

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
NEEDLES PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY CITY OF NEEDLES CITY
OF NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA
EL GARCES – 950 FRONT STREET, NEEDLES**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024
COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 5:00 PM
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Jernigan called the meeting to order at 5:00 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 - arrived at approximately 5:15 PM
Council Member Henry Longbrake

ABSENT – None

Also present City Manager Patrick Martinez, Utility Manager Rainie Torrance, City Attorney John Pinkney, City Clerk Dale Jones and Assistant City Clerk Candace Clark.

PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS - None

RECESSED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:02 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Conference with legal counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) and/or (3). One potential case.

No Reportable Action

- b. Conference with Real Property Negotiators pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8. Property: 19th Hole Bar & Grill located at 144 Marina Drive Needles, CA. Agency Negotiator: City Manager Patrick Martinez or his designee. Negotiating Parties: City of Needles as potential lessor and Kristin Baran dba 19th Hole Bar & Grill as Potential tenant. Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Potential lease.

No Reportable Action

- c. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Potential Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(d)(4). One potential case.

No Reportable Action

- d. Conference with Real Property Negotiators pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8. Property: Tri-State Alano Club located at 801 Third Street, Needles, CA. Agency Negotiator: City Manager Patrick Martinez or his designee. Negotiating Parties: City of Needles as potential lessor and Tri-State Alano Club as Potential tenant. Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Potential lease.

No Reportable Action

- e. Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6-Personnel - Agency Representative City Manager Patrick Martinez or his designee - Employee Organizations Teamsters Local 1932

Council Member McCorkle made a motion, second by Council Member Campbell, to approve a side letter to the classified MOU extending the Teamsters contract. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT - by City Attorney

City Attorney Pinkney gave report as noted above.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Jernigan called the meeting to order at 6:00 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

ABSENT - None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Led by Mayor Jernigan

INVOCATION - given by Council Member Campbell

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - No Action Taken

CONFLICT OF INTEREST - N/A

CORRESPONDENCE - N/A

INTRODUCTIONS - Mayor Jernigan acknowledged Former Council Members Tim Terral and Zachery Longacre, Bullhead City Council Member Dan Alfonzo and San Bernardino County Fire Chief William Villarino

CITY ATTORNEY – Parliamentary Procedures - Given by City Attorney Pinkney

PUBLIC APPEARANCE -

Dean Brown of the Flower Refinery spoke about being fined for smell and asserted that he was being unfairly targeted.

Wayne Colburn, candidate for Mayor, questioned Needles Tourism participation in the upcoming Candidate Forum being held at El Garces, and announced a second forum that will be hosted by Palo Verde Community College.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing noticed to consider all evidence and testimony for or against approval of Ordinance 666-AC Amending Article 13-IV "Operation of Vehicles" Section 13-29 "Decrease of Prima Facie Speed Limits", of the Needles Municipal Code to include the Prima Facie Speed Limit for Clary Drive between San Clemente Street and Lillyhill Drive and authorize Public Works to implement the signing and striping plan.

Director of Development Services Raasch gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Council had no questions of staff.

Mayor Jernigan opened the public hearing at 6:19 PM

Tim Terral asked about possible changes to the speed limit once the road is paved.

Mayor Jernigan closed the public hearing at 6:22 PM

After minimal Council discussion, Council Member Belt made a motion, second by Council Member Longbrake to approve Ordinance 666-AC Amending Article 13-IV "Operation of Vehicles" Section 13-

29 "Decrease of Prima Facie Speed Limits", of the Needles Municipal Code to include the Prima Facie Speed Limit for Clary Drive between San Clemente Street and Lillyhill Drive and authorize Public Works to implement the signing and striping plan. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

2. Public hearing noticed to consider all evidence and testimony for or against approval of City Council Resolution No. 2024-32, approving the abandonment of the 8' wide sewer easement located along the south property line of Parcel A of Parcel Map 14798 generally located at 2701 Columbus Drive.

Director of Development Services Raasch gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Council had no questions of staff.

Mayor Jernigan opened the public hearing at 6:27 PM

There was no public comment.

Mayor Jernigan closed the public hearing at 6:27 PM

Council Member Belt made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue, to adopt Resolution No. 2024-32, approving the abandonment of the 8' wide sewer easement located along the south property line of Parcel A of Parcel Map 14798 generally located at 2701 Columbus Drive. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. Public hearing noticed to consider all evidence and testimony for or against approval of City Council Ordinance No. 667-AC Adopting the California Building Standards Code 2022 Edition; Rescinding Ordinance No. 635-AC adopting the California Building Standards Code 2019 Edition; Amending Municipal Code Article IV "Uniform Administrative Code" and Section 2-10 "Adopted by Reference Where Filed" **was continued to September 10, 2024.**

RECESSED THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING & CONVENED A JOINT COUNCIL / NPUA MEETING - 6:29 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE NPUA/COUNCIL ITEMS - None

REGULAR NPUA / COUNCIL ITEMS

4. NPUA: Waive the reading and adopt Resolution Number 08-13-2024-NPUA authorizing the transfers of money to and from the NPUA account at Wells Fargo Bank to the State of California's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and updating the authorized staff list.

and

COUNCIL: Waive the reading and adopt Resolution Number 2024-33 authorizing the transfers of money to and from the NPUA account at Wells Fargo Bank to the State of California's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and updating the authorized staff list.

City Manager Martinez gave staff report. Vice Mayor Merritt made a motion, second by Council Member McCorkle, to adopt City Council Resolution 2024-33 authorizing the transfers of money to and from the NPUA account at Wells Fargo Bank to the State of California's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and updating the authorized staff list. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None
Abstain: None

Member/Council Member Campbell made a motion, second by Member/Vice Mayor Merritt, to waive the reading and adopt Resolution Number 08-13-2024-NPUA authorizing the transfers of money to and from the NPUA account at Wells Fargo Bank to the State of California's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and updating the authorized staff list. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

ADJOURNED THE JOINT NPUA / COUNCIL MEETING AND RECONVENED THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 6:32 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE COUNCIL ITEMS - None

COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member McCorkle pulled Consent Item #9 for discussion. City Manager Martinez gave staff report.

Council Member Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue, to approve Consent Calendar Items 5 through 11. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

5. Approved the Warrants Register through August 13, 2024
6. Approved the Minutes of July 9, 2024
7. Approved Resolution No. 2024-31 establishing the appropriations subject to limit for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.
8. Approved Subgrant Agreement with International City/County Management Association (ICMA), COP Network Partner with the Gates Foundation for the "Gates Economic Mobility Project" and authorized the City Manager to execute said agreement.
9. Accepted Change Order #2 (final) to the Public Works Agreement with Three Peaks Corp. for the Marina Park First Beach Improvements Project in the amount of \$58,541.81 and authorized staff to Issue the Notice of Completion
10. Authorized the Mayor to sign a letter of support for Tri-State Community Healthcare in their application for a New Access Point to expand primary care, behavioral health and homeless services.
11. Accepted the 2025 Employee Medical Benefits Plan

END OF COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

REGULAR COUNCIL ITEMS

12. Research on Ordinance for Feeding Feral Cats

City Manager Martinez gave staff report reviewing various options..

Zachery Longacre asked questions about the effectiveness of the Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) Program being conducted by Animal Control Officer Tony Rubalcaba and Assistant Christy Perritt who updated Council.

Considerable Council Discussion ensued.

Council Member McCorkle made a motion, second by Council Member Longbrake, to keep the TNR Program as is and not adopt an ordinance against feeding feral cats. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

13. Approve Tenant Improvements of the River's Edge Golf Course, Golf Concession and Pro Shop Building – Kitchen Remodel

City Manager Martinez gave staff report. Council Member Campbell made a motion, second by Vice Mayor Merritt, to Approve Tenant Improvements of the River's Edge Golf Course, Golf Concession and Pro Shop Building – Kitchen Remodel. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

14. Authorize the City Clerk to publish a notice of vacancies on the various Boards and Commissions due to the expiration of terms and resignations.

City Manager Martinez reported.

Vice Mayor Merritt made a motion, second by Council Member Campbell, to authorize the City Clerk to publish a notice of vacancies on the various Boards and Commissions due to the expiration of terms and resignations. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

15. Approve Fifth Amendment to On-Call Consulting Services Agreement Between the City of Needles and Development Management Group, Inc. for Economic Development Consulting Services in the amount not to exceed \$70,000 and extend the term of the Agreement until June 30, 2025.

City Manager Martinez gave staff report and discussion ensued.

Council Member Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member McCorkle, to approve Fifth Amendment to On-Call Consulting Services Agreement Between the City of Needles and Development Management Group, Inc. For Economic Development Consulting Services in the amount not to exceed \$70,000 and extend the term of the Agreement until June 30, 2025. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

16. Accept proposal from The Concord Group to provide Professional Services for a Housing Market Demand Assessment for a Not to Exceed amount of \$20,000 and authorize staff to execute a Professional Services Agreement and Notice of Award for the work.

City Manager Martinez gave staff report and discussion ensued.

Council Member Pogue made a motion, second by Council Member Campbell, to Accept proposal from The Concord Group to provide Professional Services for a Housing Market Demand Assessment for a Not to Exceed amount of \$20,000 and authorized staff to execute a Professional Services Agreement and Notice of Award for the work. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

17. Cancel the September 24, 2024 regular City Council / NPUA / HACN meeting.

Council Member Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Longbrake, to cancel the September 24, 2024 regular City Council / NPUA / HACN meeting. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

18. Authorize those interested to attend the 2024 San Bernardino County State of the County Conference on September 18, 2024, at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, CA

Council Member Pogue made a motion, second by Council Member Longbrake, to authorize Mayor Jernigan, Council Members Campbell and Belt to attend the 2024 San Bernardino County State of the County Conference on September 18, 2024, at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, CA Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

19. Approve Resolution 2024-34 Approving an Employment Agreement with Kathy Raasch for Director of Development Services / Capital Projects effective August 13, 2024, setting a salary of \$151,715 in compliance with SB 1436 and incorporate into the salary schedule FY 2024-2025.

City Manager Martinez reported.

Council Member Campbell made a motion, second by Council Member Pogue, to Approve Resolution 2024-34 Approving an Employment Agreement with Kathy Raasch for Director of Development Services / Capital Projects effective August 13, 2024, setting a salary of \$151,715 in compliance with SB 1436 and incorporate into the salary schedule FY 2024-2025. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT given by City Attorney Pinkney

CITY CLERK REPORT given by City Clerk Jones

CITY MANAGER REPORT given by City Manager Martinez

COUNCIL REQUESTS

Council Member Campbell reported on the Sheriff's Department sponsored backpack donation deadline; welcomed and thanked Kathy Raasch as the City's new Development Director.

Council Member McCorkle congratulated Kathy Raasch as the City's new Development Director.

Vice Mayor Merritt had no requests.

Council Member Pogue acknowledged city resources available to the public, and requested the city provide more information on Domestic Violence resources.

Council Member Belt reported on WARMC 911 CPR Hour long Event for 8th graders; school starts tomorrow; cannabis odor; asked about getting a pickleball court and have an event celebrating the heat; reported on Palo Verde LPN Program Event on September 12.

Council Member Longbrake asked about the LillyHill Cannabis facility ongoing smell issue; congratulated Kathy Raasch as the City's new Development Director and thanked Bullhead City Council Member Dan Alfonzo for attending the meeting.

Mayor Jernigan Hosted Chamber / Tourism event; attended CJPIA Annual Conference; Thanked Tri State Community Health for its involvement and donations to our community; thanked city crews for getting the sidewalks marked and ready for school.

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Jernigan adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm

ATTEST: _____
Mayor Janet Jernigan

City Clerk Dale Jones, CMC