

MINUTES
Special Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
November 24, 2020
6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Mayor Gerardo Sanchez called the Special City Council meeting to order at approximately 6:32 p.m.

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

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Tadeo A. De La Hoya, City Manager (remotely)
Melissa Lopez, Deputy City Clerk
Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney
Domingo Sosa, Information Technology Technician
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Jorge Mungaray, Information Technology Technician
Jose L. Cisneros, Executive Assistant
Jose Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning
Marlene Lara, Government and Foreign Affairs Coordinator
Martin Agundez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Ralph Velez, City Consultant (remotely)
Richard Jessup, Chief of Police
Luis Cabrera, Council Member Elect
Ruben Walshe, La Bodega Kitchen and Bar

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Jose Ponce led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

Mr. Richard Jessup, Chief of Police, led the invocation.

4. PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATION

4.A. PROCLAMATION

- 26th Dia del Campesino Health and Information Fair (Farm Worker's Day)

Ms. Melissa Lopez, Deputy City Clerk, read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez thanked Campesinos Sin Fronteras for the work done, especially the farm workers.

4.B. PRESENTATION

- Brief Presentation of Open Meeting Law Materials. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)

Ms. Kay Macuil, City Attorney, provided a brief open meeting law presentation which serves as a refresher for those that were elected in 2020. This has to be done at least one day before they take office.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.A. MINUTES OF

- Special Council meeting held November 4, 2020**
- Work Session meeting held November 4, 2020**

5.B. DISBURSEMENTS FROM OCTOBER 30, 2020 THROUGH NOVEMBER 12, 2020

Total Disbursements \$730,105.02

(Seven Hundred Thirty Thousand, One Hundred Five Dollars and Two Cents)

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 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. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

6.A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization to purchase three (3) fully marked and equipped new 2021 Ford F150 Crew Cab 4 x 4 Short Box pick-up trucks using Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Projects budgeted funds. (Richard Jessup, Chief of Police)

Mr. Richard Jessup, Chief of Police, explained there was a hold on the purchase of these vehicles due to COVID-19 and now these funds have been given to the San Luis Police Department for approval.

His department went through the state bidding process and have taken the bid to a local vendor, Alexander Ford, who was able to price it underneath the amount. The trucks are \$172,000.00 which is approximately \$7,500.00 below the budgeted amount of \$180,000.00.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Maria Cecilia Cruz/Council Member Jose Ponce to waive formal purchasing procedures under City Code Section 36.01(H) for \$112,574.46 to purchase three (3) new 2021 Ford F-150 Crew Cab 4 x 4 short box pick-up trucks and approve the marking and equipping of the vehicles for an amount not to exceed \$67,425.54 for a total amount not to exceed \$180,000.00 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.B. Public hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the recommendation of an Application for Extension of Premises/Patio Permit to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for La Bodega Kitchen and Bar. (Ruben Walshe, La Bodega Kitchen and Bar)

A. Open public hearing

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Jose Ponce 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 Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye
Council Member Gloria Torres	Aye

1. Staff / Applicant Presentation

Mr. Ruben Walshe, La Bodega Kitchen and Bar, explained that the extension of premise patio permit is a temporary and this is designed by the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for special events. Due to the pandemic, the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control adjusted the temporary extension of premise patio permit from one (1) day to up to six (6) months.

The main reason why they are doing this is due to the health department requesting owners to be at a 50% capacity. If City Council recommends the approval of this request, he intends to use this extension only on Fridays although this extension can be used daily. Mr. Walshe proceeded to explain how he was going to gate and extend the front parking patio.

Mayor Gerado Sanchez stated that this is something that is being done for different restaurants throughout the state and can be done at the other restaurants locally and it is not something exclusive for La Bodega Kitchen and Bar.

2. Call to the public on this item

There were no comments from the public on this item.

B. Close public hearing

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz 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 Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye
Council Member Gloria Torres	Aye

C. Action on Application For Extension of Premises/Patio Permit to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control

MOTION: Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz/Council Member Jose Ponce to recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control the application for extension of premises/patio permit of La Bodega, L.L.C., 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

7. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MOTION TO ADJOURN AS CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

MOTION: Vice Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Jose Ponce adjourn as City Council and convene as Board of Adjustment. 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

7.A. Public Hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Variance Case No. 2020-0618. A request by Sign Masters of Yuma, LLC, on behalf of Regional Center for Border Health, to reduce the setback on a sign from 12 feet to 3 feet for San Luis Medical Mall located at 151 S. Oak Avenue, San Luis, Arizona. (Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning and Zoning)

A. Open public hearing

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Jose Ponce 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 Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye
Council Member Gloria Torres	Aye

1. Presentation by staff and/or applicant

Mr. Jose Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning, explained this is a request by Sign Masters of Yuma to reduce the setback on a freestanding sign from 12 feet to 3 feet for the San Luis Medical Mall located at 151 South Oak Avenue, San Luis, AZ. As required by state statute, staff sent notification letters to all property owners within 200 feet of the proposed project. A total of five (5) letters were mailed, they have not received any concerns or comments from the public or any other agency.

A variance can be granted to an applicant only if the applicant establishes compliance with the four (4) hardship criteria established by state statute and the city code. In all cases the application to address all the following criteria:

1. There are special circumstances or conditions regarding the land, which do not apply to the properties nearby.
2. The special circumstances are pre-existing and that creator was all imposed by the owner.
3. The variance is necessary for the preservation of substantial property rights.
4. Authorizing the variance will not be materially detrimental to persons residing or working in the vicinity or adjacent properties or neighborhood or the public world welfare

As he reviewed the request and has determined that the application meets the four (4) criteria for granting the variance.

1. The location of the property and the existing visibility triangle creates the special circumstances for this property.
2. The configuration of the lot was created when the subdivision was constructed and therefore is not self-imposed by the owner.
3. The visibility triangle is designed to protect the view and traffic flows allowing for the sign to be placed in a safe location with high visibility.
4. The approval of the variance will not be materially detrimental to the surrounding area of the or the property owners.

Staff recommends approval of Variance Case #2020-0618.

Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. asked if it was safe to do the change.

Mr. Guzman responded yes, the existing lot has a visibility triangle for traffic safety, and the sign will be placed outside that visibility triangle so it will be safe for the traffic or pedestrians walking by.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz asked when will the ribbon cutting take place for the medical mall.

Mr. Guzman responded he thinks they have to finish construction in December but does not have a specific date of the ribbon cutting.

2. Call to the Public on this item

Ms. Melissa Lopez, Deputy City Clerk, stated that the City Clerk's Office did not receive any comments in favor of or against the variance request.

B. Close public hearing

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Jose Ponce 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 Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye
Council Member Gloria Torres	Aye

C. Action on Variance No. 2020-0618

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Jose Ponce to find the application meets the variance criteria and to approve variance 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

8. MOTION TO ADJOURN AS BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND RECONVENE AS CITY COUNCIL

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Vice Mayor Matias Rosales to adjourn as Board of Adjustment and reconvene as City Council. 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

9. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz reported that Ms. Georgina Gonzalez from the San Luis Rotary Club, approached the South Yuma County Domestic Violence Coalition for collaboration with the handbags of hope. This project is for women escaping domestic violence, living dangerous situations. As a coalition, they gathered 20 slightly used purses and the Rotary Club was going to fill them with personal items. Tomorrow the purses will be donated to Catholic Community Services in Yuma, which is the one that handles the shelter in Yuma. She also reported that Proverbs 31 Home applied for a \$5,000.00 grant that was offered by the Arizona Community Foundation and they were awarded the grant. She included she is a board member member for the Yuma Regional Bike Coalition and they are having the 3rd Annual Tour De Fields Charity Bicycle event. This year the City of Somerton will be the hosting city. The City of San Luis will be the hosting city in 2022 for this great event. It is a 52 mile course and there are people from all over the place, this event is growing rapidly.

Vice Mayor Matias Rosales reported he had his first Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) meeting, only one item on the agenda the postponed project for 2024 tip for the City of Yuma. He provided an update on the meetings he had today that he attended for Mayor Gerardo Sanchez. He met with Congressman Gallegos' and Kirkpatrick's staff. Both offices were on board supporting the city's project that is asking for \$90 million funding for Port I and the important date is to get everything done before December 11th.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez reported the city got word that the Senate Appropriations Bills for 2021 had zero money for ports of entry. The House of Representatives, this year had over \$2 billion that were going to be designated to ports of entry. The appropriations bills included the \$90 million, what was remaining to finish the city's Port of Entry I remodelization. The city wants to make sure that it guarantees the rest of the funding of the \$90 million for the port of entry. The more time one waits, the more costly the project will get.

The city is knocking doors, both republicans and democrats where it got the \$150 plus million to start the process; now the task is going to be to make that the negotiation between the Senate and House of Representatives occurs and that everyone is on board supporting this project. He spoke about his call with Senator Elect Mark Kelly and his meetings where congressman have participated for the past two (2) weeks. The City of San Luis was recognized for the Arizona/Mexico Commission participation. It is very important to attend the conference put together by this organization as it makes a big impact of getting to know contacts/relations by attending this organization's meetings.

Council Member Jose Ponce reported he attended the San Luis Film Festival and thanked Mr. Antonio Carrillo for putting this event together for the community. He added that he has been helping Pastor Castro in the distribution of food and will be distributing meals on Thanksgiving Day to residents.

Council Member Gloria Torres reported she was in the opening and closing of the San Luis Film Festival and she had the privilege of meeting the starring artist of the last movie, it was great and brought memories of her old times at the drive-in theater. She thanked Mr. Antonio Carrillo for the good job on this project.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez thanked Mr. Antonio Carrillo for the great work he does, for this project and the city will continue to support him. There was a lot of participation especially in the drive-in theme.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Jose Ponce to adjourn the Special Council meeting at approximately 7:34 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 Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye
Council Member Gloria Torres	Aye

APPROVED:

Gerardo Sanchez, Mayor

ATTEST:

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 24, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was dully called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk