

MINUTES
Work Session
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
February 3, 2021
6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice Mayor Matias Rosales called the Work Session to order at approximately 6:45 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Gerardo Sanchez
Vice Mayor Matias Rosales
Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr.
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera
Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco
Council Member Jose Ponce
Council Member Gloria Torres

OTHERS PRESENT: Tadeo A. De La Hoya, City Administrator
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney
Alexis Gomez, Code Enforcement Officer
Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief
Axel Chayra, Information Technology Department
Christine Velez, Management Analyst (remotely)
Derek Dueñas, Information Technology Manager
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Glenn Gimbut, Assistant City Attorney
Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning
Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation
Marlene Lara, Assistant to Council/PIO
Monica Castro, Director of Finance
Ralph Velez, City Consultant (remotely)
Richard Jessup, Chief of Police
Mark Reader, Stifel
Claude Lockhart, Stifel

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

2. A. Presentation followed by discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) unfunded liability and related options for consideration. (Mark Reader, Managing Director at Stifel)

Ms. Monica Castro, Director of Finance, informed that during a meeting, she presented the pension policy for Police and Fire departments, where the police plan is funded below 65%, while the fire plan is at over 86%. She mentioned that the city's goal is to be 100% funded. She added that at the favorable market conditions, many Public Safety Personnel Retirement System employers are looking at fixed rate pension obligations bonds as a viable funding option to either reduce or pay off their Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liabilities.

Mr. Mark Reader and Mr. Claude Lockhart from Stifel made a PowerPoint presentation on Police and Fire Pension Plan Liability Management. A copy of this presentation is attached to the complete agenda packet filed in the City Clerk's Office.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez directed Ms. Castro to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. B. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding an update on the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Build Discretionary Grant Assistance for the Cesar Chavez Boulevard project. (Jenny Torres, Economic Development Manager)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Economic Development Manager, informed that she had made a previous presentation on this item requesting authorization to solicit Requests for Qualifications (RFQ). On December 22, 2020, the city released an RFQ to provide technical assistance for developing the BUILD grant application for the Cesar Chavez Boulevard project. She commented that the BUILD grant is very competitive, it is put together by the U.S. Department of Transportation for \$25 million; one of their regulation is a 20% grant match, which will be up to a \$5 million match funding. Furthermore, she informed that 39 invitations were sent out, and the city received one (1) proposal. She added that staff is currently negotiating the fee and contract; the initial proposal is \$49,850.00. She commented that the item was not budgeted for this fiscal year since there were delays with the contract. City Council directed staff to request the funding from the council contingency fund should the project move forward this year. She mentioned that the city should apply for this funding, the funding availability will be released on February 2021, and the turnaround is in May 2021. She asked Mayor and City Council for their direction on whether or not to proceed with this item to present the item in the next scheduled meeting for February 10, 2021.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez directed Ms. Torres to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. C. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the purchase of a new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) fill station. (Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief)

Mr. Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief, informed that this item was budgeted for the current fiscal year. He mentioned that the current fill station was purchased in the early 2000s. He added the current unit had sustained numerous repairs in the past year; he said that much of the issues have to do with overloading the system to the current bottles. He asked Mayor and City Council to purchase said equipment and allow staff to waive the procurement code, as LN Curtis is the current vendor and has always provided excellent customer service and always prioritized the city's needs.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez directed Mr. Ramirez to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. D. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding off-site signs on Archibald Street. (Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning and Zoning)

Mr. Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning, informed that the current city code prohibits installing off-site signs on Main Street south of County 22nd Street and only allows them on commercial properties located in a major arterial road. He mentioned that the current ordinance was adopted when the traffic going into Mexico was on Main Street. He added that the traffic now travels south on Archibald Street, therefore is now considered a major arterial road; therefore, the regulations allow for off-site signs on said street. He asked Mayor and City Council for directions regarding whether or not to allow off-site signs on Archibald Street. Mr. Guzman explained that off-site signs are signs advertising businesses in another location.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez directed Mr. Guzman to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. E. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the approval and adoption of Order No. 2021-3. An order of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona to authorize the City of San Luis Police Department to receive funding for overtime and mileage by approving an Intergovernmental Agreement and authorizing execution of Subrecipient Agreement Operation Stonegarden Grant Program Award - Overtime and Mileage between the State of Arizona through the Arizona Department of Homeland Security and the City of San Luis, Arizona through the San Luis Police Department. (Richard Jessup, Chief of Police)

Mr. Richard Jessup, Chief of Police, informed that the San Luis Police Department had been awarded \$500,000.00 for overtime and \$20,025.00 for mileage for fiscal year 2020 Operation Stonegarden Program for a total of \$520,025.00.

He mentioned that this would support the United States Border Patrol mission by allowing police officers to prevent the egress of drug and undocumented person smuggling and the nexus of terrorism.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez directed Mr. Jessup to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. F. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding Proposition 207 passed by the voters on November 3, 2020, and amending the city's recreational marijuana ordinances under No. 403, and 404 to eliminate the need for dual licenses for medical and recreational marijuana while maintaining the places that either type of business may be located and adjusting the license fee. (Glenn J. Gimbut, Assistant City Attorney)

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that a Special Council meeting was held before this work session. There were no additional questions or concerns from the members of the City Council. He asked Mr. Glenn Gimbut to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. G. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2153. A resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona authorizing and directing the entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Yuma Union High School District #70 for joint athletic and recreational facilities use through the City's Parks and Recreation Department and San Luis High School. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney and Lizandro Galaviz, Parks and Recreation Director)

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, informed that this item was presented and approved during the last regular council meeting. This item was brought back because the final agreement was not attached to the agenda item during that meeting.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez directed Ms. Macuil to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. H. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any all matters regarding a proposed resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona approving and adopting the Inmate Work Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Department of Corrections. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, Lizandro Galaviz, Department of Parks and Recreation Director and Eulogio Vera, Public Works Director)

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, informed that the current agreement has already expired. This agreement is for when COVID-19 is no longer a safety concern. She added that staff would like to renew the agreement for a five-year term.

She mentioned that staff has attempted to work with the Department of Corrections to provide personal protective equipment for their personnel but has had no luck in getting to the correct person; for this reason, the agreement will be left as it is.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that the Department of Corrections is an essential workforce, and the city saves a lot of money for its services. He said that he has no problem renewing the agreement. He directed Ms. Macuil to proceed with this item as agreed by all City Council members.

2. I. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding a Business Grant Program to assist small local businesses impacted by the pandemic. (Council Member Luis E. Cabrera; Jenny Torres, Economic Development Manager; and Monica Castro, Director of Finance)

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera stated that he spoke with Jenny Torres regarding the bill introduced by Congressmen Raul Grijalva regarding the Business Grant Program. He mentioned that he spoke with Ms. Torres to see if the city can implement this grant even if it does not pass.

Ms. Jenny Torres, Economic Development Manager, gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding this topic. A copy of this presentation is attached to the complete agenda packet filed in the City Clerk's Office.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked if funds from contingency funds will be allocated for this program.

Ms. Monica Castro, Director of Finance, mentioned that indeed this program was not budgeted for; if City Council is interested in initiating this program, then funding would have to be found. She commented that he had a conversation with Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works. He had mentioned that his department might have funding available for this program from the new fleet shop budget. This project has started, but he believes that not all funds will be spent; for this reason, there will be approximately \$100,000.00 available if City Council decides to help San Luis businesses.

Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, stated that there are legal concerns where the anti-gift clause applies; if City Council wishes to proceed with this program, more thorough research will have to be done to move with this program.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked Ms. Macuil if the anti-gift clause will interfere with the program.

Ms. Macuil replied that she would have to see if the city has federal funding that can be utilized for this program or economic development business support.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked if staff promotes the bill proposed by Congressman Raul Grijalva or a city's program.

Ms. Torres replied that staff had not promoted this program as the bill has not passed yet. She mentioned that staff had been asked to provide examples of businesses that have been affected, but staff is uncertain if this bill will pass. If it does not pass, it will be the City Council's decision whether they would like to start a local program.

Vice-Mayor Matias Rosales commented that if this program is funded, staff will have to be very careful that funds are appropriately utilized. In other cities, businesses were taking advantage of the program even though they did not need the funds.

City Council members were supportive of this program and asked staff to proceed with this program.

2. J. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding a citywide Beautification Program. (Council Member Luis E. Cabrera; Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation; Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works; and Richard Jessup, Chief of Police)

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera mentioned that he spoke with Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation, regarding critical areas that community members complain about. He added that one of the areas that people have complaint the most is along Cesar Chavez Boulevard from 4th Avenue to 10th Avenue; one of the main reasons for this is that the city does not have the help of the Arizona Department of Corrections.

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, replied that the Arizona Department of Corrections, inmates, were a great help to the city, but does not mean that the city cannot do the job and stated that staff would work on improving that area. He mentioned that staff is working on getting authorization to beautify areas that do not belong to the city.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked what the status of the walking path on Cesar Chavez Boulevard is.

Mr. Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning, informed that staff is working with the Yuma County Water Users Association (YCWUA) to cover all the areas owned by them. The agreement will make it easier for the city if it wishes to do any construction or landscape type. Cesar Chavez Boulevard's area between 6th and 8th Streets are part of this agreement and all the canal right-of-way for the future pathways. He added that staff received comments from the YCWUA, and staff will address those comments; soon, staff will come before City Council for approval of the agreement.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that City Council would like to make sure that this item is not dropped off; the city needs the beautification project. Also, the community needs to see that the city cares about its concerns. He added that the city needs to be on top streets and parks.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera also addressed the issue of accumulating sand and bushes on Avenue F. He asked if something can be done on this area.

Mr. Vera replied that staff has reviewed this topic and has come out with different ideas such as hay bail installation, but the concern on hay bails is that people may light fire to it; the other idea is to install concrete barriers. He added that staff is still reviewing the different options and costs.

City Council members were supportive of this item and asked staff to continue with the beautification program throughout the city.

2. K. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the speed limit on Urtuzuastegui Street. (Council Member Luis E. Cabrera; Richard Jessup, Chief of Police; and Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works)

Mr. Richard Jessup, Chief of Police, stated that the area around Urtuzuastegui Street is residential, there will be risks and liabilities that will be put to the city. In that same street, there is a park and various stop signs before 10th Avenue. He commented that his recommendation would be to keep that street on 25 mph because most people go over the speed limit. He mentioned that officers do give citations to people, and it is left at the officer's discretion. He added that if the speed limit is bumped up to 35 mph, vehicles will drive at 40 to 45 mph; this will put pedestrians at risk, as this street is not only utilized by cars but also by commercial vehicles.

Vice-Mayor Matias Rosales agreed with Chief Jessup and mentioned that this street is utilized by people exercising in the mornings and evenings; this will have to be considered before increasing the speed limit.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that if the speed limit is increased, then the city would be liable.

Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco asked Chief Jessup if the Police Department have considered showing the community the police presence in that area to stop speeders on that area.

Chief Jessup replied that the Police Department purchased speed trailers and installed one of them on Urtuzuastegui Street between 6th and 8th Avenues. This helped speeders slow down.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera asked if the speed can be set for vehicles at 30 mph and keep trucks at 25 mph.

Chief Jessup replied that this might create confusion amongst drivers.

City Council members agreed with Chief Jessup of leaving the speed limit at 25 mph on Urtuzuastegui Street.

3. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Vice-Mayor Matias Rosales/Council Member Luis E. Cabrera to adjourn the Work Session at approximately 8:45 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 Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Africa Luna-Carrasco	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 Work Session minutes for the City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, held on February 03, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk