

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
San Luis, AZ 85349
July 9, 2025
6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

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

PRESENT: Mayor Nieves Riedel
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales
Council Member Lizeth Servin
Council Member Javier Vargas

OTHERS PRESENT: Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager
Kay Macuil, City Attorney
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Alejandra Peru, Court Administrator
Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation
Antonio Maldonado, Multimedia Production & Operations Specialist
Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development
Damian Miller, Lieutenant
Danae Figueroa, Magistrate
Edgar Esparza, Billing and Collections Manager
Enrique Lopez, Assistant Fire Chief
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Isael Gomez, Records Management Specialist
Israel Lara, I.T. Technician
Jose A. Guzman, Director of Development Services
Maria Barajas, Human Resources Generalist
Maria Sabori, Risk Manager
Mario Rodriguez, Finance Operations Manager
Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager
Roula Encinas, Director of Finance
Tomas Sanchez, City Engineer
Victor De La Torre, Safety Officer
Alberto Leon, Resident
Christian Cuevas, Translator
Fabher Sanchez, Resident

Lilia Quiñonez, Resident
Luis Marquez, Resident
Luisa Arreola, Resident
Manuel Rojas, Resident
Maria Gonzalez, Resident
Maria Robles, Resident
Mark Concha Jr., Resident

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Esteban C. Rosales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

The invocation was performed by Ms. Elida Valenzuela, Police Chaplain.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Maria Robles, 1195 California St, San Luis, AZ, emphasized the importance of teamwork for the benefit of the community and families, calling for collaboration to truly understand the needs in areas such as education and health, working directly with residents. She expressed concern that, although San Luis, Arizona, has a population of approximately 40,000 people, 99.9% of its residents are unaware of the city's history. Most people only know that it was officially proclaimed a city in 1979, but few are aware that the name "San Luis, Arizona" was given in 1930. She also shared a little-known piece of local history, the existence of a tourist wagon pulled by a giant tractor, known as El Tio Can, which used to take visitors across the border to San Luis Río Colorado, Mexico. Ms. Robles proposed working together to recover and preserve the city's history, embracing its roots, and recognizing those who contributed to its development, such as the first developer who built homes using USDA funding. She encouraged investing in culture, art, and local identity, believing that these elements can help make San Luis a more appealing destination for visitors. She also suggested beginning preparations now for a meaningful celebration of the city's 50th anniversary, which is only four (4) years away. During her remarks, Ms. Robles introduced her nonprofit organization, "We Are, Somos", which operates with zero funding, but a strong commitment to community service. She shared that she has been involved in community work for over 30 years and was a pioneer alongside Ms. Amanda Aguirre in forming the city's first group of community health workers (promotoras de salud). At that time, the city was facing serious issues such as reproductive health challenges, high teenage pregnancy rates, and the presence of over 30 street gangs. Through collaboration with individuals like Salomón and Captain Garcia, they were able to reverse many of those issues.

Ms. Luisa Arreola, 3685 San Pedro St, San Luis, AZ, brought up a concern about the lack of a memorial for veterans in the community. She pointed out that San Luis does not currently have a dedicated space to honor or recognize the service and sacrifices of its veterans. She made it clear that she's not speaking on behalf of every veteran, but rather those with whom she has had conversations. She wanted to ask if there's something the city and community can work on together to create a space or memorial that shows appreciation for the sacrifices made by veterans.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5. A. Presentation and recognition to Ms. Heather Madrigal, for her 23 years of exceptional work, dedication and support to the city's students, families, and educators at San Luis High School. (Mayor Nieves Riedel and Council Members)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, presented to Ms. Heather Madrigal a Certificate of recognition of exceptional service, professionalism and unwavering dedication to students, families and educators of the City of San Luis.

5. B. Recognition to Ms. Alejandra Payan for her outstanding athletic achievements and Mr. Enrique Partida for his work with special-needs children and the powerful impact he is making on the lives of his students. (Mayor Nieves Riedel and Council Members)

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, stated that Ms. Payan and Mr. Partida were not present, as both were in Texas representing the USA team. She mentioned that they would be presenting the item again at the next Council meeting.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Javier Vargas/Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

6. A. MINUTES OF

- Special Council meeting May 28, 2025**
- Work Session held June 4, 2025**

6. B. DISBURSEMENTS

From June 19, 2025, to July 1, 2025

Total \$2,494,622.87

(Two Million, Four Hundred Ninety- Four Thousand, Six Hundred, Twenty- Two Dollars and Eighty- Seven Cents)

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

7. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization for the purchase and installation of emergency equipment for six (6) 2025 Ford PI SUV vehicles, three (3) fully marked and three (3) unmarked, using the State of Arizona Department of Public Safety Local Border Support funds. (Damian Miller, Lieutenant)

Mr. Damian Miller, Lieutenant, reported that the City of San Luis Police Department is seeking approval to purchase and install emergency equipment for six (6) new 2025 Ford PI SUVs, three (3) patrol and three (3) unmarked vehicles, to replace high-mileage units. Upfitting for the patrol vehicles will be completed by Waltz Outfitting LLC for \$104,133.87 and the unmarked vehicles by Arizona Emergency Products for \$58,362.62. Both utilize the City of Chandler Contract #PD5-055-4859, which offers cost savings. Two (2) vendors were selected to expedite installation and delivery.

MOTION: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Lizeth Servin to approve the purchase and installation of emergency equipment for six (6) 2025- Ford PI SUV, using Waltz Outfitting and Arizona Emergency Products, for a total amount not to exceed \$166,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

7. B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization to purchase one (1) new fully marked and equipped 2025 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado Police vehicle using the Arizona Department of Homeland Security Operation Stonegarden Grant Program Equipment funds. (Damian Miller, Lieutenant)

Mr. Damian Miller, Lieutenant, requested approval to purchase a fully equipped 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 for \$57,415 from Chapman Chevrolet in Yuma, AZ, for use in the Operation Stonegarden deployments (Grant #OPSG-240431-02). Though a lower quote was received for a 2026 model, it would require ordering and delay. Chapman's vehicle is available locally, avoiding added time and cost. This purchase follows City Council approval of IGA Order No. 2025-02 on February 12, 2025.

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to approve the purchase of one (1) new 2025 Chevrolet Silverado police vehicle for a total amount not to exceed \$92,000.00 and to waive the purchase procedure under the San Luis City Code Section 3.02.010 (F) for the reasons explained. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

7. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2365. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, authorizing the allocation of \$1,060,100.00 in local match funds and authorizing the submission of an application to the Federal Transit Administration's FY 2025 Buses and Bus Facilities Program. (Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs)

Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs sought authorization to apply for the Federal Transit Administration's FY 2025 Buses and Bus Facilities Program under Section 5339(b), which supports capital projects that improve and expand bus infrastructure, including transit facilities and park-and-ride lots. This competitive program provides up to 80 percent federal funding for eligible activities. Similar projects have received significant awards in other communities, including a \$3.97 million transit center and park-and-ride in Loveland, Colorado, a \$25 million multimodal hub in South DeKalb, Georgia, and a \$5 million transit center in Antioch, Tennessee. Building on these successful models, the City of San Luis proposes an infrastructure-focused project aimed at strengthening local and regional mobility.

MOTION: Council Member Javier Vargas /Council Member Luis Cabrera to approve and Adopt Resolution No. 2365, authorizing the allocation of \$1,060,100.00 in local match funds and directing staff to submit the grant application to the Federal Transit Administration's Buses and Bus Facilities Program for the Downtown Park & Ride and Plaza Project. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

7. D. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2367. A Resolution of the City of San Luis, Arizona Mayor and Common Council, designating the Chief Fiscal Officer for officially submitting the fiscal year 2025-2026 expenditure limitation report to the Arizona Auditor General. (Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, presented a request requiring the city to annually provide the Auditor General with the name of a designated official, typically the Chief Fiscal Officer, who will be responsible for submitting the Annual Expenditure Limitation Report. Ms. Torres requested that the Council formally designate Ms. Roula Encinas, Director of Finance, as the City's Chief Fiscal Officer (CFO) for this purpose, authorizing her to submit the report to the Auditor General on behalf of the city.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/ Council member Luis E. Cabrera to approve Resolution No. 2367, designating Roula Jouanne De Encinas as the C.F.O to submit the Annual Expenditure Report to the Auditor General as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

7. E. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding renewal of the subscription to Westlaw for West Publishing and Thompson Reuters online legal library, search engine, and AI services for a 3-year contract. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, stated that the contract with Westlaw, an online legal research library she utilizes daily, is for a three-year term. The upcoming contract, beginning in April, will include new artificial intelligence features, which she noted are performing effectively. She explained that this item is being presented to the Council for approval of the three-year agreement, which will also lock in the pricing to avoid annual cost increases.

MOTION: Council Member Lizeth Servin/ Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to approve the renewal of the Westlaw subscription for three (3) years as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

7. F. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding a contract for indigent defense services through an independent contractor. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)

Ms. Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney, presented an initiative introduced by Judge Danae Figueroa to implement a request for proposals process for the city's indigent defense counsel. The associated budget was transferred to the City Attorney's Office. One (1) proposal was received from Ms. Candice Orduño-Crouse, who has been performing most of the indigent defense work. She proposed a flat fee of \$9,500.00 per month, which falls within the budget. Following a panel interview on June 25, 2025, Ms. Orduño-Crouse was found qualified to continue serving in the role.

MOTION: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/ Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to direct staff to contract with Candice Orduño-Crouse for Indigent Defense Services a monthly flat fee not to Exceed \$114,000.00 annually. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

7. G. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Ordinance No. 467. An Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, amending City Code Sections 10.15.255(D), 10.15.205, 10.15.010, and 10.15.990(C)(1) to clarify parking on public land, scope of parking enforcement and to update definitions and references; repealing conflicting provisions, and providing for severability. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)

Ms. Kay M. Macuil, City Attorney, explained that the new ordinance addresses several parking-related issues, particularly involving inoperable vehicles on public lands such as BLM property under the transmission line. While the city has permission from BLM to use this area for parking, enforcement has been limited due to unclear language in the existing City Code. The ordinance now authorizes the city to remove inoperable or disabled vehicles from BLM and other federal lands, closes enforcement gaps, and clarifies that the registered owner of a vehicle is the party responsible for any parking violations, which strengthens the city's ability to enforce parking rules. Additionally, the ordinance updates outdated references to civil court procedures for traffic and standing violations, replacing them with the current regulations and aligning the related definitions, thereby modernizing the City Code and improving its overall effectiveness.

Mayor Nieves Riedel asked whether the Police Department had been involved in drafting the ordinance. Ms. Macuil responded that the police had informed her of the problems they were experiencing, and based on that input, she drafted the ordinance. Ms. Mayor Nieves Riedel then commented that, since enforcement hadn't been happening even under the previous code, she was concerned about how enforcement would be handled going forward. She expressed empathy for the Police Department, noting that officers might face strong complaints from the public since this is a new policy. She proposed that the city consider conducting an awareness campaign and possibly not issuing tickets on the first violation. Instead, the first offense could be used as an opportunity to educate the public, with a warning that future violations would result in fines. She clarified that while she didn't know how the rest of the Council felt, she believed that this change, while necessary, could create challenges if not properly communicated to residents. She emphasized the importance of anticipating the consequences of such changes and ensuring the public is adequately informed.

Council Member Javier Vargas shared that he had been contacted by several community members who were concerned about recent enforcement of parking laws. These residents mentioned that they had always parked in front of their homes without any issue and were now receiving citations without any prior notice or warning. He suggested that, moving forward, some form of direct communication such as knocking on doors should be used to inform residents that the law will now be actively enforced, helping to prevent confusion and complaints.

Mayor Nieves Riedel followed up by asking whether signs would be posted to inform the public of the parking rules and potential consequences. She added that this would be another way to help educate the community and ease the transition into active enforcement.

Mr. Damian Miller, Lieutenant, responded by explaining that the Police Department tags vehicles first, giving owners a specific amount of time to move them before taking further action. He noted that many of the vehicles being targeted are clearly abandoned, often damaged from collisions, missing tires, or otherwise poor conditions. These vehicles generate frequent complaints, especially in residential areas where they occupy limited parking spaces that residents need. He also highlighted a longstanding issue in the BLM area behind Family Dollar, where a large dirt lot has been used by individuals involved in importing and exporting vehicles, creating additional problems. He emphasized that the department has been tagging vehicles in these areas for years, and the public is already aware that enforcement has been increasing as the city works toward a long-term solution. Additionally, he mentioned that they attempt to contact vehicle owners when tags are placed or when owners reach out to the department, so they can explain the reason behind the enforcement.

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya asked whether parking citations were being dismissed when individuals claimed they were not the ones driving or parking the vehicle.

Lieutenant Damian Miller responded that he was not aware of such cases from the court's side.

Ms. Danae Figueroa, Magistrate, clarified that this type of claim can be used as a valid defense during a contested civil traffic hearing. If someone argues they were not the person who parked the vehicle and presents a credible defense, it can lead to the citation being dismissed. She confirmed that this has occurred in some cases and explained that, as with any infraction, if a valid defense is presented, the individual may be found not responsible.

A. Action on Reading of Ordinance No. 467 by title only

MOTION: Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/ Council Member Javier Vargas to approve the reading of Ordinance No. 467 by title only. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 467 by title only

B. Action on Ordinance No. 467

MOTION: Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/ Council Member Javier Vargas to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 467 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

7. H. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2366. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, approving and adopting the Development Fees Update; declaring it as a public record, establishing an effective date; repealing any conflicting provisions; and providing for severability. (Jose A. Guzman, Director of Development Services)

Mr. Jose Guzman, Director of Development Services, explained that this Resolution represents the final step in the adoption of updated development impact fees, as required by State law. All necessary notices and public hearings have been completed. If adopted, the new fees will take effect on September 22nd. Mr. Guzman noted that all relevant information is included in the report and invited questions from the Council or the public. Staff recommends approval of the Resolution.

The City Council and Mr. Guzman ensued into discussion.

Mayor Nieves Riedel stated that Council Member Lizeth Servin works for a developer and therefore has a conflict of interest.

Ms. Kay M. Macuil, City Attorney, confirmed that Council Member Lizeth Servin does have a conflict of interest.

Council Member Lizeth Servin declared a conflict of interest on this item.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/ Council Member Javier Vargas to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2366. The motion passed with five (5) Ayes and two (2) Abstentions from Mayor Nieves Riedel and Council Member Lizeth Servin.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Abstention
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Abstention
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

8. Summary of Current Events

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera thanked staff for their efforts in organizing the 4th of July event, highlighting the great teamwork involved in bringing festivities to the community. He noted that the event was very well attended, with the public enjoying performances from various musical groups. He mentioned he enjoyed seeing many people dancing and having fun, adding that the pleasant weather made the evening even more enjoyable. He expressed his gratitude once again to everyone who made the event possible, especially the Parks and Recreation Department.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz shared that she attended the PPEP graduation celebration on June 27th, honoring the hard work and dedication of farmworker students from Somerton and San Luis, who earned their GED. She noted that a total of 16 students graduated.

Council Member Esteban C. Rosales reported that Council Members Javier Vargas, Lizeth Servin, and Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya attended the Arizona-Mexico Commission, where important topics were discussed, including the new Port of Entry, road infrastructure, and matters involving imports, exports, and federal government coordination. He commended Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya for delivering a strong presentation, including one to Governor Hobbs. Although Council Member Esteban C. Rosales was not present during the presentation due to a separate meeting with individuals involved in the event, he noted that it was a valuable opportunity to build strong connections and engage with counterparts from San Luis, Mexico. He concluded by inviting the community to a free backpack giveaway event taking place on Sunday, hosted by the organization Gateway to the Heart.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

9. A. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(Vote to hold an Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), (4), and (7))

Discussion and possible action to hold an Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 38-431.03(A)(3), and (4) on any and all matters regarding the litigation of Gethsemani v. San Luis and consultation for legal advice with the city attorneys, in order to consider its position and instruct its attorneys and representatives about the City Council's position on contracts that are the subject of negotiations, in litigation or in settlement discussions conducted in order to resolve litigation (under subsection 4) allowed in executive sessions. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney; and Outside Counsel Gammage & Burnham)

9. B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(Vote to hold an Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), and (4) Discussion and possible action to hold an Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and (4) on any and all matters regarding a June 27, 2025 demand letter on the City and its Council Members received from Attorney John Garcia representing Mrs. Nieves G. Riedel and Riedel Construction and the Development Agreement for Las Quintas Subdivision dated August 22, 2001, for consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney, in order to consider its position and instruct its City Attorney and representatives about the City Council's position on the Development Agreement that is the subject of negotiations, in pending or contemplated litigation or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid or resolve litigation (under subsection 4) allowed in executive sessions. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)

10. MOTION TO GO BACK INTO REGULAR SESSION

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya moved to go back into Regular Session at approximately 8:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

The vote was as follows:

Mayor Nieves Riedel	Was not present to vote
Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	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 July 9, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk