

**MINUTES**  
**Work Session**  
**San Luis City Council**  
**San Luis Council Chambers**  
**1090 E. Union Street**  
**April 1, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Mayor Gerardo Sanchez called the work session to order at approximately 7:17 p.m.

Mayor and City Council participated remotely due to COVID-19.

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tadeo A. De La Hoya, City Administrator  
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk  
Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney  
Axel Chayra, Information Technology Department  
Eulogio Vera, Acting Director of Public Works  
Francia Alonso, Assistant to Council/PIO  
Jonathan Dumadag, Information Technology Technician  
Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Richard Jessup, Chief of Police  
Julie Engel, President and CEO of GYEDC

**2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:**

**2. A. Presentation followed by discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the 2019-2020 Mid-Year Economic Development activity update by Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation. (Julie Engel, President and CEO of Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation)**

Ms. Julie Engel, President and CEO of the Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation, did not make her presentation regarding the 2019-2020 Mid-Year Economic Development activity update. Instead, she gave a briefing on the areas that her agency is currently focusing on business retention, doing weekly phone calls on major employers to see how they are doing. She informed that with the help of the different entities, a portal of information was created. San Luis's representative is Jenny Torres, Economic Development Manager. This is very important to the community as businesses can qualify for these programs that have been made available by the passing of a bill by the United States President and Congress. She informed that there is a program that allows businesses to apply for loans that will go towards grants, mortgage payment, employee salaries and employee benefits. It is \$10 million maximum loan, depending on the size of the company. She added that the loans are for eight weeks and the funds should be used towards those expenses and it is a forgivable loan. Also, if it is a sole proprietor, non-profit, or an independent contractor, and if you have been affected, they can apply for reimbursement. Ms. Engel informed that for people that had to get unemployment, they had added an extra \$600 to the weekly benefits. This means that they will be collecting the \$240, which is the regular weekly benefit plus the \$600. This benefit will be for eight weeks or depending if the crisis continues. Furthermore, she informed that there are four (4) possible manufacturers who are going to shift production and start making the equipment needed. Also, she has been working with a safety sterilizing company to see if they will sterilize the safety equipment so that it can be re-used. She mentioned that an update would be given through email, website and the press. She informed that Piana Nonwovens had been impacted, and their production stopped. They shifted their production to start making disposable bedding for hospitals and clinics; they are working directly with the hospitals. She informed that Jordan Manufacturing, which make pillows for lawn chairs, have to shifted their production to making masks. They are working directly with the hospital and municipalities. Ms. Engel informed that Martech Medical, who does device manufacturing, they have been asked if they could shift to make test kits. She informed that information would be passed as this moves forward. She mentioned that past projects have been placed on hold as they have not died; they are waiting to see how this contingency develops. Furthermore, she said that her office is working closely with Krysten Sinema's and Senator Martha McSally's office. A conference call was held regarding the stimulus bill #4, and they mentioned that there might be stimulus bill #5 and #6. She mentioned that they would like to know from the communities where the stimulus is not reaching people. She asked if there are any questions about the stimulus her office can help as they have Spanish speaking people. She mentioned that her company is tracking closures temporarily to include them in the plan model for the supply chain.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez thanked Ms. Engel for the presentation and emphasized on a retention plan; the nation is going through a financial crisis due to the pandemic. He stated that all border cities along Arizona are hurting because the communities rely on the pedestrian and vehicular traffic. He mentioned that it is good that the federal government has those stimulus, but he commented that he would like to see that funding come directly to the communities. Mayor Gerardo Sanchez also discussed the Arizona Department of Economic Security office issue about the long lines and a lot of people applying for the benefits. He mentioned that this had created a high risk of exposure. He asked Ms. Engel to help and pass this through the state.

Ms. Engel mentioned that San Luis is the only city in the state that has a walk-in unemployment office; every other city has to do it online. She commented that there is limited staff, but there will be an office to help process those applications to help alleviate the long lines, as the 6 feet need to be monitored.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez commented that there are businesses that do not want to apply as they fear that they will not qualify for these loans. He encouraged every business to apply for this loan and asked Ms. Engel for her help to pass the word out to those businesses.

Ms. Engel replied that she would be sure that this information gets disseminated and informed that almost every business would qualify as they have removed all those obstacles for small business loans. She added that there are two (2) banks in Yuma County that have been approved to start lending immediately.

There were no questions and/or comments from members of the Council.

**2. B. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the proposal of a contract between the City of San Luis and Diva Music L.L.C., for musical performances for the 4th of July Celebration event. (Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation)**

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation, informed that this proposal if to contract with Diva Music LLC., for El Gran Silencio band to play during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez commented that the price for the group is excellent, but at this time it is uncertain what is going to happen. He asked that the city is covered with a clause if this contract is canceled.

Mr. Galaviz replied that if Mayor and Council approved to move forward with this contract, then staff can work with City Attorney's Office to negotiate a contract with Diva Music LLC., to include an assurance in case any emergency comes that city is not liable for anything.

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, informed that this band does not require a 50% payment ahead of time, and this band is not requesting anything until the day of the event.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez suggested that staff should proceed with this contract. He asked other members of the council for any comments or concerns.

Council Member Jose Ponce commented that he wants to make sure that the city is protected in case this event gets canceled.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked staff to work with the band, as this can go both ways. He stated that he believes that if the group does not feel safe due to COVID-19, they will not play.

Council Members Africa Luna-Carrasco and Mario Buchanan Jr. agreed with Council Member Jose Ponce and stated that they asked that the legal department negotiates the contract.

Mr. Galaviz informed that he would be working with Ms. Macuil to negotiate a contract with Diva Music LLC. He commented that when this item comes back to Council for approval, this company will be brought in as a sole provider, as they are the only ones that can bring El Gran Silencio.

**2. C. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding a contract with Lantis Productions, Inc., for a fireworks presentation during the 4th of July Celebration. (Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation)**

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation, informed that Lantis Productions, Inc., have San Luis in their schedule to provide the fireworks show on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. He stated that he would work with the City Attorney's Office to negotiate a contract to include any liabilities if the event gets canceled, as they request a 50% down payment.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that the city has been contracting Lantis for several years. He asked if they are willing to negotiate a contract with the city.

Mr. Galaviz replied that he would get in contact with them to see if there are any options and if for some reason, the event is moved or canceled, or if this deposit can be applied to the following year.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked council if they had any questions. There were no comments or questions from council.

**2. D. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding Avenue F expansion between Juan Sanchez Boulevard and County 23 1/2 Street. (Council Member Matias Rosales and Eulogio Vera, Acting Director of Public Works)**

Council Member Matias Rosales stated that this item was brought for discussion as this is something that is needed in that area. He suggested staff start looking at the section of this road and start working with Yuma County as this will be required with the rapid growth in that area.

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Acting Director of Public Works, informed that staff did some research and informed that this area belongs to the county and it is state's land right-of-way. He added that the city has some of the right-of-way in this area but staff will do some research as to how much belongs to the city. He mentioned that this area should be a priority in the future.

Council Member Matias Rosales mentioned that this area is also in need of sidewalks and should be included in the future development in this area.

Mr. Vera informed that staff would do the research on the right-of-way and also will work on a conceptual plan. He mentioned that some of the things that can be done are to add lighting to the existing poles. He commented that if for the road, staff will have to find out if this area belongs to the county to obtain authorization from them to do grading in that area.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez thanked Mr. Vera and staff for being proactive. He mentioned that the area mentioned is the fastest growing area in the city, and this area will need the amenities to continue to grow. He asked other Council if they had any questions or concerns on this site. There were no comments from members of the council.

**2. E. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding business access on Archibald Street, in San Luis, Arizona. (Council Member Matias Rosales and Eulogio Vera, Acting Director of Public Works)**

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Acting Director of Public Works, informed that staff has been working on this project for over a year. He added that he has been looking at conceptual layouts as what can be done in the third lane in that area. Also, staff has been looking for costs. He mentioned that this is the time to implement a change as there is slow traffic, so this can transition into the peak season. He stated that staff does not have the design, but there is a concept, is either using flex tech or water barriers between third and second lane southbound from Urtuzuastegui Street to D Street and leave the intersection open for public safety vehicles. Mr. Vera informed that currently, there is no cost estimate since this is just a conceptual plan, but this can range from \$15,000 to \$80,000 depending on what will be done or the type of equipment that will be utilized.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez commented that it would be beneficial for businesses in that area to facilitate access.

### **3. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz/Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. to adjourn the work session at approximately 8:08 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez	Aye
Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr.	Aye
Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye
Council Member Matias Rosales	Aye
Council Member Gloria Torres	Aye

**APPROVED:**

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Gerardo Sanchez, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk

**Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Work Session for the City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, held on April 01, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk