

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
San Luis, AZ 85349
August 14, 2024
6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Nieves Riedel called the Regular City Council meeting to order at approximately 6:01 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
Council Member Matias Rosales

ABSENT: Council Member Javier Vargas

OTHERS PRESENT: Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager
Kay Macuil, City Attorney
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Adela Cortez, Director of Human Resources
Adriana Garcia, Human Resources Manager
Albert Moreno, IT Help Desk Technician
Alejandro Ramirez, Police Sergeant
Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation
Antonio Maldonado, Multimedia Production & Operations Specialist
Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development
Damian Miller, Police Lieutenant
Domingo Sosa, Graphics and Media Specialist
Ernesto Cardenas Jr., Police Officer
Francia Alonso, Public Information Officer
Jeremy Humphrey, Fire Battallion CHief
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Jose A. Guzman, Director of Development Services
Manuel Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Melissa Lopez, Deputy City Clerk
Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager
Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police
Olivia Jenkins, Administrative Services Manager
Roula Encinas, Acting Director of Finance

Albert Leon, Resident
Christian Cuevas, Translator
Columba Nuñez, Resident
Esteban Rosales, Resident
Fabher Sanchez, Resident
Jacob Miller, Church For The City
James Allen Jr., Resident
Jose Ponce, Resident
Lizeth Servin, Resident
Luis Marquez, Resident
Manuel Rojas, Resident
Maria Gonzalez, Resident
Maria Robles, Resident
Mark Concha, Resident
Martha Ulloa, Resident
Nydia Mendenhall, Resident
Raquel Garcia, Resident
Ruben Walshe, Resident
Vianey Vega, Vega & Vega Engineering

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. INVOCATION

Mr. Jacob Miller – Pastor for Church For The City led the invocation.

4. PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATIONS

4. A. Proclamation on National Senior Citizens Day - August 21, 2024

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

4. B. Presentation of a \$5,000.00 check by Riedel Construction and Riedel Holdings to the Police Department for the K-9 program. (Mark Concha, Riedel Construction and Riedel Holdings Representative)

Mr. Mark Concha, Riedel Construction and Riedel Holdings Representative, presented the \$5,000.00 donation to the Police Department K-9 Program. He added that they deeply appreciate the dedication and service the K-9 Team does for the community.

4. C. Introductions of the City of San Luis 2024 General Election candidates. (Nieves Riedel, Mayor)

Mr. James Allen Jr., 1549 E. Babbitt Lane, San Luis, AZ, thanked everyone that voted at the last election, he would like at the next election that everyone would search their hearts out there in the media land or even the people in the present, to please vote their conscience. Mr. Allen Jr. added that the reason he is running is not for a personal purpose, it is actually because he loves this city. He feels that an informed community is a community that stands and sitting in a seat of authority is only as good as the heart of the one that sits in the seat. Meaning that if one has a heart, one wards the people, listen to the people and have a heart towards the people, then one goes out with the people and see the people. His point is being visible, four (4) years is a long time to sit upon a seat and heavy as a crown on the head the one that wears it, but greatest is the responsibility which they have to carry out. He thanked the Mayor and Council for all of which they have done. But yet and still reach out to the people on the web, the younger people and take their seat because one day the seats have to change, but the responsibility will remain the same; being honest, forthright, and truth and no lies.

Mr. Luis E. Cabrera, 4024 E. Udall Lane, San Luis, AZ, expressed his deepest gratitude to everyone who voted on July 30th. The voters' support has allowed him to advance to the General Election on November 5th and for that he is truly humbled. Serving on the San Luis City Council has been one of the greatest privileges of his life. Over the past few years they have achieved significant milestones that have positively impacted both city employees and residents. He remains fully committed to continuing this work, ensuring that the city remains a place where all can thrive. In addition to his work on the Council, he has had the opportunity to serve on several boards advocating for various needs within the community. These experiences have deepened his understanding of all the challenges one faces, and reinforced his determination to find solutions that benefit everyone. He is blessed with a supportive wife, and together are raising their two (2) children right here in San Luis. He genuinely believes this is the best place to raise a family, and he is committed to making sure the city remains a safe and welcoming environment for all of our loved ones. He is excited about the upcoming general election as a candidate who secured the second highest number of votes out of nine (9) contestants; he feels the strength of the community behind him. He hopes to continue earning the support as one approaches November 5th, so that he can be reelected and continue working hard for the community who call this amazing city one's home.

Mr. Esteban Rosales, 1509 N. 7th Avenue, San Luis, AZ, stated he is grateful for the opportunity and being part of the top six (6) candidates after the Primary Election to continue to the General Election. He is 24 years old and mentioned his age as he feels the city needs the youth in the City Council. He encouraged the youth to participate as the community needs a lot of work. He travels throughout the state and San Luis is in better shape than other communities and feels proud to be part of the City of San Luis.

Ms. Lizeth Servin, 238 N. Harris Avenue, San Luis, AZ, mentioned that as a former city employee, she understands the hard work employees do to be the San Luis that it is today. For this reason, she wants to make a difference with her skills set and knowledge, resilience, leadership, initiative, and collaboration. She wants to be a voice for mothers, families and the community. Today one is facing many challenges regarding education, housing, health and job security, and many more other sectors. The lack of clear communication and trusted voices is one of the greatest barriers when trying to solve those challenges. There are many mixed messages, people do not know what to believe or who to believe in, trust is another reason why people do not participate or believe in the systems. She cares deeply about her community and public education. She is seeking an opportunity to serve and represent her community with courage, dignity, and commitment. If elected as an official, her objective is to work and strengthen the relationships with local organizations, school districts, and small businesses. Because she believes they are the trusted voices and key players in the community's growth. She believes in democracy and democracy does work. However, one needs to have a government willing to listen and have a dialogue with the community and community members willing to participate and work. This is the way to achieve goals for the community's common good.

Mr. James Allen Jr. spoke for Mr. Jorge Villicaña, who was not present. Mr. Allen Jr., said Mr. Villicaña promises to work as hard as ever and to put the city first and the people most of all. And most of all, he wants to do as much as he can all over the city by them being there where the places are not, he says, built up as far as communication with the city. He wants to go there. He wants to talk with the people. They want to make places like Pastor Castro's church a legitimate food distribution center. These are the things he wants to see. He asked to consider him for council member as well.

Mr. Ruben Walshe, indicated he was not there so much to give a speech or to talk about what he will do if he is given the opportunity to be part of the City Council. But he is there to thank them for the opportunity given to him to continue to the General Election. He also thanked not only the Council but more than anything the residents who gave him their trust and voted that day or that voted during this process for him. He believes that he can offer his community leadership, experience and a different vision than most of the people who have run in this campaign. He is certain that these are qualities that define him and that has demonstrated over almost 10 years, since he is a small local businessman who is involved always in the community, not only when they are campaigning. It has been a lot of years that he does not participate in this, but the majority of people know that he is always involved somehow looking for the benefit of the community. He congratulated the rest of the candidates and those who participated, as it takes a lot of courage and guts in the electoral process. Not just anyone dares to put a banner with his/her name out there and open the public scrutiny, not only to them, but to their family as well. He congratulated all those that are running for a public office, all will work hard and the people will decide who will get elected to serve in the City Council.

Mayor Nieves Riedel congratulated everyone that accepted her invitation as she wanted people to see the candidates that are going to the second round as three (3) of them will be seated with the rest of the City Council. She expects everyone to agree to disagree and respect each other, as they are not enemies. It will be a pleasure and honor for her to work with and get to know them at another level and be their Mayor.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5. A. MINUTES OF

- Special Council meeting held July 3, 2024
- Special Council meeting held July 10, 2024
- Regular Council meeting held July 10, 2024

5. B. DISBURSEMENTS

From July 18, 2024 to August 7, 2024

Total \$4,181,056.09 (Four Million, One Hundred Eighty-One Thousand, Fifty-Six Dollars and Nine Cents)

5. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the contract with the Humane Society of Yuma for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager)

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz 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 Matias Rosales	Aye

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

6. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the engagement of engineering and architectural services with Vega and Vega Engineering, PLC, for the design of a new Operations Building at the West Wastewater Treatment Plant. (Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works)

Mr. Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works, stated that a proposed agreement with Vega and Vega Engineering for the design for design services of a new building to be placed at the West Wastewater Treatment Plant is being considered. PACE Engineering is designing the expansion of the plant and this item is to engage Vega and Vega for the design of a new operators building for the same facility.

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Mayor Nieves Riedel to engage Vega and Vega Engineering, P.L.C., for the design services of the new operations building at the West Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$52,000.00. 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 Matias Rosales	Aye

6. B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization to purchase three (3) fully marked and equipped new 2024 Ford Maverick trucks using Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs Border Fencing and Technology Grant budgeted funds. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, explained that the San Luis Police Department is seeking approval for the purchase of three (3) new 2024 Ford Maverick trucks. The trucks will be assigned to the patrol division for support staff. This is to replace the current fleet they have, which is over ten (10) years old and over 100,000 miles. The purchase for these vehicles was approved through the fiscal year capital projects grant funds from a grant received from the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs. Staff obtained a quote from two (2) vendors, from Peoria and Alexander Ford and Alexander Ford having the lower cost for those vehicles. The vehicles will be fully equipped and they will be used for the enforcement of traffic control, anything to do with parking and anything along the the border.

Vice Mayor Gloria Torres asked what is the lifespan of the vehicles?

Chief Reynoso responded that they try to stay under 100,000 miles or less than 10 years. But they do have some vehicles that are around that life span. Therefore, as soon as they start giving issues, they evaluate the vehicles and talk to the city shop and they help determine if it is something that the city wants to continue investing on or try to seek other alternatives from either purchasing or leasing.

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz to approve the purchase of three (3) new 2024 Ford Maverick trucks, approve the marking and equipping of the vehicles for a total amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 and waive formal purchasing procedures, 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 Matias Rosales	Aye

6. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization to purchase twenty-five (25) Axon Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) Fleet 3 units, using Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs Border Fencing and Technology Grant budgeted funds. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, expressed that in addition to the vehicles, they are also seeking approval for the purchase of 25 new Axon Automatic License Plate Recognition Fleet 3. This system will be installed on all the vehicles, this provides the ability to identify any vehicles that are wanted either because they are stolen or they have something that the Police is seeking from that vehicle. It also provides a video camera system inside the vehicle which provides additional capabilities for the department to perform their job. The purchase is from Axon through a grant awarded from the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs Border Fencing and Technology.

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Matias Rosales to approve the purchase of twenty-five (25) Axon Fleet 3 License Plate Reader Cameras for a total amount not to exceed \$420,000.00. 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 Matias Rosales	Aye

6. D. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2331. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, declaring and adopting the results of the Primary Elections held July 30, 2024, in the City of San Luis, Arizona. (Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk)

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, explained that the City of San Luis held its Primary Election on July 30, 2024 for three (3) Council member seats, there were a total of nine (9) candidates.

Resolution Number 2331 declares and adopts the results of the election, and since no seats were filled at this election, the top six (6) candidate names will appear on the ballot for the General Election on November 5th, 2024, and will receive a certificate of nomination: James Allen Jr., Luis E. Cabrera, Esteban Rosales, Lizeth Servin, Jorge Villicaña and Ruben Walshe.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz commented that she contacted the City Clerk's Office to compare the numbers of the election from 2022 to the election of 2024 and there were 800 less voters that came out to vote and it is sad to see this.

MOTION: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Mayor Nieves Riedel to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2331. 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 Matias Rosales	Aye

6. E. Public Hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Rezoning Case No. 2024-0318 - Lot 4 & 5 of Southwest Arizona Industrial Park and Ordinance No. 452. An Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of San Luis by changing the zoning classification of 8.61 acres from Light Industrial (L-I) to Community Commercial (C-2) on properties located at 375 and 421 South Oak Avenue; repealing any conflicting provisions; and providing for severability. (Jose A. Guzman, Director of Development Services)

1. Staff presentation

Mr. Jose Guzman, Director of Development Services, stated that this is a request by Vega and Vega Engineering to rezone the property from light industrial to commercial on properties located at 375 and 421 South Oak Avenue. There are no specific plans for this property at the moment, so if the rezoning is approved, all the permitted uses in a C-2 zoning will be allowed. However, staff supports that request because the property to the south is commercial, and it is where the food court is currently under construction. The properties to the north some are light industrial, but is where the Medical Mall expansion will be located at. The properties to the east of the street will be zoned commercial, and all the properties to the west will be light industrial. Staff recommends approval with a condition that the development complies with all the city regulations regarding a commercial use and that they comply with the traffic study requirement, including all the required improvements and contribution for future traffic lights.

Mayor Nieves Riedel declared a possible conflict of interest and asked Vice Mayor Gloria Torres to take over the item.

2. Mayor to Open the Public Hearing

Vice Mayor Gloria Torres opened the Public Hearing.

3. Mayor to Call to the Public on this item

Vice Mayor Gloria Torres called upon the public on this item.

Vice Mayor Gloria Torres asked who was the developer?

Mr. Guzman stated the developer is Von Verde Development and they currently do not have a plan, they just want to rezone the property

Mr. James Allen Jr., asked if this land will be changed to residential?

Council Member Matias Rosales responded it will be commercial.

4. Mayor to Close the Public Hearing

Vice Mayor Gloria Torres closed the Public Hearing.

5. Action on Ordinance No. 452 by title only

City Clerk to Read Ordinance No. 452 by title only

MOTION: Council Member Matias Rosales/Council Member Luis E. Cabrera to approve the Reading of Ordinance No. 452 by title only. Motion passed with five (5) aye votes 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 Matias Rosales	Aye

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 452 by title only.

6. Action on Ordinance No. 452

MOTION: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Matias Rosales to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 452. Motion passed with five (5) aye votes and one (1) abstention by Mayor Nieves Riedel.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Abstained
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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 Matias Rosales	Aye

7. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Mayor Nieves Riedel reported that the City Council received an invitation to attend the Oath of Office for the Mayor in Rocky Point.

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, reported that Mayor Nieves Riedel, Council Member Javier Vargas, Chief of Police Nigel Reynoso and herself met with the Mayor Elect from San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora. She mentioned that they spoke about the direct communication within all the departments of both municipalities, the Port of Entry and other issues as sister cities and wanted to enforce the message.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera reported that the first day of school was last Wednesday, a little chaotic the first day. He wished all students and teachers a great school year. He also reported that last week the 4FrontED met and the Mayor's Bike Ride was discussed that will be held on October 26, 2024, at the Yuma Civic Center. They organize this event with he different cities.

Vice Mayor Gloria Torres reported she gave a ride to a resident to the Cultural Center for the Food Bank drive and the resident expressed good comments about the organization and the service she received.

8. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. James Allen, Jr., 1549 E. Babbitt Lane, San Luis, AZ, invited all the candidates to get together and have a community forum to allow the community to meet all six (6) candidates. He asked the public to please become registered voters and anyone who wants to support him to run for City Council to reach out to him or if they want to support the other candidates to please reach out to them as well. The General Election of November 5, 2024, is a very important election and is a chance for the people to gain more representation, their vote counts. The voting locations are the San Luis Library and the Medical Mall. He was told some people did not vote at the last election because they were not sure where to go. He emphasized on the 19 year olds that just graduated from high school and senior citizens.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Vice Mayor Gloria Torres to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at approximately 6:52 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 Matias Rosales	Aye

APPROVED:

Nieves Riedel, 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 Regular City Council meeting of the City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, held on August 14, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk

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