

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**San Luis City Council**  
**San Luis Council Chambers**  
**1090 E. Union Street**  
**March 27, 2024**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Nieves Riedel called the Regular City Council meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Nieves Riedel  
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres  
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera  
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz  
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya (at 6:02 p.m.)  
Council Member Javier Vargas

**ABSENT:** Council Member Matias Rosales

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager  
Kay Macuil, City Attorney  
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk  
Adela Cortez, Director of Human Resources  
Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant  
Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development  
Candy Lara, Records Management Specialist  
Edgar Esparza, Billing & Collections Manager  
Enrique Lopez, Assistant Fire Chief  
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works  
Fernando Corona, Acting I.T. Manager  
Franca Alonso, Public Information Officer  
Joel Armendariz, I.T. Help Desk Technician  
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Lizette Varela, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation  
Manuel Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Maria Sabori, Risk Manager  
Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager  
Olivia Jenkins, Operations Coordinator  
Roula Encinas, Acting Director of Finance  
Yolanda Dueñas, Facilities Supervisor  
Adelaida Buchanan, Resident  
David Peters, Western Regional Manager of The Ray  
Greg LaVann, Interim President and CEO of GYEDC  
Guillermina Fuentes, Resident

Jorge Villacaña, Resident  
Larry Dean – San Luis Rotary Club  
Luis Marquez, Resident  
Luisa Arreola, Resident  
Marco Ramirez, Secretary –San Luis Rotary Club  
Maria Robles, Resident  
Zahid Plantillas, Community Engagement Coordinator – First Things First

## **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **3. INVOCATION**

Pastor Helia Martinez – Centro Cristiano Vino Nuevo led the invocation.

## **4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Luis Marquez, 1254 America Street, San Luis, AZ, congratulated the Planning and Zoning Department for enforcing regulations on an error he did 24 years ago. He stated he is now in compliance and mentioned he has a list of more than 50 places that are in worse condition than his and need to be enforced. He hopes that the current Mayor and Council Members are not corrupt like the previous ones.

Ms. Guillermina Fuentes, 1630 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Luis, AZ, stated she noticed the Proposition 422 that is currently being promoted. She stated the residents have the right to know what the proposition is about and the City of San Luis has the obligation to inform the public.

Mr. Larry Dean, USPS Post Master informed the public that there will be a resurfacing of the parking lot at the San Luis Post Office on April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024.

## **5. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

- 5. A. Proclamation - Cesar Chavez Day March 31, 2024**
- 5. B. Proclamation - National Library Week April 7 - 13, 2024**
- 5. C. Proclamation - Autism Awareness Month April 2024**
- 5. D. Proclamation - Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2024**
- 5. E. Proclamation - National Fair Housing Law of 1968 Month April 2024**
- 5. F. Proclamation - Records and Information Management Month April 2024**
- 5. G. Proclamation - Sexual Assault Awareness Month April 2024**
- 5. H. Proclamation - Stress Awareness Month April 2024**

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read the proclamations by title only.

### **5. I. The Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation's Mid-Year Presentation. (Greg LaVann, Interim President and CEO)**

Mr. Greg LaVann, Interim President and CEO, presented a mid-year report via PowerPoint presentation with a strategic plan focused on economic resiliency for the entire county. Within that plan he focused on five (5) major goals which included; goal 1- to create high wage job growth within a modern economy, goal 2- expand the Greater Yuma Region's global presence, goal 3- to foster resources network for existing industries, goal 4- to enhance investor & stakeholder engagement and goal 5- to create an economic resilient environment. He went into detail in each goal with percentages and future plans for development.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz thanked Mr. LaVann and The Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation for promoting the San Luis Port of Entry to attract business from Mexico.

Mayor Nieves Riedel thanked and expressed that it was a great presentation. She also mentioned that Mr. LaVann is working hand in hand with Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager. She hopes that something comes to floration soon.

The PowerPoint presentation is included with the Agenda packet filed at the City Clerk's Office.

### **5. J. Presentation on First Things First programs and services to the community. (Zahid Plantillas, Community Engagement Coordinator - Yuma Office)**

Mr. Zahid Plantillas, Community Engagement Coordinator, explained that First Things First is a voters Proposition 203 since November 2006 and is partially a state agency. Fund programs across the community to help with child care. In the Yuma region they fund close to 18,000 children under the age of six and about a third of those children are living in poverty. The focus with Community Engagement is to expand the audience to business community not just what they are currently known for, which is early childhood, health and public education. He briefly explained how child care has an impact in the workforce, such as increased cost, less options where child care is provided, miss or quit work due to childcare issues. He mentioned they are having a Leadership Event on May 15, 2024 and openly invited, small business owners, leadership groups to reach out or attend.

Mayor Nieves Riedel mentioned that she had forgotten what it is to have young children and the need of childcare. She stated that it is the best interest to come together and support young parents with the childcare issue. She also added that at her recent mini vacation in Mexico, she learned that they had childcare for city employees. She expressed that she will look further into the topic and concluded by thanking Mr. Plantillas for his presentation.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera mentioned the importance of early childhood education and taking advantage of it.

The PowerPoint presentation is included with the Agenda packet filed at the City Clerk's Office.

**5. K. Presentation by The Ray on the United States Department of Transportation Thriving Communities Program. (David Peters, Western Regional Manager)**

Mr. David Peters, Western Regional Manager of the Ray, which is a non-profit organization based in Atlanta, explained what Thriving Communities Program it is a new program through US Department of Transportation. It provides two (2) years of intensive no cost technical assistance to communities that are either historically disadvantaged or under resourced to help identify, develop and deliver funding projects and other resources needed. Some of those projects include transportation and infrastructure funding. They are working together with nine (9) different federal agencies who are helping 64 communities across the United States. He stated that he is currently working with Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, on technical advisory for safety and congestion infrastructure improvements to Cesar Chavez Boulevard. One of the priorities is bringing funding to help support infrastructure upgrades.

Ms. Jenny Torres mentioned the \$25 million grant received from the US Department of Transportation under the Rural Surface Transportation Grant awarded to the City of San Luis because it was designated as a thriving community.

Mayor Nieves Riedel mentioned that Ms. Jenny Torres and staff are working closely to improve the sewer plant that has been in process for the last 20 years. She hopes it comes to flourish soon. She thanked Mr. Peters on behalf of the council.

Council member Maria Cecilia Cruz and Council Member Luis E. Cabrera thanked Mr. Peters for helping and supporting the City of San Luis specifically in the area of grant writing.

The PowerPoint presentation is included with the Agenda packet filed at the City Clerk's Office.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**6. A. MINUTES OF**

- Regular Council meeting held February 14, 2024
- Regular Council meeting held February 28, 2024

**6. B. DISBURSEMENTS FROM MARCH 7, 2024 TO MARCH 19, 2024**

**Total \$1,291,976.72**

(One Million, Two Hundred Ninety-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars and Seventy-Two Cents)

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

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

### **7. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding a contract with Pueblo Housing and Community Development for the Southwest Off-Road Series Event on April 13, 2024, in the City of San Luis. (Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager)**

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, stated that Pueblo Housing and Community Development made a presentation during Call to the Public requesting assistance to participate in the Southwest Off Road Series Event. She stated there is funding available in contractual services to be able to provide assistance and she recommended the amount of \$5,000.00.

Mayor Nieves Riedel declared a conflict of interest on Item 7. A. and abstained from participating. She asked Vice Mayor Gloria Torres to take over this item.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera commented on the money on the contractual services and requested if it was possible to provide a list of fundings that have been done in the past.

Ms. Jenny Torres stated the Finance Department will provide him with a report.

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to approve the contract with Pueblo Housing and Community Development for the Southwest Off-Road Series Event in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, as presented. Motion passed with five (5) Ayes and one (1) Abstention by Mayor Nieves Riedel.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Abstained
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**7. B. Discussion and possible action on any all matters regarding authorization to reallocate Fiscal Year 2024 budget capacity to projects staff requested in the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget, and to waive the procurement code as allowed under San Luis Purchasing Code Section 3.05.010 (F) for purchases exceeding the \$45,000.00 threshold. (Roula Encinas, Acting Director of Finance)**

Ms. Roula Encinas, Acting Director of Finance, stated that after completing the budget reviews and reviewing requests from all departments, it was identified that at least \$6,980,000.00 in projects will not be completed in Fiscal Year 2024. Even though this creates budget capacity in the current fiscal year it puts weight into next year's budget. Many of the uncompleted projects will be rolled over for the Fiscal Year 2025. She stated that the City of San Luis is currently \$18 million over the city expenditure limitations set by state statute. As part of the budget strategy to reduce next year expenditures and effectively use the city resources, the Finance Department is requesting council approval to reallocate the budget capacity from projects that will not be completed this year to projects requested in next year's budget 2025, to ratify purchase orders already initiated and ensuring they arrive before the end of the fiscal year. Also to waive the formal purchasing procedures as allowed under San Luis Purchasing Code 3.05.010 (F) for purchases exceeding the \$45,000.00 threshold to facilitate procurement process and ensure their arrival before the end of the fiscal year.

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Javier Vargas to approve budget transfer as presented in the budget transfer detail form in this agenda item to complete in Fiscal Year 2024 for projects staff requested for Fiscal Year 2025 budget, and to waive the formal procedures for the good cause presented as allowed under San Luis Purchasing Code; additionally, to ratify the purchase orders already initiated for items necessary for city services ensuring their arrival before the fiscal year's end. Motion passed with five (5) Ayes and one (1) Nay by Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Nay
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**7. C. Public Hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the recommendation of a Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to authorize the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club to sell alcohol at the Southwest Off-Road Series event to be held on April 13, 2024. (Marcos Ramirez, San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club)**

Mayor Nieves Riedel declared a conflict of interest on Item 7. C. and abstained from participating. She asked Vice Mayor Gloria Torres to take over this item.

### **A. Open Public Hearing**

**MOTION:** Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Javier Vargas to open the Public Hearing. Motion passed with five (5) Ayes and one (1) abstention vote by Mayor Nieves Riedel.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Abstained
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

#### **1. Staff and/or applicant presentation**

Mr. Larry Dean, San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club, is seeking approval of the Special Event Liquor License for the Southwest Off-Road Series Event. He stated that all alcohol sale proceeds go to scholarships and to the community. Security will be in place.

#### **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 Luis E. Cabrera /Council Member Javier Vargas to close the Public Hearing. Motion passed with five (5) Ayes and one (1) abstention vote by Mayor Nieves Riedel.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Abstained
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

### **C. Action on Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control**

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Javier Vargas to recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control for the special event liquor license application submitted by the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club as presented. Motion passed with four (4) Ayes, one (1) Nay by Maria Cecilia Cruz and one (1) abstention by Mayor Nieves Riedel.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Abstention
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Nay
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**7. D. Public Hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the recommendation of a Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to authorize the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club to sell alcohol during the 2024 Arte en la Calle event to be held April 19, 2024. (Marcos Ramirez, Secretary for San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club)**

#### **A. Open Public Hearing**

**MOTION:** Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Luis E. Cabrera to open the Public Hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

#### **1. Staff presentation**

Mr. Marco Ramirez, Secretary for San Luis FROTERA Rotary Club, is seeking approval for the Special Event Liquor License for 2024 Arte en la Calle Event. This is their fifth year participating in the event. He added that security will be in place.

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

Ms. Maria Robles, resident, stated that Arte en la Calle Event is a family event and children of all ages attend. Art is an event that unifies families and alcohol should not be allowed.

Pastor Helia Martinez, Centro Cristiano Vino Nuevo stated that it is the first time she stays for the Regular Council Meeting. She thanked the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club for their contribution to the education of youth but she is concerned about alcohol being sold at a family event.

## **B. Close Public Hearing**

**MOTION:** Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya /Council Member Javier Vargas to close the Public Hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

## **C. Action on Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control**

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/ Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for the Special Event Liquor License Application submitted by the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club as presented. Motion passed with four (4) Ayes and two (2) Nays by Mayor Nieves Riedel and Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Nay
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Nay
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**7. E. Public Hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the recommendation of a Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to authorize the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club to sell alcohol at the Rotary Royale Casino Night on April 26, 2024. (Marcos Ramirez, San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club)**

## **A. Open Public Hearing**

**MOTION:** Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya /Council Member Javier Vargas to open the Public Hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

### **1. Staff and/or applicant presentation**

Mr. Marcos Ramirez, San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club, is seeking approval for the Special Event Liquor License for the Rotary Royal Casino Night. The fundraiser event is limited for 21 and over, adding that security will be in place.

### **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 Javier Vargas/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to close the Public Hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

### **C. Action on Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Gloria Torres/ Council Member Luis E. Cabrera to recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for the Special Event Liquor License Application submitted by the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club as presented. Motion passed with five (5) Ayes and one (1) Nay by Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Nay
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**7. F. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the approval and adoption of Order No. 2024-02. 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. (Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant)**

Mr. Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant is seeking the approval on Order No. 2024-02 for the Intergovernmental Agreement and Operation Stonegarden Grant Program between the City of San Luis Police Department and the Arizona Department of Homeland Security. The grant provides funds which focuses on deploying additional staffing to support the efforts on border protection operations. The City of San Luis Police Department has been awarded this funding for the past eight (8) years and the amount continues to increase yearly.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera asked if staff looks forward to participate or if it is hard to fill the shifts for Operation Stonegarden?

Lieutenant Guevara briefly explained that there is a schedule available a month prior for staff to sign up for the shifts on their days off and yes, they look forward to it.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz asked if it has been the highest amount of funds received of \$1 million?

Lieutenant Guevara confirmed that it is the highest amount. It includes, ER, mileage for the vehicles and for staff operations.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz concluded with congratulating the Police Department Administration for the grant.

**MOTION**: Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz to approve and adopt Order No. 2024-02, approving the intergovernmental agreement and grant as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

## 8. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Mayor Nieves Riedel reported she took a mini vacation to Puerto Vallarta and learned that they had childcare center available for city employees. She recommended on seeking grants or funding to provide employees childcare as an incentive for working for the City of San Luis.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera invited everyone to the City of San Luis Happy Hoppy Easter Egg Hunt at Joe Orduño on March 28, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz reported she attended the City of San Luis Police Department Community Forums.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Vice Mayor Gloria Torres to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at approximately 7:04 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Vice Mayor Gloria Torres	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**APPROVED:**

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Nieves Riedel, 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 Regular City Council meeting of the City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, held on March 27, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk