

MINUTES
Special Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
August 19, 2021
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.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Kay Macuil, Acting City Manager/City Attorney
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Tadeo De La Hoya, City Administrator (party to the contract)
Axel Chayra, I.T. Technician
Domingo Sosa, I.T. Department
Janet Taylor, Legal Secretary
Jonathan Dumadag, I.T. Department
Jose Luis Cisneros, Acting Public Information Officer/Executive Assistant
Lizandro Galaviz, Director of Parks & Recreation
Richard Jessup, Chief of Police
Cesar Neyoy, Reporter
Columba Nuñez, Resident
David Lara, Resident
Guillermina Fuentes, Resident
Lilia Quiñonez, Resident
Mario Buchanan Sr., Resident

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez allowed the public to comment on the first item for three (3) minutes each.

Mr. Genaro Soto Cordova, Resident, stated that his issue is regarding health problems. A few months ago, he was in down San Luis as he calls it to georeference the area. He said that some of the neighbors in that area were talking about how the pavement was destroyed. He video recorded the pavement problems and some laugh at it and others think about the situation. A few weeks later, the city had programmed the repairs of the pavement and he came across with city employees from the water department who were preparing the hydrological infrastructure mix. He then asked one (1) of the city employees if they still used the asbestos and he was told yes. Mr. Soto Cordova added that the World Wide Health Organization has informed that asbestos is dangerous to a human being; in such way that it detaches fibers that stay in ones organism. Some of those residents in that area can die with cancer because of the asbestos. He thinks that the city could have invested to convert the asbestos into pvc. He hopes that the Mayor and City Council understand that the city is hurting the health of its residents.

Mr. Gilberto Zarate, Resident, said that he has requested recall packets, although he does not want to do it because it will be an unnecessary spending when this money can be used on something that will help the city in a positive way. He asked the Mayor and City Council to think well about their decision because it can return to them not only to Tadeo. He said he respects each one of the elected officials but they need to rectify the error and he is not playing, he has the signatures for the recall and he is going after them. He stated that what the City Council does with Tadeo, Mr. Zarate will do the same to elected officials.

Ms. Lila Quiñonez, Resident, reproached to four (4) elected officials for not attending their call the day the residents were waiting for them outside after the meeting and they disrespected them, the majority of which are seniors. She said that they are pressuring residents and the City Council is acting in an erroneous manner she hopes they reconsider their actions but they do not show any regrets. The majority of the citizens of this community are willing to not give their vote to those four (4) Council Members and sign the recall.

Mr. Jossue Alexis Becerra, Resident, said he was born in Yuma but raised in San Luis, Arizona. He thinks Tadeo is not the fit for the position, he is not academically prepared for the position. The city is growing and there are others who can qualify for the position, young residents who have a bachelor's degree. The community needs someone who can be an actual administrator and not a certified secretary. He added that even Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco is better qualified than him. This job does not determine who he is and probably can do better. He said that this job is not guaranteed to anybody.

Ms. Martha Servin, Resident, mentioned that unfortunately it was not the result expected from the previous meetings regarding the decision made towards Azael. She addressed to Council Members Jose Ponce, Gloria Torres, Luis Cabrera and Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco and said that the residents are disappointed at them because they are throwing back the City of San Luis, Arizona. She added that they disrespected senior citizens who waited outside for them a few weeks ago after a council meeting. The times of God are perfect and so are his decisions.

3. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding action to approve a mutual severance agreement with Tadeo Azael De La Hoya.

Ms. Kay Macuil, City Attorney, indicated that this item was placed on the agenda by three (3) Council Members. Since the beginning of negotiations, the agreement had a change for the salary, at first it was the have buyout of sick leave under the policy, however his employment agreement allowed payout of sick leave not under the policy, therefore that was removed. On August 11, 2021, the item was continued to August 25, 2021 and Tadeo asked that his administrative leave continue through August 25, 2021. However, if the agreement is accepted tonight, is should end tonight.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked Mr. Tadeo De La Hoya if he agreed with the agreement. Mr. De La Hoya responded that he agreed.

MOTION: Council Member Luis Cabrera/Council Member Jose Ponce to approve the mutual separation agreement and general release with Tadeo Azael De La Hoya. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

3. B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vote to hold Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A) subsections (1), (3), and (4).

Discussion and possible action to hold an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A) subsections (1), (3) and (4) on any and all matters regarding appointing Lizandro Galaviz as Interim City Manager and/or a possible contract describing the term for the Interim City Manager and/or legal advice from the city's attorney or attorneys and/or instruction to the city's attorney or attorneys as delineated by the above-referenced Arizona Revised Statute and subsections.

MOTION: Council Member Gloria Torres/Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco to go into Executive Session at approximately 6:48 p.m. Motion passed with four (4) ayes and three (3) nays.

The vote was as follows:

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

4. MOTION TO GO BACK TO SPECIAL SESSION

MOTION: Council Member Gloria Torres/Council Member Jose Ponce to go back to Special Session at approximately 7:02 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM:

5. A. Discussion and possible action regarding any and all matters regarding action to appoint Lizandro Galaviz Interim City Manager and set terms of employment with possible instructions to the City Attorney regarding a possible contract with an Interim City Manager.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco/Council Member Luis Cabrera to appoint the Director of Parks & Recreation, Lizandro Galaviz, to the position of Interim City Manager beginning on August 20, 2021, to serve until Council makes a further decision regarding the position of City Manager. Further move that he retains his permanent position of Director of Parks & Recreation and appoint such person or persons to be Interim Director of Parks & Recreation or take such other action as may be necessary to avoid any conflict of interest that may arise. Further move that Mr. Galaviz receive a 25% increase in salary to reflect the increase in duties during the period that he will be serving in this interim capacity and direct the City Attorney to prepare an appropriate contract for this appointment and to bring it before the Council for its consideration at the next regular meeting of Council. Motion passed with four (4) ayes and three (3) nays.

The vote was as follows:

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

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Jose Ponce to adjourn the Special Council meeting at approximately 7:04 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez	Aye
Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco	Aye
Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr.	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Jose Ponce	Aye
Council Member Matias Rosales	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 August 19, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk