

**MINUTES**  
**Special Council Meeting**  
**San Luis City Council**  
**San Luis Council Chambers**  
**1090 E. Union Street**  
**November 10, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Mayor Gerardo Sanchez called the Special City Council meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Mayor, City Council, and some members of staff participated remotely.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Gerardo Sanchez  
Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz (Left at 7:38 p.m.)  
Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr.  
Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco  
Council Member Matias Rosales  
Council Member Jose Ponce  
Council Member Gloria Torres

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tadeo A. De La Hoya, City Manager (remotely)  
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk  
Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney  
Alexis Gomez, Code Enforcement Officer  
Derek Dueñas, Manager of Information Technology  
Domingo Sosa, Information Technology Technician  
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works  
Fausto Gonzalez, HR Coordinator  
Francia Alonso, Records Management Specialist  
Isaac Gutierrez, GIS Technician  
Joaquin, Building Official  
Jose L. Cisneros, Executive Assistant  
Jose Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning  
Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Marlene Lara, Government and Foreign Affairs Coordinator  
Maria Sabori, Risk Property Manager  
Ralph Velez, City Consultant (remotely)  
Ric Bauermann, Fire Inspector  
Rogelio Martinez, ERAP Vice Chair  
Christine Velez, City Consultant (remotely)  
Sondra Matthews, Director of Human Resources  
Luis Cabrera, Council Member Elect  
Olivia Jenkins, Riedel Holding  
Najeh Edais, Engineer

## **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Jose Ponce led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **3. INVOCATION**

Mr. Tadeo De La Hoya, City Manager, led the invocation.

## **4. PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATION**

### **4.A. PROCLAMATION**

#### **GIS Day - November 18, 2020**

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez added that as the city grows it will be depending on the geographical information systems and technology. This is a new science, a new tool cities can use as they grow and as they plan and recognize the importance of GIS.

### **4.B. PRESENTATION**

**Presentation and recognition of the 2020 - 3rd Quarter awardees with the Employee Recognition and Awards Program (ERAP) for their outstanding work with the City of San Luis. (Fausto Gonzalez, HR Coordinator & Rogelio Martinez, ERAP Vice-Chair)**

Mr. Fausto Gonzalez, HR Coordinator, and Mr. Rogelio Martinez, ERAP Vice Chair, introduced the 2020-3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter awardees. The complete list is attached to the agenda items review form filed at the City Clerk's Office.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez and Council Members thanked and congratulated all the awardees.

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5.A. MINUTES OF**

**- Regular Council meeting held October 28, 2020**

### **5.B. DISBURSEMENTS FROM OCTOBER 16, 2020 THROUGH OCTOBER 29, 2020**

**Total Disbursements \$578,398.12**

**(Five Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand, Three Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars and Twelve Cents)**

**5.C. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding budget adjustment for unavoidable overtime in the City Prosecutor's Office. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)**

**5.D. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the consultant contract between the City of San Luis and James Davey and Associates, Inc. for the new Community Park. (Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation)**

**5.E. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2145. A resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona amending the assessment for fiscal year 2020/2021 for the Rio Sereno Enhanced Municipal Services District to reduce the tax imposed from \$60,944.00 to \$11,031.00. (Monica Castro, Director of Finance)**

**MOTION:** Council Member Gloria Torres/Council Member Jose Ponce to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. 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

## **6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

### **6.A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the designation of a Vice Mayor. (City Council)**

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez commented this item was brought to his attention. First and foremost, there are a couple of things occurring right now as he speaks. During the past couple of weeks, especially with funding for the Port of Entry I, there has been discussion that they might cut funding for the construction. He is verifying this information and this means that he and the Vice Mayor will have to be traveling. He understands it is pandemic time but there is a possibility they might have to go to Mexico City or Washigton D.C., so the Vice Mayor will have to be working a lot with him. He has also been receiving phone calls as people are worried about who is going to represent the city in the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO). The Vice Mayor will be attending the meetings and is going to be a representative. Mayor Gerardo Sanchez will be substituting when the Vice Mayor is not able to attend. The biggest concern there is, is the state might be switching the money advocated for Los Alamos, so the city needs someone there who is going to be persistent and make sure that the funding for dangerous curve continues. The city needs to make sure that funding does not get removed, mitigated, or put somewhere else because of COVID-19. He does not want COVID-19 to be the reason why this money gets deviated. The economy of the City of San Luis, Arizona is dependant on the Port of Entry II.

Council Member Gloria Torres commented that in consideration of a new City Council, discussing this item should be considered in January when the new council takes office. This evening the council has the opportunity to be part of the decision. Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz can finish her two (2) weeks, then there will be a new person on board and maybe he is interested in becoming the new Vice Mayor. Mayor Gerardo Sanchez said it is a good comment but he needs a decision now and he also stated that he cannot afford to have a new person as the Vice Mayor for the reasons he indicated above.

Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz strongly agrees with Mayor Gerardo Sanchez and the reason why this is, is that they are already threatening to take funding away in these two (2) separate areas. We need a person who has experience, who is strong in voicing the city's opinion in the city, and cannot put a person who is not going to be devoted to this time.

Council Member Jose Ponce commented this is like a slap on the face and an insult to the City Council; the Vice Mayor is saying that only two (2) people are capable of doing it and this is an insult. He added that he agrees with Council Member Gloria Torres, and if a nomination needs to be done tonight, he nominates Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco.

Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco commented she understands and agrees that this cannot go like Mayor Gerardo Sanchez says it is going, but they are a seven (7) member City Council and all should be able to participate in one way or another in all these very important issues that the city has been fighting for since she can remember. She does not think it is fair that it is left up to him and the Vice Mayor, whoever that person is appointed. It is a seven (7) member team and need to start working as a team. She also added that if the rest of the City Council does not have the experience, it is because they have not been asked to participate at that level.

Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. commented he is not interested in a position like this as he does not have the time. He knows he is not being appointed by anyone, but it is an important position to take care of when Mayor Gerardo Sanchez is not around or even the City Council; the community needs to be well represented and he understands that anyone can do it as long as they have the time.

Council Member Matias Rosales commented that being he was Vice Mayor for many terms or a year before Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz, it does take a lot of time, and this was pre COVID-19. He does not know what is going to happen here forward regarding the traveling, but being part of the Port Authority and seeing all the emails that are coming; whoever wants to step up to the plate, whoever gets appointed for this, does need to be able to commit the time to travel at some point. He did not hear Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz say no one else is qualified for it, she just stated that whoever is going to be appointed, who ever wants to take that responsibility, needs to commit the time required. It is their own and as City Council, if he recalls correctly, they are supposed to review this item once a year. When he was appointed Vice Mayor, he was appointed out of the hospital and was Vice Mayor for five (5) years.

Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz has been the Vice Mayor for two (2) years; he agreed with Mayor Gerardo Sanchez.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez commented he personally wanted Council Member Matias Rosales to be the Vice Mayor because he knows what is going on and does not want to start from scratch. His biggest concern is the need to use contacts to make sure the city does not lose this funding.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz/Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. to nominate Matias Rosales as the next Vice Mayor due to the reason he has the experience and the city needs somebody who is a strong advocate for the City of San Luis with all the experience that he has with the Yuma Port Authority. 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	Nay
Council Member Jose Ponce	Nay
Council Member Matias Rosales	Aye
Council Member Gloria Torres	Nay

**6.B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the brick walls at various retention basins within the City of San Luis. (Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation)**

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation, stated that his department has prioritized the list and recommends that all the projects be funded for safety concerns.

**MOTION:** Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz/Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco to move forward with this item as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

**6.C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Ordinance No. 401. An ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, for the management of trees in the City of San Luis and practices for the care of the trees and removal when in the health, safety, and welfare interests of the residents; amending the San Luis City Code; repealing any conflicting provision; providing for severability, and providing for penalties. (Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks and Recreation)**

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation, explained that in conjunction with Community Development and Public Works, this ordinance will support the care and development of the city's trees focusing on long term of becoming a tree city in the future. This has a health benefit and has a shade for individuals using the open spaces; a lot of the maintenance is already done by city employees and staff is currently looking at more training to better maintain and also are developing a nursery and other projects that will increase the planting of trees in the city.

**A. Action on Reading of Ordinance No. 401 by title only  
(City Clerk to read the ordinance by title only)**

**MOTION:** Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz/Vice Mayor Matias Rosales to approve reading of Ordinance No. 401 by title only. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 401 by title only.

**B. Action and adoption of Ordinance No. 401**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 401. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

**6.D. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the appointment of one (1) City of San Luis resident to serve on the City of San Luis Planning and Zoning Commission. (Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning and Zoning)**

Mr. Jose Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning, mentioned the city currently has six (6) Commission Members and the Commission is supposed to be seven (7) members. Staff received a letter from Commission Member Daniel Bazua, resigning from the Commission and there are two (2) applications submitted from interested citizens for this position; Mr. George Amaya and Mr. Edel Silva. Staff recommends that the City Council appoint a resident for this position since having a full Commission is important for the future growth of the city.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz to appoint George Amaya as a Planning & Zoning Commissioner to build vacancy created by Daniel Bazua which term expires January 31, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz left the meeting remotely due to a family emergency.

**6.E. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2146. A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona approving Las Quintas de San Luis 3 Development Agreement between the City of San Luis, Arizona, and Riedel Holdings, L.L.C., and repealing Resolution No. 2058. (Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning and Zoning)**

Mr. Jose Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning, explained that a development agreement for Las Quintas 3 was approved approximately two (2) years ago. The layout of the development changed. Instead of 19 lots they are now proposing 10 lots. Therefore this is just the rezoning from R1-12 to R1-20, the only difference is the minimum lot size, which is 20,000 square feet and the open space requirement changed from 5% to 2%, so it was reduced. The same previous conditions apply to the development agreement, only condition number 2 was changed for the open space requirement and added the second to last condition which refers to the offset from Quintero Street. The developer did not agree with condition number 1 and this condition, but staff mentioned that the traffic study is required by Ordinance No. 390.

The alignment with Quintero Street is a concern, they submitted a way to alleviate this requirement, to add a medium on County 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, but it is under review by city staff, so it was added to the development agreement just in case it is an issue.

Mr. Najeh Edais, Engineer, stated this is another beautiful project in the City of San Luis and they reduced the number of blocks from 20 to 10 to make them large and different. He added that one of the things that Mr. Guzman has not mentioned is that they met with city staff and discussed this. The medium is not their idea but the city engineers's idea, and they agreed to it. This medium solves the problem of the offset of the street, it came out as a solution to that problem.

They also discussed the traffic impact study and the decision was made during that meeting that it is not required because the traffic impact study is not going to do anything. All the improvements that the city want, they did, they are widening the entire County 22<sup>nd</sup> Street from 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the canal with curbs, gutter, and sidewalks, including the medium that Mr. Eulogio Vera asked for; what will a traffic impact study going to do for 10 lots? However, if the city wants it, they will do it, but he thinks it is ridiculous.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. to approve Resolution No. 2146. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

**6.F. Public hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Rezoning Case No. 2020-0474 and Ordinance No. 402. An ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, amending the official zoning map of the City of San Luis by changing the zoning classification of 10.52 acres from Medium Density Residential (R1-12) to Low Density Residential (R1-20) for property located north of County 22nd Street and east of the East Main Canal; repealing any conflicting provisions; and providing for severability. (Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning and Zoning)**

#### **A. Open public hearing**

**MOTION:** Council Member Gloria Torres/Council Member Africal Luna-Carrasco to open the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

### **1. Staff presentation**

Mr. Jose Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning, stated this item was discussed in the previous item, staff is recommending approval of this ordinance based on Resolution No. 2146. The rezoning will be conditioned on all the conditions on the development agreement.

### **2. Call to the Public on this item**

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, stated that her office did not received any comments in favor of or against this item.

### **B. Close public hearing**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. to close the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

### **C. Approval of Reading of Ordinance No. 402 by title only (City Clerk to read the ordinance by title only)**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Jose Ponce to approve reading of Ordinance No. 402 by title only. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez	Aye
Vice Mayor Matias Rosales	Aye
Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr.	Aye
Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye

Council Member Gloria Torres                      Aye

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 402 by title only.

**D. Action on Ordinance No. 402**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Jose Ponce to approve the rezoning conditioned upon the terms of the development agreement by Resolution No. 2146 and to approve Ordinance No. 402. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

**7. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez reported that he met with the Port Director, the Consulate of Mexico arranged this meeting, it was a very productive session as items of interest were discussed such as an insect study specialist, how to promote the Port of Entry 2 and the modernization to Port of Entry 1. He also attended the ribbon cutting for the physical therapy location.

Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco reported she attended the library meeting, it was a short meeting. The meeting was mostly stats from the different branches about their re-opening. People are still participating virtually and little by little people are going back to the libraries.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Jose Ponce to adjourn the Special Council meeting at approximately 8:10 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez	Aye
Vice Mayor Matias Rosales	Aye
Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr.	Aye
Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	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 Special City Council meeting of the City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, held on November 10, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was dully called and held and that a quorum was present.

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Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk