

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING RATES FOR WASTEWATER SERVICE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2026 AND RESCINDING ALL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WASTEWATER RATES

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) to establish and recommend wastewater rates sufficient to cover all costs of the operations and maintenance of the wastewater department, including but not limited to purchase payments, debt service and asset replacement; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such rates is subject to approval by the City Council and the Needles Public Utility Authority (“NPUA”); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that rates for wastewater service be sufficient to cover the City’s cost to provide such service, now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2024 the City Council accepted a proposal from Raftelis Financial Consultants to prepare a cost of service study for the three utilities; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2025 the City Council voted to accept the Raftelis Water, and Wastewater Cost of Service Ratemaking Study; and

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Article XIID of the California Constitution (commonly known as “Proposition 218”) sets forth notice, hearing and protest requirements applicable to the increase of wastewater service rates; and

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2025 a notice of public hearing was mailed to all property owners regarding the recommended rate increases; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2025, a duly noticed joint public hearing was conducted and concluded with the Board of Public Utilities, NPUA, and City Council concerning the recommended rate increases, at which time, all written and oral comments presented were considered; and;

WHEREAS, at the close of such joint public hearing, no majority written protest to the recommended increases was presented under Proposition 218.

WHEREAS, following the joint public hearing on November 12, 2025, the Board of Public Utilities adopted their Resolution No. 11-12-25-1 BPU establishing rates for wastewater service, subject to approval by the NPUA and City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby accepts the Board of Public Utilities recommendation and approves the rate increases as established by Board of Public Utilities Resolution No. 11-12-25-1 BPU, and Needles Public Utility Authority Resolution 11-12-2025-1-NPUA, including cost-of-living adjustments (COLA), for wastewater service according to Attachment ‘A’ – Schedule of Rates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby rescinds all prior resolutions related to the establishment of wastewater service rates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rates for wastewater service shall take effect as set forth herein, and a cost of living adjustment (COLA) shall be added to all rates on October 1st of each year beginning October 1, 2026 up through and including October 1, 2029.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the NPUA/City Council of the City of Needles, California, held on the 12th day of November 2025, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Janet Jernigan, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Candace Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: _____
Lena Wade, Deputy City Attorney