamie McCorkle
Vice Mayor Kirsten Merritt
Mayor Janet Jernigan
Council Member Tona Belt
Council Member Henry Longbrake

City Attorney Pinkney reported that Council Members Campbell and Pogue have a conflict of interest on the Executive Session item because their sons work for MIH.

RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND CONVENE A JOINT COUNCIL / NPUA MEETING

PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS - None

RECESSED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:34 pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. NPUA/Council: Conference with legal counsel – anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d) 2, 3 and/or 4 (regarding potential litigation with Medical Investor Holdings LLC, NCA Management, 3247 AM LLC and 2103 D, LLC related to Cannabis taxes).

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT – Mayor Jernigan stated that City Attorney Pinkney had nothing to report.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Jernigan called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm
ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Led by Mayor Jernigan

INVOCATION - Given by Council Member Campbell

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Council Member Pogue moved, second by Vice Mayor Merritt to approve the agenda. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST - None

CORRESPONDENCE - None

INTRODUCTIONS - Mayor Jernigan acknowledged former Council Member Tim Terral, Commissioners Campbell, Rath, Beard, and Ford; former Commissioner Kidd, and Code Enforcement Officer Adrian Chavez in attendance.

CITY ATTORNEY – Parliamentary Procedures given by City Attorney John Pinkney

ADJOURN THE JOINT NPUA/COUNCIL MEETING & RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CALL TO ORDER (Roll Call Previously Taken) at 6:05 pm

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

Sheila Miller spoke about a disturbance at her daughter's house on Earl Court. Police were called and they responded to the incident.

Larry Ford requested speed limit signs be installed on the dirt road leading to the water tanks, from Lilly Hill to the cement circle.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation to Linda Kidd for her service on the Planning Commission and the City of Needles Plaque given to former Commissioner Kidd by Mayor Jernigan
2. Presentation given by Michael Fink, CPA with Fechter & Company. Council Member Campbell moved, second by Vice Mayor Merritt, to accept and file the City fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 audit report completed by Fechter & Company. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Members Campbell, McCorkle, Merritt, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake

Noes: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC HEARING

3. Public Hearing held- noticed to receive public input on a proposed fare increase for ridership on the Senior/Disabled Dial-a-Ride (DAR) transportation service effective as of February 1, 2024

Staff Report given by City Manager Patrick Martinez

Council Questions of Staff - none

Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:40 pm

Public Comment - none

Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:40 pm

Council Discussion / Deliberation - none

Council Member Campbell moved, second by Vice Mayor Merritt, to waive the reading and adopt Resolution No. 2024-1 approving a fare increase for ridership on the Senior/Disabled Dial-a-Ride (DAR) transportation service effective as of February 1, 2024. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Members Campbell, McCorkle, Merritt, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake

Noes: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE COUNCIL ITEMS - None

COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Mayor Merritt moved, second by Council Member Campbell, to approve items 4 through 10 on the consent calendar. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Members Campbell, McCorkle, Merritt, Pogue, Belt, and Longbrake

Noes: None

Absent: None

4. Approved the Warrants Registers of December 26, 2023 and January 9, 2024
5. Approved the Special & Regular Meetings Minutes of December 12, 2023

6. Released the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy Agreement with H-Street Patient Care for the building located at 101 W. Spikes Road, Also known as APN# 0650-431-10-0000
7. Ratified the City Managers signature dated December 19, 2023, accepted the Regents of the University of California grant for the City of Needles Animal Shelter award and authorized an FY 24 budget adjustment in the amount of \$112,000
8. Hearing on Appeal of City's Notice of Revocation of Cannabis Business License/Permit for the following Cannabis Businesses:
3247 Needles Highway, Suite E, Needles, CA (2103 D, LLC);
3247 Needles Highway, Suite A, Needles CA (3247 AM, LLC)
3241 Needles Highway, Needles, CA (NCA Management Co., LLC)
3253 Needles Highway, Needles CA (Medical Investor Holdings, LLC)
HEARING CONTINUED UNTIL JANUARY 23, 2024
9. Accepted Minagar and Associates, Inc. Proposal to Provide Engineering Services for the Design and Project Management of the Active Transportation Plan Cycle 6 - City of Needles Schools and Seniors Sidewalk Project for a not to exceed amount of \$215,940 and authorized staff to execute the Professional Services Agreement and issue a Notice to Proceed.
10. Waived the reading and adopted Resolution 2024-02, Authorizing City Manager to Execute Program Supplement No. 00000A384 to Administering Agency-State Agreement for State Funded Projects No. 08-5220S21 with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the administration of State funds for the Schools and Seniors Sidewalk Project.

END OF COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Given by City Attorney John Pinkney

CITY MANAGER REPORT

11. MANAGERS REPORT

Given by City Manager Patrick Martinez

COUNCIL REQUESTS

Councilmember Campbell reported pavement damage on El Monte street and asked staff to look into making repairs.

Councilmember McCorkle Congratulated the NHS Boys and Girls Basketball teams.

Vice Mayor Merritt thanked Linda Kidd for her years of service and thanked Barbara DiLeo for assisting the auditors.

Council Member Pogue asked about the road repairs and the pavement management schedule.

Councilmember Belt requested a Visitor Center meeting

Councilmember Longbrake had no requests

Mayor Jernigan commented on the success of the Registrar of Voters Ballot Mobile; announced the upcoming resource fair on March 20 from 10am - 2pm at El Garces; spoke about the upcoming Route 66 100th anniversary in 2026 and requested approval of a location for a drive through shield; requested that the walking trail at Jack Smith Park be dedicated to Marilyn Mathews; thanked Linda Kidd for her service.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Jernigan adjourned the meeting at 6:51 pm

ATTEST: _____

Mayor Janet Jernigan

City Clerk Dale Jones, CMC