

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**San Luis City Council**  
**San Luis Council Chambers**  
**1090 E. Union Street**  
**San Luis, AZ 85349**  
**October 23, 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  
Council Member Matias Rosales  
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 Fernandez, Human Resources Manager  
Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant  
Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief  
Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Antonio Maldonado, Multimedia Production & Operations Specialist  
Crystal Ochoa, Administrative Coordinator  
Edgar Esparza, Billing & Collections Manager  
Enrique Lopez, Assistant Fire Chief  
Ernesto Prieto, Police Sergeant  
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works  
Fernando Corona, I.T. Manager  
Francia Alonso, Public Information Officer  
Gilberto Torres, Wastewater Operations Manager  
Jaime Frias, I.T. Specialist  
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Lizette Varela, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation  
Manuel Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager  
Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police  
Roula Encinas, Director of Finance  
Stephanie Pereda, Human Resources Coordinator

Albert Leon, Resident  
Christian Cuevas, Translator  
James Allen Jr., Resident  
Luis Marquez, Resident  
Luisa Arreola, Resident  
Mark Concha, Resident  
Maria Gonzalez, Resident  
Nydia Mendenhall, Resident  
Salvador Sandoval, Resident

## **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Matias Rosales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **3. INVOCATION**

Preacher Alberto Geraldo—Iglesia de Cristo led the invocation.

## **4. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

- 4. A. Proclamation - Extra Mile Day November 1, 2024**
- 4. B. Proclamation - Law Enforcement Records and Personnel Appreciation Week November 11-15, 2024**
- 4. C. Proclamation - Alzheimer's and Caregiver Awareness Month November 2024**
- 4. D. Proclamation - Lung Cancer Awareness Month November 2024**
- 4. E. Proclamation - National Diabetes Month November 2024**
- 4. F. Proclamation - National Runaway Prevention Month November 2024**

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

### **4. G. Presentation of Community Service Award to Aaron Hernandez, Antonio Ochoa and Felipe Garcia. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)**

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, along with Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, recognized two (2) city employees for an event that occurred on September 26, 2024, for their exemplary service and commitment to the San Luis community. While assigned to the supervision of the Department of Corrections work crew, an inmate began acting unhinged and separated from the other inmates. As his co-worker began addressing the inmate, Mr. Ochoa remained and watched over two (2) additional inmates in the workgroup and, at the same time, dialed 911 to report the ongoing incident. Mr. Ochoa's quick and selfless actions are a testament to his service and commitment to the community's safety and well-being.

The second employee, Mr. Aaron Hernandez, on this same incident, Mr. Hernandez began to follow the inmate as he noticed he was walking towards the intersection and into oncoming traffic. Without regard of his own welfare, Mr. Hernandez began talking to the inmate to convince him to get off the street and stop walking away.

He asked the inmate to get on his knees and to wait for police personnel already on their way to provide assistance. However, the inmate framed Mr. Hernandez and began to walk towards him. Mr. Hernandez ran away from the inmate but remained watching over the inmate until public safety arrived at the scene. Mr. Hernandez's quick and selfless actions are a testament to his service and commitment to the community's safety and well-being.

Mr. Vera also recognized and thanked Mr. Ochoa and Mr. Hernandez for their commitment and unselfish dedication to serving and keeping the community safe.

Mayor Nieves Riedel commented on the video and its comments, making fun of these gentlemen's heroic actions. Mr. Hernandez was not running away from the inmate because he was afraid but rather did it as a distraction, as the inmate was going straight to the school.

Mr. Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant, presented Mr. Felipe Garcia with the Community Service Award for his service and commitment to the students from the Gadsden School District and the San Luis community in a manner that is beyond and expected. On October 9, 2024, while assigned to his regular duties as a school bus driver operator from the Gadsden School District, his bus was caught on fire. Mr. Garcia quickly addressed the situation by stopping and pulling the bus over to the side of the road. He then directed all 32 students off the bus and worked in an effort to extinguish the fire using a fire extinguisher. As a result of his actions, there were no students nor any other property damaged. Mr. Garcia's quick and selfless actions are a testament to his service and commitment to the students' and community's safety and well-being.

#### **4. H. Presentation of Certificate of Recognition to Miss Sandra Felix, who participated in the State Competition of Miss Teen Latina Arizona 2024. (Mayor Nieves Riedel)**

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, presented a special recognition on behalf of Mayor Nieves Riedel to an exceptional young woman who has brought pride to this community. Miss Sandra Felix stood out at the recent Miss Teen Latina Arizona 2024 competition, where she represented the City of San Luis and obtained the title of Second Runner-Up.

Miss Felix gave a brief speech and thanked the Mayor, City Council, and her sponsors.

#### **4. I. Presentation and recognition of the 2024 - 3rd Quarter Awardees by the Employee Recognition and Awards Program (ERAP) for their outstanding work with the City of San Luis. (Enrique Lopez, ERAP Chair)**

Mr. Enrique Lopez, ERAP Chairman, recognized the outstanding individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, innovation, and commitment to the city. The complete listing is attached to the agenda item filed with the complete agenda packet at the City Clerk's Office.

#### **4. J. Presentations followed by discussion on any and all matters regarding updates from city departments on capital projects. (Department Heads)**

Mr. Edgar Esparza, Billing & Collections Manager, provided an update on the advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project, which consisted of replacing 4,500 water meters and 4,700 mxus or meter antennas.

Ms. Roula Encinas, Director of Finance, spoke about the implementation of Time & Attendance, which is a software that was applied in January 2024. The second phase will be Advanced Scheduling which is expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2025.

Mr. Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief, mentioned that the Fire Department purchased a new fire engine, which will be paid in three (3) installments of \$400,000.00 and delivered in Fiscal Year 2028.

Mr. Fernando Corona, Information Technology Manager, explained that he has two (2) projects. The first project is the camera replacement initiative and its focused locations. The second project is adding a tower structure on the east side of the city.

Ms. Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation, presented their capital projects for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. She spoke about the east community park Phase 1 - prefabricated restrooms, Phase 2 – Baseball/Softball field, and Phase 3 – Intensive Playground. She informed on the Youth Center new exercise equipment replacement, which will be installed in mid November 2024 and Los Alamos Retention Basin Lighting Project to be completed by December 2024 and no later than January 2025.

Mayor Nieves Riedel commented that Ms. Orduño mentioned to her that she does not want to die without seeing her son's name, Joe Orduño, at the park. She asked Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, and Ms. Roldan to look into this.

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, went over the updates for the Police Department. He provide an update on the purchase of three (3) fully equipped Ford Maverick trucks assigned to the Transit Enforcement units, the purchase of one (1) fully equipped Ford Explorer assigned to the Criminal Investigations Section, the purchase of 25 Axon Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) Fleet 3, which provide a real-time in vehicle camera and alerting system for their police fleet, the purchase of one (1) fully equipped Can-Am Maverick X3DS side by side vehicle which will be available to sworn officers to patrol desert areas within city limits, the purchase of six (6) DJI Avata 2 and two (2) Matrice drones for deployments related to aerial searches, interior buildings or vehicle searches and crime scene mapping, the awarded \$165,000.00 for the tower, the purchase of a three (3) line message traffic trailer, a mobile light tower with diesel engine and the direct link crisis response system. All these purchases were made through the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) grant funds.

Mayor Nieves Riedel asked how many police officers have been hired in the past two (2) years and how much grant money has the Police Department been awarded for the purchases he mentioned?

Chief Reynoso responded that there were six (6) police officers, adding that there are still four (4) vacancies for police officers, three (3) vacancies for communication officers, and one (1) vacancy for traffic enforcement officers. He added that the San Luis Police Department has received over \$2 million in DEMA, Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS), and Stonegarden grants.

The PowerPoint presentations are attached to the agenda item review form filed at the City Clerk's Office with the complete agenda packet.

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5. A. MINUTES OF**

**- Regular Council meeting held September 25, 2024**

### **5. B. DISBURSEMENTS**

**From October 4, 2024 to October 16, 2024**

**Total \$1,695,329.98** (One Million, Six Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand, Three Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Ninety-Eight 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 Matias Rosales	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

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

### **6. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization to accept a service agreement and enter into a contract with Flock Group Inc. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)**

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, asked for authorization on a service agreement and to enter into a contract with Black Group Incorporation to allow the Police Department to deploy a total of 24 video cameras across the city. This will significantly deter crime and aid police investigations. By structurally placing high-definition cameras in key areas, the city enhances visibility and surveillance, which serves as a strong deterrent to potential offenders who recognize that their actions are being monitored.

Additionally, the cameras utilize advanced automatic license plate recognition with AOPR technology, enabling law enforcement to identify and track vehicles involved in criminal activities. This capability not only accelerates the resolution of ongoing investigations but also provides valuable evidence that can be used in court. Ultimately, the presence of these cameras fosters a safer community by discouraging criminal behavior and supporting law enforcement efforts to maintain public safety. The cost of this contract is \$99,130.00 per year. The cost will be covered by the funds awarded by the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs Border Fencing and Technology grant and approved as part of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Capital Projects Grant Funds. Flock Safety is the sole manufacturer, developer, and distributor of the proprietary Flock Safety Falcon ALPR Camera and FlockOS Real Time Crime Center integrated solution. It is an exclusive service under 3.05.020 Exclusive Services.

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, stated that after two (2) years, the city would have to allocate the funding and the fiscal years after that to be able to continue the service.

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to approve the contract with Flock Group Incorporated for \$99,130.00 for the initial year using Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (AZDEMA) grant funds 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
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**6. B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization to accept a service agreement and enter into a contract with Precision Protective Security Services Inc. for traffic control. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)**

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, mentioned that he is seeking authorization to enter into an agreement with Precision Protective Security Services, Inc. for assistance with traffic control. There has been a lot of traffic, and due to a lack of transit enforcement officers, the San Luis Police Department has had a burden on traffic control on Main Street. The contract is for the company to have up to four (4) security officers to conduct traffic control. The cost of the contract will depend on the number of security officers requested; they will begin November 4, 2024.

Mayor Nieves Riedel invited those people criticizing the way traffic control is being handled to contact the Chief of Police and share ideas for a possible solution.

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Javier Vargas to approve the contract with Precision Protective Security Services for the initial year ending April 4, 2025, not to exceed the budgeted dollar amount of \$91,200.00, authorize the budget transfer as presented in the fiscal impact of this item and waive formal purchasing procedures for the reasons 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
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**6. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Order No. 2024-06. 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 the Impaired Driver/DUI Alcohol Enforcement, STEP/Selective Traffic Enforcement, and Occupant Protection Enforcement Projects by approving Highway Safety Contracts 2025-AL-027, 2025-PTS-055, and 2025-OP-021 between the City of San Luis, Arizona through the San Luis Police Department and the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)**

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, explained that this order is for the approval to receive funding from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety. The Police Department was awarded \$50,000.00 to support training material, overtime, occupant protection awareness, the car seat program that includes donation of car seats when needed, the Selective Traffic Enforcement Project (STEP), and the deployment of additional staff for DUI and STEP.

**MOTION:** Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz to approve and adopt Order No. 2024-06. 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
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**6. D. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the payment to Yuma County Water Users' Association for the East Main Canal and Main Drain Improvements. (Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works)**

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, indicated that this is for the payment to Yuma County Water Users Association for the purchase of concrete pipe as well as some materials for constructing headwalls, and that is because part of the Cesar Chavez Boulevard Expansion Project needs the east main canal pipeline, which is an existing canal that is dry but crosses Cesar Chavez Boulevard. Therefore, as part of the new design, there is going to be a roundabout that goes to the intersection of San Luis Lane and Cesar Chavez Boulevard, which requires an extension of the existing concrete pipe covering 260 feet. To work inside the Yuma County Water Users' right-of-way, they designed to do the work. They have first choice of doing it themselves or the city per paying a contact to do it. In this instance, they chose to do the work and provided the city with a cost estimate of \$89,207.40. This will allow them to order the pipe and get it ready and not get into a scheduling issue. This will help the project stay on track and get a lot of work done before the end of the calendar year.

**MOTION:** Council Member Matias Rosales/Council Member Luis E. Cabrera to approve the payment to Yuma County Water Users Association as an exclusive service in the amount of \$89,207.40 for the purchase of materials needed for the east main canal and main drain improvements. 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
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

**7. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz reported she attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona Road Transportation Summit and honored Council Member Matias Rosales for his commitment and dedication to the city for transportation; he is called the transportation hero. He was part of the Port of Entry advocating, fought, and advocated for the Cesar Chavez Project, which is approximately \$65 million, and when she started the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO), she asked about the cost, which was \$25 million then.

Council Member Matias Rosales reported it was an honor to represent the city in Prescott, where he received the Award of Champions.

Mayor Nieves Riedel reported that on October 22, 2024, the Human Resources Department, alongside the other city departments, organized the first Career and Technical Education (CTE) for high school students at the Cesar Chavez Cultural Center, where approximately 500 students attended.

Council Member Matias Rosales invited everyone to attend the spooktacular event tomorrow at Joe Orduño Park. He also reported and invited everyone to the Mayor's Bicycle event, which will take place on Saturday; registration begins at 7:00 a.m. at the Civic Center. There will be a pre-registration event on Friday evening at downtown Yuma or Paradise Casino. The bike ride will begin at 8:00 a.m. and will be from Yuma to Cocopah, Somerton, Gadsden, San Luis, and San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora.

Ms. Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks and Recreation, invited the community to attend the spooktacular event, which will include lots of excitement, games, food vendors, and attractions for everyone.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera reported he had the opportunity to attend OnVida Health white-coat shadowing today and saw a gallbladder removal surgery. He added it was amazing to see the technology and how innovative the hospital is. There are great doctors performing the operations, and he was happy to be there.

Council Member Javier Vargas reported he also attended the white-coat shadowing and is grateful for the opportunity given to them. He added that it was amazing how technology is used. They were able to witness what was coming to the community.

Mayor Nieves Riedel congratulated Mr. James Allen Jr., for attending the council meetings, who is running for City Council. It shows that he is interested and his commitment. She added that the current City Council will work with him or anyone else.

Council Member Matias Rosales added that some candidates are watching the City Council meetings on YouTube, not just in person.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Javier Varga to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at approximately 7:12 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
Council Member Javier Vargas	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 October 23, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk