

MINUTES
Work Session
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
May 4, 2022
6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez called the Work Session to order at approximately 6:02 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Council Member Matias Rosales

OTHERS PRESENT: Lizandro Galaviz, Acting City Manager
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney
Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief
Derek Dueñas, Information Technology Manager
Doming Sosa, Graphic and Media Specialist
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Jose A. Guzman, Director of Planning & Zoning
Jose L. Cisneros, Executive Assistant
Miguel Ramirez, Accountant II
Monica Castro, Director of Finance
Roula Encinas, Accountant II
Yigal Duarte, Economic Development Assistant
Angelica Cifuentes, Off-Road Expo San Luis Committee
Columba Nuñez, Resident
Lizeth Servin, Off Road Expo San Luis
Tadeo A. De La Hoya, Resident
Manuel Castro, Gethsemani Food Ministry
Fernando Quiroz, Arizona Interagency Farmworkers Coalition
Abraham Andrade, Rolls and Bowls
Catalina Navarro, Reporter
Maria Esparza, Cancer Support Group
Annette Lagunas, Yuma County Humane Society
Antonio Carrillo, San Luis Film Festival & Blazing Desert ComicCon
Gregg LaVann, Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation

Buna George, Greater Yuma Port Authority
Nazzer Mendez, 4FrontEd
Nieves Riedel, Resident
Maria Gonzalez, Resident

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

2. A. Continuation of discussion, review, and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the proposed City of San Luis Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget, City Council Contracts, Contributions, Sponsorships, and Dues. (Lizandro Galaviz, Acting City Manager)

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Acting City Manager, informed that staff is seeking City Council's direction on City Council Contracts, Contribution, Sponsorships, and Dues. He introduced Ms. Shelly Kreger, the Yuma County Area Transit (YCAT) executive director. He informed that YCAT this year is asking for a one-time contribution in addition to their yearly contribution.

Contractual Services

YCAT One-Time Contribution

Ms. Shelly Kreger, Executive Director from Yuma County Area Transit (YCAT), informed that the one-time contribution is multiple things since the inception of YCIPTA in 2010 up until she started working for them in 2012. She explained that YCIPTA started with no fund balance; there was only \$71,000.00 in the bank; then, they began operations of YCAT. She stated that YCAT had not increased member entity dues over the last ten (10) years because there have been in-kind contributions from Greyhound and Yuma County Services. Up until 2019, there were ok to make it from year to year as there was no carryover. However, in 2019, the company was in contract with National Express, the contractor for supplying the bus drivers, maintenance, etc. and the contract was ended due to lack of maintenance; YCIPTA withheld approximately \$1.8 million from paying them for the lack of not fulfilling the contract. This went to litigation and ended up paying half of that amount. She mentioned that due to COVID-19, there was no fare collection, and the in-kind services were reduced. Ms. Kreger commented that the one-time contribution is based on the debt that it is owe to Yuma County for \$1.4 million, for this reason, YCIPTA is asking each entity for a one-time contribution of the amount allotted based on what is currently contributed. She added that she is also asking for an increase in the annual dues as they have not been increased in the last 12 years.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez suggested Mr. Kreger start increasing their dues as the demand for public transportation increases yearly, especially for the City of San Luis, 60% is mainly students going to Arizona Western College. He mentioned that the City of San Luis fully supports the YCAT. He asked Ms. Monica Castro, Director of Finance, if the one-time contribution would affect the city's budget.

Ms. Castro mentioned that this is a large contribution, but since the city has been able to build healthy reserves and since this is only a one-time contribution, there are no foreseen issues contributing the requested amount.

Mayor Sanchez asked the city council members if any concerns and/or comments regarding the one-time requested contribution. There were no comments from members of the City Council. He asked if there were any other presentations from any entity. He thanked all entities present during this meeting.

Mr. Galaviz replied that this was the only presentation; he stated that attached to the agenda is the spreadsheet with all City Council Contracts, Contributions, and Dues which lists the entity's requests.

Ramirez Advisors Inter-National, LLC

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez thanked Luis Ramirez and his team for the continuous efforts and hard work they have done for the City of San Luis, specifically the San Luis Port of Entry I. They have helped lobbying with federal, state, and local governments. He thanked Ramirez Advisors Inter-National, LLC for advocating for the city. He informed that this agency is requesting an increase of \$5,000.00 from last year's contribution and has also requested \$1,500.00 for travel expenses; a total of \$61,500.00. He stated that the construction date for San Luis Port I is expected to begin in March 2023. He directed staff to proceed with the proposed increases as agreed by members of the City Council.

Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation (GYEDC)

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that GYEDC is requesting an increase of \$6,262.00 from last year's contribution.

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, informed that GYEDC has scheduled yearly increases, which is the last one of the series of increases.

Mayor Sanchez commented that GYEDC works diligently with the entire Yuma County in bringing business to our area. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

4FrontED (IGA Contribution)

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that this amount did not change based on their contribution to the population. Therefore, he directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Greater Yuma Port Authority (GYPA)

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that the contribution to GYPA remains the same as in previous years. He stated that the City of San Luis had been an active member of the GYPA. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

YCAT-YCIPTA (IGA Contribution) & YCAT-YCIPTA (IGA) One-Time Contribution

Mayor Sanchez mentioned that they are requesting a one-time contribution and the yearly dues as stated in the presentation. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

News Paper Publications

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that this is for media publications and has not changed. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Humane Society of Yuma-Animal Shelter & Spay/Neuter Clinics

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that the yearly contribution would stay the same as the previous year. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Amberly's Place

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that the City of San Luis had been a continuous supporter of Amberly's Place for many years, and the city will continue supporting Amberly's Place. He thanked Amberly's Place for everything they do for the community. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Yuma Community Food Bank (YCFB)

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that this year YCFB is requesting an increase of \$5,000.00 from last year's contribution of \$25,000.00. He mentioned that YCFB plans to place a freezer in a city's facility to keep the produce fresh. He added that the City of San Luis is the only entity that provides YCFB with funding; a huge percentage of the food distributed comes to the community. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Gethsemani Food Ministry

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that there is no change on the request from this organization. He thanked Mr. Manuel Castro for his hard work and dedication to our community. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

San Luis Film Festival

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that there is no change on this organization's request. He mentioned that this festival brings new talents to the City of San Luis. He thanked Mr. Antonio Carrillo for the hard work. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Blazing Desert ComicCon

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that this event is unique, and the contribution to this organization did not change. Therefore, he directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Off-Road Expo San Luis

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that the city contributed \$10,000.00 last fiscal year; this year, they are requesting an increase of \$10,000.00. He informed that he had a meeting with the board, where he was told that they had given \$7,000.00 in scholarships to local high school students, and their goal is to provide \$10,000.00, which means that half of the city's contribution is spent in scholarships.

Vice-Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco asked if the requested increase would be utilized to cover for the band and the new attractions during this event.

Mayor Sanchez replied that the increase would be utilized to cover the different shows the expo gives, but it will mainly cover more scholarships.

Ms. Lizeth Servin from the Off-Road Expo Committee informed that the Off-Road Expo will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year, and members are working to obtain more sponsorships. She added that members are working on negotiating a new attraction to this year's expo. She stated that the committee's primary goal is to increase scholarships.

Mayor Sanchez directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

PPEP-Youth Build

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that PPEP Youth Build did not increase their request this year.

Mr. Jesse Lopez, PPEP Youth Build, informed that currently, there are 25 students in group 20, and the group will complete their term in November of 2022. He added that students have the opportunity to work in the community, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, etc.

Mayor Sanchez thanked Mr. Lopez for the work they do in the community. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

San Luis Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that the request is for \$20,000.00, not \$25,000.00 as stated in the agenda.

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, informed that they received two (2) different request letters, one (1) for \$20,000.00 and one (1) for \$25,000.00.

Mayor Sanchez stated that the city could only do \$20,000.00. During the meeting, a video was shown regarding the San Luis Chamber of Commerce. He informed that a meeting was held with over 25 business owners. Patricia Parrilla of Revista Latino Americano asked why San Luis, Arizona, does not have a Chamber of Commerce when Yuma County, Somerton, and the City of Yuma do have one.

He mentioned that with a meeting with Ms. Parrilla, Felipe Camargo, and Sergio Ramirez, business owners need to be involved and become a self-sufficient entity and become a non-profit organization. He added that San Luis Rios Colorado, Sonora, Mexicali, Baja California, Imperial, and Imperial County would also be part of this chamber of commerce. Mayor Sanchez stated that San Luis, Arizona, needs a chamber of its own and becomes a self-sufficient entity. He mentioned that the city had sustained the chamber of commerce in previous years, but this should not happen; they have to become a self-sustaining entity.

Council Member Gloria Torres commented that she was part of the San Luis Chamber of Commerce several years ago. Still, they started to see low memberships until they could not sustain themselves. She mentioned that she agrees to contribute to the new proposed chamber of commerce, but the city should only contribute the first year and then have them sustain themselves.

Vice-Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco stated that she disagrees with this item, as 4FrontED deals with most of what is proposed here. She mentioned that she believes that the Yuma County Chamber of Commerce is doing a fantastic job. Until this organization finds a way to sustain its efforts, the local merchants should tap into the Yuma County Chamber of Commerce. She added that they are also requesting office space and a monetary contribution.

Council Member Jose Ponce agreed with Vice-Mayor Luna-Carrasco and Council Member Torres.

Mayor Sanchez mentioned that for this entity to become self-sufficient, they need startup money. He commented that it is up to City Council to decide whether or not the city should contribute to this entity. He added that if the council believes that Yuma County is doing everything for the city, then so be it. Finally, he stated that the City of San Luis deserves to have its chamber of commerce and have a united voice.

Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. stated that the city should contribute for the first year to try it out and see if it works and have them sustain themselves.

Vice-Mayor Luna-Carrasco asked if San Luis is contributing \$25,000.00. The Mexican counterparts will also be contributing the same amount, as the video stated that this would be a group effort.

Mayor Sanchez stated that just like San Luis, Arizona could not provide dues to Mexico; they cannot provide to the United States.

Council Member Luis Cabrera commented that he sees two (2) different perspectives, as there will be a bi-national chamber of commerce supported through the sister governments. He added that he believes this will become a binational entity instead of focusing on local businesses. He said he would like to see a breakdown of how the funds will be used, as the other organizations have done.

Mayor Sanchez commented that it is obvious that the council is divided and does not want a chamber of commerce, and there is no problem with that.

Council Member Cabrera suggested starting with a lower contribution and offering the office space if they need a startup fund, but \$20,000.00 is a big amount for a startup, as this is a vision and not a reality.

Mayor Sanchez directed staff to remove this item from the contributions list.

Arizona Interagency Farmworkers Coalition

Mayor Sanchez informed that the request is for \$5,000 and has not increased. These funds are to be utilized for scholarships. He asked how many scholarships are given with the \$5,000.00 the city contributes.

Mr. Fernando Quiroz, Arizona Interagency Farmworkers Coalition, replied that they would be giving out 20 scholarships this year, from which \$7,000.00 will go to San Luis students; each one of them will get \$1,000.00.

Mayor Sanchez thanked Mr. Quiroz for his excellent job in the community. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by a member of the City Council.

Council Member Jose Ponce proposed increasing the contribution by \$1,000.00 more.

Mayor Sanchez replied that this could be done if City Council agrees to do so. However, as there were no objections from members of the City Council, he directed staff to proceed and increase the contribution by \$1,000.00 agreed by the members of the City Council.

Cancer Support Group for Yuma County

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, informed that last year the city allocated \$5,000.00, but there did not use the money. So this year they have requested the same as last year.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that they had some issues last year, but this time they have a representative for this group, which Comite de Bien Estar, Inc, will lead. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Children's Museum

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez informed that this is the first time they have requested a contribution from the City of San Luis; they are requesting \$10,000.00.

Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr. suggested starting with \$5,000.00.

Vice-Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco mentioned that \$10,000.00 is a good amount, as they have provided the city with a breakdown as to how their contribution will be utilized.

Ms. Melissa Rushin Irr, Executive Director of the Children’s Museum of Yuma County, commented that during her presentation to the City of San Luis, she delineated where the \$10,000.00 would be spent. She highlighted that during events, the museum will bring art experts to city events and science space content that are interested in serving underserved communities such as San Luis. She added that she would be more than happy to participate in a Dia del Niño event and partner with the city. Furthermore, she mentioned that in the near future, she would like to meet with staff to tailor programs specific to the community, as she would like to hear from staff and their interests. Ms. Rushin mentioned that the Children’s Museum of Yuma County is a non-profit organization and plans to open a year-round facility sometime in August of 2022.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez thanked Ms. Rushin for the presentation and directed staff to proceed with the \$10,000.000 contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Arte En La Calle

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that this is the first year they have requested a contribution from the city; they have partnered with the city for the past 2-3 years to put together this event. They are requesting \$5,000.00. He directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Cesar Chavez Life & Legacy Committee

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez mentioned that this is the first year they requested contribution from the city, as this is also the first year that they have become a non-profit organization. Therefore, this event will directly impact the community. The plan is also to have a historian write something for history, not only on social media.

Vice-Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco suggested contributing \$10,000.00; the contribution will help continue Cesar Chavez's Legacy for younger generations.

Mayor Sanchez agreed to increase the contribution to \$10,000.00; there was no opposition from members of the City Council. Therefore, he directed staff to proceed with the contribution.

Agency	Approved Budget FY 2021-2022	Requested Increases by Agency FY 2022-2023	Total Request WS 5/04/22	Council Direction WS 5/04/22
Ramirez Advisors Inter-National, LLC	\$55,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Ramirez Advisors Iner-National, LLC-Travel	\$ -	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation	\$57,508.00	\$6,262.00	\$63,770.00	\$63,770.00
4FrontED	\$7,950.00	\$ -	\$7,950.00	\$7,950.00
Greater Yuma Port Authority	\$50,000.00	\$ -	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
YCAT-YCIPTA (IGA Contribution)	\$88,216.25	\$31,683.75	\$119,900.00	\$119,900.00
YCAT-YCIPTA (IGA) One-Time Contribution	\$ -	\$158,920.00	\$158,920.00	\$158,920.00

News Paper Publications	\$25,000.00	\$ -	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Humane Society of Yuma-Animal Shelter	\$50,000.00	\$ -	\$50,00.00	\$50,000.00
Humane Society of Yuma-Spay/Neuter Clinics	\$5,000.00	\$ -	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Amberly's Place	\$42,000.00	\$ -	\$42,000.00	\$42,000.00
Yuma Community Food Bank	\$25,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Gethsemani Food Ministry	\$7,000.00	\$ -	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
San Luis Film Festival	\$5,000.00	\$ -	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Blazing Desert ComicCon	\$5,000.00	\$ -	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Off-Road Expo San Luis	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
PPEP-Youth Build	\$30,000.00	\$ -	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
San Luis Chamber of Commerce	\$ -	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$ -
Arizona Interagency Farmworkers Coalition	\$5,000.00	\$ -	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00
Cancer Support Group of Yuma County	\$5,000.00	\$ -	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Children's Museum of Yuma County	\$ -	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Arte En La Calle	\$ -	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Cesar Chavez Life & Legacy Committee	\$ -	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00
TOTAL	\$472,674.25	\$267,365.75	\$740,040.00	\$717,040.00

Council Sponsorships & Pledges

Agency	Approved Budget FY 2021-2022	Requested Increases by Agency FY 2022-2023	Total Request WS 5/04/22	Council Direction WS 5/04/22
Civic Contributions: No request associated	\$22,000.00	\$ -	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00
Gadsden Marching Band-No request	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL	\$22,000.00		\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00

Dues & Subscriptions

Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO)

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez asked why the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) request has increased this year.

Ms. Crystal Figueroa, Executive Director for Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization, explained that the \$13,572.74 is not an increase in the total dues for fiscal year 2022-2023, which is an increase of approximately \$5,000.00 for the upcoming fiscal year and not the total reflected in the spreadsheet in the amount of \$21,490.00. She explained that the dues were reduced in fiscal year 2021-2022 due to the funding received and did not require a match; therefore, it decreased during that year.

Mayor Sanchez thanked Ms. Figueroa; he directed staff to proceed with the contribution as agreed by members of the City Council.

Agency	Approved Budget FY 2021-2022	Requested Increases by Agency FY 2022-2023	Total Request WS 5/04/22	Council Direction WS 5/04/22
Arizona League of Cities and Towns	\$22,385.00	\$955.00	\$23,340.00	\$23,340.00
Arizona Mexico Commission	\$1,500.00	\$ -	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Border Trade Alliance	\$10,000.00	\$ -	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
JCG Technologies: Recording Software	\$6,462.00	-\$5,892.00	\$570.00	\$570.00
NALEO	\$700.00	-\$120.00	\$580.00	\$580.00
National League of Cities	\$1,960.00	\$1,660.00	\$3,620.00	\$3,620.00
Yuma County Chamber of Commerce	\$660.000	\$ -	\$660.00	\$660.00
YMPO	\$7,917.26	\$13,572.74	\$21,490.00	\$13,572.74
Yuma Sun Newspaper Subscription	\$170.00	\$10.00	\$180.00	\$180.00
WAEDD-No request dissolved last year	\$3,569.00	-\$3,569.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL	\$55,323.26	\$14,537.74	\$61,940.00	\$54,022.74

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez thanked all organizations present during this meeting.

2. B. Update followed by a discussion on any and all matters regarding the City of San Luis Tourism Letters project proposed in July 2021. (Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco and Lizandro Galaviz, Acting City Manager)

Mr. Lizandro Galaviz, Acting City Manager, informed that he contacted Ms. Rebeca Chin Leon regarding this project, as they were the ones that brought it to the city approximately one (1) year ago. He mentioned that designs, location, and approximate cost were presented during that presentation.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez commented that a location and the design were selected during that meeting.

Mr. Galaviz stated that the letters by the baseball field were pre-order through the Parks & Recreation department before this was presented before the City Council. He informed that he is waiting on a proposal; as soon as this comes in, it will be shared with Mayor and City Council.

Mayor Sanchez stated that a location and design were selected during the presentation; he asked Mr. Galaviz to review the minutes from that meeting and go from there.

2. C. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding the creation of a Historical Society that would work on collecting historical data, documents, pictures and conduct oral history projects for the city. (Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco and Lizandro Galaviz, Acting City Manager)

Vice-Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco stated that she would like to see a historical society. It is very important to continue with the history and keep a record to share with future generations. She suggested that staff helps in finding information on how to create a society and find the help to start this project.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that it is time for the city to start writing the history of San Luis, Arizona.

2. D. Discussion and possible directions to staff on any and all matters regarding replacing the gazebo/bench located on Lakin Drive and Sierra Vista. (Vice Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco and Maria A. Roldan, Acting Parks & Recreation Director)

Vice-Mayor Africa Luna-Carrasco informed that said gazebo is old and deteriorated and does not know if it needs to be replaced or if this is something that PPEP Youth Build can repair it.

Mayor Gerardo Sanchez stated that there are a lot of needs in the community, ramadas are a big problem. He directed staff to look into this gazebo.

3. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Mario Buchanan Jr./Council Member Luis Cabrera to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:58 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 Cabrera	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 May 4, 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk