

MINUTES
Work Session
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
October 19, 2016
6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez called the Work Session to order at approximately 6:36 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Gerardo Sanchez
Vice-Mayor Matias Rosales
Council Member Gloria Torres
Council Member Maria Cecilia Ramos
Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco
Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr.

ABSENT: Council Member Ruben Walshe

OTHERS PRESENT: Tadeo A. De La Hoya, Interim City Manager
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney
Christine Hagen, Management Analyst
Craig Higgins, Chief of Police
Derek Dueñas, IT Manager
Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director
Jenny Torres, Community Development Director
Jonathan Dumadag, IT Technician
Jose Guzman, Assistant Planner
Katie St. Louis, Finance Director
Lizandro Galaviz, Parks & Recreation Director
Yolanda Dueñas, Fleet & Facilities Manager
Cesar Neyoy, Bajo El Sol
Lucy Lopez, San Luis AZ News

2. AGENDA ITEMS:

2.A. Discussion on any and all matters regarding authorization to award an engineering contract to James Davey and Associates for the Price Center Improvements. (Jenny Torres, Community Development Director)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Community Development Director, informed that this project consists of two phases the first phase was to contract with an architect to come and provide a construction estimate for the Price Center building to see if it was feasible to invest funds on this building to attract new businesses. The second phase is to work on some specifications to replace the roof and acquire the land behind the Price Center building to move the ACT employees parking to the back to clear the front parking lot for any potential prospect. The engineering contract amount is \$25,704.00.

2.B. Discussion on any and all matters regarding the Independent Contract Agreement with Mexes to provide professional services for the 4Fronted Binational Region. (Jenny Torres, Community Development Director)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Community Development Director, informed that the City has been working on a bi-national program. She mentioned that this year the City of San Luis is responsible for the operation and administration of all funds. The member agencies are composed of the City of Yuma, City of Somerton, Town of Wellton and Yuma County. The reason for this contract being brought before Council again is that a minor change was done. She stated that as part of the overall contract the 4Fronted Binational Region would like to contract an independent contractor to serve as a bi-national coordinator. Furthermore, she added that a bi-national budget was agreed upon by all member agencies to include an amount not to exceed \$24,000.00 for the independent contractor services for FY 2016-2017.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that all entities have approved this contractor. He mentioned that with the 4Fronted Binational Region, the City and the whole region will benefit. He thanked Ms. Torres and staff for being part of this project.

Vice-Mayor Matias Rosales asked if the budget will be suffice to support the 4Fronted Binational Region.

Ms. Torres informed that there is enough funds to cover the current fiscal year. She added that the funds available will be only for the coordinator and not for the representatives for each entity.

2.C. Discussion on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 1164. A resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, approving Intergovernmental Agreement of the 4-FrontED Binational Program to support Economic Development in the Greater Yuma Region and repealing Resolution No. 1155. (Jenny Torres, Community Development Director)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Community Development Director, informed that this item was approved before with Resolution No. 1155, after the approval of said resolution minor changes were done to the Intergovernmental Agreement.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

3.A. Update on any and all matters regarding the status of ALSCO's two-year contract with the City for uniform services. (Manuel Rojas, Assistant Public Works Director)

Mrs. Yolanda Dueñas, Fleet/Facilities Manager, informed that ALSCO is currently providing uniforms for Public Works, Parks, Utilities and Fleet & Facilities Department. She mentioned at the initial stage of the contract there were some minor issues, but were resolved in a timely manner.

Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. asked if there have been any complaints.

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Parks and Recreation Director, informed that he has spoken with staff and there are not issues or complaints.

3.B. Update on any and all matters regarding the proposed Veterans Park. (Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco and Lizandro Galaviz, Parks & Recreation Director)

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Parks and Recreation Director, informed that he did some research about this topic which was discussed approximately a year ago. He added that he spoke with Jenny Torres, Community Development Director and Victor Figueroa, Police Lieutenant and found that this project was under the pre-planning phase and had some potential areas for this park. He commented that he has worked on memorial parks and has some ideas that he would bring before Council. Furthermore, he mentioned that there is a variety of way to recognize veterans.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked how much it will cost to have a park for this purpose.

Mr. Galaviz replied that the cost will be approximately \$60,000.00, but it will be depending on how many plaques will be needed, the layout and amenities of the project. He stated that this project will have to be worked in conjunction with the veterans to get an updated list of San Luis' Veterans and present them with the project to find out if the project will be appropriate.

Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco stated that a Veteran's Park will be a great opportunity to honor those that have served in the different branches of the military.

Mr. Galaviz informed that he will work in some designs and will bring before Council for any suggestions. He added that if there are any suggestions, to please share those ideas.

Ms. Jenny Torres Community Development Director, informed that when staff met approximately one year ago, during that discussion the different locations for this park were discussed and staff agreed that this park shall be in a visible place, the main issue at that time was funding and it was suggested to form a committee and find sponsorships for this park. She mentioned that different issues were discussed on this project.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez recalled that Victor Figueroa, Police Lieutenant, mentioned the possibility of obtaining a tank for the memorial park.

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director, informed that he has suggested some possible locations for this park. One of the locations will be the land in front of the St. Jude Church; he mentioned that the City has the ability to get a license from the Water Users Association and use some of their right-of-way for that purpose and other location could be the land on the south side of the post office, another option will be a piece of land between Main Street and 1st Avenue, this land belongs to Bureau of Land Management from which the City will have to get a license/permit from them.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that he would like to see this park in a place where it could be visible to tourists.

Mr. Galaviz mentioned that a good area is by the Cesar Chavez Statute, as he served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He added that staff can work and develop that area into a memorial. He mentioned that the location will be visible to tourists and added that he will be working in designs and will start doing some more research as what is allowed by the veterans. He asked Mayor and Council if they are in agreement with one of the sites proposed by Mr. Vera to please let him know.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez suggested creating a committee and possibly have Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco be chairperson for this committee. He stated that the reason he would like to see a committee is so that this memorial park becomes a reality and not something that was just discussed like other proposed projects. He asked Mr. Galaviz to make sure that this project is budgeted for next fiscal year.

3.C. Discussion on any and all matters regarding handicapped parking on Main Street. (Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco and Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director)

Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco stated that the reason for bringing this item before Council is that she was approached by a concerned citizen complaining that there are no handicapped parking spaces along Main Street.

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director, replied that he spoke with the designer of this project about this issue and he mentioned that the designer proposed handicapped parking but the Arizona Department of Transportation did not allow it, as the street parking does not use handicapped parking because is not a parking lot. He stated that since Main Street now belongs to the City, then handicapped parking can be designated. He added that he have spotted two (2) possible locations that can be designated as handicapped parking, the difficulty is that handicapped ramps are needed.

Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco stated that the City should accommodate to citizens needs especially handicapped people.

3.D. Discussion on any and all matters regarding renewal of the downtown area. (Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco and Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director)

Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco mentioned that the reason for this item is that now Main Street got renovated, she believes that all businesses need some renovations. She asked if there is a possibility that the City could partner with all merchants and work on this issue and asked if there are grants available for these types of projects.

Ms. Jenny Torres, Community Development Director, informed that in order to qualify for grants the City should be declared a redevelopment area to be able to qualify for certain grants. She mentioned that another step is to create a downtown district where businesses are able to participate. She added that there is another option called store front initiative and the way this works is that a business can obtain a loan at a low

interest rate, then the City will provide other types of incentives to those owners. She mentioned that the problem currently is that a lot of owners do not live in San Luis, so there is no interest to improve their businesses. Ms. Torres informed that she is working in a business retention program that can be used in the downtown area, this program will help find out the needs and interests.

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Parks & Recreation Director, informed that he encouraged business owners within the downtown area to participate in the San Luis En Vivo event, this will motivate them to participate on those types of events.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that the San Luis Chamber of Commerce was going to try to work with the different vendors and asked if they are active.

Mr. Galaviz informed that he will be attending the next San Luis Chamber of Commerce meeting and will pass the word to their members.

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco/Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:22 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.