

**MINUTES**  
**Special Council Meeting**  
**San Luis City Council**  
**San Luis Council Chambers**  
**1090 E. Union Street**  
**San Luis, AZ 85349**  
**July 30, 2025**  
**6:00 p.m.**

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

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

**PRESENT:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera  
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz  
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales (left at 7:14 p.m.)  
Council Member Lizeth Servin (via Teams at 7:06 p.m.)  
Council Member Javier Vargas  
Mayor Nieves Riedel

**ABSENT:** Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager  
Kay Macuil, City Attorney  
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk  
Adela Cortez, Director of Human Resources  
Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief  
Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Antonio Maldonado, Multimedia Production & Operations Specialist  
Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development  
Edgar Esparza, Billing and Collections Manager  
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works  
Fernando Corona, I.T. Manager  
Francia Alonso, Public Information Officer  
Israel Lara, I.T. Technician  
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Jose Guzman, Director of Development Services  
Jossue Cerda, I.T. Support Supervisor  
Manuel Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works  
Maria Barajas, Human Resources Generalist  
Maria Sabori, Risk Manager  
Mario Rodriguez, Finance Operations Manager  
Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager  
Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police  
Olivia Jenkins, Administrative Services Manager

Roula Encinas, Director of Finance  
Tomas Sanchez, City Engineer  
Victor De La Torre, Safety Officer  
Buna George, GYPA Director  
Carmen Merida, Resident  
Cesar Neyoy, Reporter  
Christian Cuevas, Meeting Translator  
Crystal Mendoza, Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Executive Director  
David Lara, Yuma County Recorder  
Fabher Sanchez, 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**

There were no comments from the public.

## **5. PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATIONS**

### **5. A. Proclamation on Child Support Awareness Month - August 2025**

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

### **5. B. Presentation by Yuma Community Food Bank to San Luis City Council. (Shara Whitehead, President and Chief Executive Officer and Michelle Merkley, Chief Operating Officer)**

Ms. Shara Whitehead, President and Chief Executive Officer and Ms. Mallorie Edgar, Agency and Programs Coordinator, thanked the City of San Luis for the continued support.

**5. C. Presentation on Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization's activities. (Crystal Figueroa, Executive Director)**

Ms. Crystal Figueroa, Executive Director, provided a brief presentation regarding their current activities and initiatives. Ms. Figueroa also provided an update on the Gary Knight Memorial Highway, which was initiated last year.

**5. D. Presentation and update on Fuerza Local Cohort 1 and Economic Impact Report. (Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs)**

Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs, presented the Fuerza Local and Economic Impact Report.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**6. A. MINUTES OF**

- Special Council meeting held June 18, 2025
- Regular Council meeting held June 25, 2025

**6. B. DISBURSEMENTS**

**From July 2, 2025 to July 22, 2025**

**Total \$5,119,228.83**

(Five Million, One Hundred Nineteen Thousand, Two Hundred Twenty-Eight Dollars and Eighty-Three Cents)

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

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

**7. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization for the purchase of Fortinet network infrastructure equipment to replace aging network hardware and to upgrade firewalls through PCS Solutions using 1GPA National Purchasing Cooperative Agreement Contract #25-09PV-06 under the authority of the City of San Luis Procurement Code 3.05.090, Cooperative Purchasing. (Fernando Corona, IT Manager)**

Mr. Fernando Corona, I.T. Manager, requested approval to purchase network infrastructure from PCS Solutions for \$211,340.92. The goal of this project is to support outdated and unsupported network hardware. He also requested authorization to purchase additional firewalls that will be installed in key locations. The upgrade will ensure the city's network infrastructure is secure, efficient and prepared for future needs.

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Javier Vargas to approve the purchase of Fortinet network infrastructure equipment through PCS Solutions, for a total amount not to exceed \$211,340.92. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

**7. B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the ratification of payment for temporary staffing services provided by Robert Half. (Fernando Corona, IT Manager)**

Mr. Fernando Corona, I.T. Manager, explained that contracting for the temporary position was crucial to ensure that the quality of support would not be impacted. He requested ratification of the total payment issued during Fiscal Year 2024-2025, amounting to \$47,354.57, and asked that any formal purchasing procedures be waived, as permitted under San Luis City Code, Purchasing § 30.05.010(F). The City of San Luis hired the employee contracted for the temporary position.

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to ratify the budget transfers in the amount of \$54,600.00 and the payments in the amount of \$47,354.57 to Robert Half for temporary I.T. Help Desk staffing services provided from August 12, 2024, to March 21, 2025, and to waive formal procurement procedures as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

**7. C. Discussion and possible action on all matters regarding the approval and ratification of payment for the Arizona Department of Transportation contract modification for the Los Alamos Curve Realignment Project. (Manny Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works)**

Mr. Manny Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works, stated that they are seeking the City Council's approval and ratification of a payment for an unplanned yet necessary contract modification with the Arizona Department of Transportation for the Los Alamos curve realignment project. Staff was notified late in the fiscal year by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) that there would be a change in the project scope, including right-of-way acquisition and additional design work, which increased the city's additional cost share to \$63,949.00, an amount not included in the budget. Due to the project's urgency and timeline constraints, the payment was made using existing highway user funds allocated for another project.

There was some discussion/explanation among members of the City Council and staff regarding this project, including dates, funding (federal highway safety funds), ADOT's schedule, the IGA with ADOT, the history of the subdivision, its road, and the completion date.

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz to approve and ratify an additional payment of \$63,949.00 for the ADOT contract modification for the Los Alamos curve realignment project and to perform a budget transfer as described in the fiscal impact statement. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

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

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, mentioned that they are requesting approval to renew and enter into an agreement with Precision Protective Services to assist with traffic control needs; they have been working with the city for two (2) years in addition to other departments throughout the city. A total of \$85,000.00 was budgeted for their services and the contract is for a term through June 30, 2026, or until the funds are depleted, whichever occurs first. Bids were received and they were the lowest bidder.

Chief Reynoso stated that, with their staffing, he had received approval to hire new officers and provided an update on this.

**MOTION:** Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Javier Vargas to approve the renewal of the contract with Precision Protective Services for traffic control services during Fiscal Year 2025-2026, not to exceed the budgeted dollar amount of \$85,000.00, and waive formal purchasing procedures for the justification presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

**7. E. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Order No. 2025-06. An Order of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, approving and adopting the Intergovernmental Lease Agreement between the City of San Luis and Greater Yuma Port Authority, Inc. (GYPA) for the lease of the building at 788 East B Street, San Luis, Arizona. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)**

Ms. Kay Macuil, City Attorney, explained that this is for the B Street building, Proverbs 31 Home is going to have one (1) of the offices. The thought behind it is that GYPA needed an office close to the port and they have money to help the city remodel the building. They have the ability either to pay for five (5) years upfront, which will help reimburse for the remodel, or go month by month. The rent the city came up with is based on the way it works for the incubator. GYPA received a donation for furniture and will keep it if they leave. The city will take care of maintenance and janitorial services; they can make improvements up to \$5,000.00 and then they need to come to the city for permission.

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, stated that the contract includes the city will be paying for the utilities, water, trash and sewer and GYPA will pay for electricity and internet.

Ms. Buna George, GYPA Director, added that she has been in communication with Ms. Torres regarding the allocation and what bills are going to split between the city and GYPA.

Mayor Nieves Riedel asked if Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz would be able to vote on this item since she will be occupying one (1) of the offices?

Ms. Macuil responded that Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz would be able to vote because her non-profit is one (1) of the remote interests listed on the conflict of interest and this lease will not affect her for her office.

Mayor Nieves Riedel commented that she would never agree to a Council Member using city buildings or offices, and it is not a personal issue. Still, the perception they are giving to the public is that, as elected officials, they are taking advantage of their position. This is not a personal attack against Council Members Maria Cecilia Cruz or Javier Vargas, but rather her opinion on what she thinks should never be done. Even if it is not illegal, as elected officials, they should be cautious about the things they do, because people are watching them. She added that when she started as Mayor, some non-profits were using the city's buildings, and they were asked to leave.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera called for a point of order.

Mayor Nieves Riedel stated she was speaking and asked Council Member Luis E. Cabrera not to talk over her; she called for a five (5) minute recess at 7:04 p.m.

Some members of the City Council made comments that were not audible due to the recording stopping.

The meeting resumed at 7:08 p.m.

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Javier Vargas to approve and adopt Order No. 2025-06 and the Lease with GYPA as attached to this agenda item. The motion passed with five (5) Ayes and one (1) Nay by Mayor Nieves Riedel.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Nay

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, commented that the statements made by three (3) members of the City Council during the time the meeting had recessed and were not part of the recording.

**7. F. Public hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Proposed Ordinance No. 468. An Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, continuing the occupational registration for peddlers as set forth in City Code Chapter 5.10 and finding the registration requirement is necessary to protect the health, safety or welfare of the public; and amending City Code § 5.10.020 to clarify the application process requirements; repealing any conflicting provisions; and providing for severability. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)**

**A. Staff presentation**

Ms. Kay Macuil, City Attorney, indicated that this item does not significantly alter the City Code, but it requires implementation. A code was in place for door-to-door salespeople, which required registration with the Police Department. People who might take advantage of others often engage in unethical practices or may even have criminal intent regarding the neighborhood's activities. So, it allows for fingerprinting, a criminal background check and insight into how they will handle their practices in their door-to-door sales. But since the city passed that regulation, the state legislature took away some of the city's authority to regulate businesses and in order for the city to do that kind of regulation, it needs to go through the public hearing process to do that registration for door-to-door sales.

**B. Open Public Hearing**

Mayor Nieves Riedel opened the Public Hearing.

**C. Call to the public on this item**

Mayor Nieves Riedel called on the public on this item.

**D. Close Public Hearing**

Mayor Nieves Riedel closed the Public Hearing.

**E. Action on reading of Ordinance No. 468, by title only**

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Luis E. Cabrera to approve the Reading of Ordinance No. 468 by title only. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye

Mayor Nieves Riedel Aye  
Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 468 by title only.

### **F. Action on Ordinance No. 468**

**MOTION:** Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Javier Vargas to approve Ordinance No. 468, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

Mayor Nieves Riedel announced that Council Member Esteban C. Rosales had an emergency and needed to leave the meeting. He left at 7:14 p.m.

### **8. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Council Member Javier Vargas reported that last week, he attended the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) Annual Conference, along with Council Members Luis E. Cabrera and Lizeth Servin, as well as colleagues from the City of Somerton, Yuma County, and many other Latino leaders from across the country. As a Council Member, he knows firsthand how important it is to have spaces like those where they can connect, learn and work together to make their communities stronger and united. NALEO reminds them that representation matters; their stories and leadership help shape policies that reflect the diversity, strength, and resilience of their people. These gatherings are not just about politics, but rather about purpose and progress. He added that he is proud to be part of this network and is committed to sharing the knowledge and inspiration he gains with his community, utilizing it in the decision-making process to benefit his community.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera reminded everyone that a Special Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 6, 2025. It is a follow-up to Robert's Rules of Order, which is on how to conduct official business. Some Council Members did not attend the first session, and they were highly encouraged to join the second session to continue their training and education on how to run a proper meeting and conduct business.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz reported she attended the Yuma Pipeline Project yesterday. This will be 91 miles of gas line and it will eventually cross into Mexico. The city will benefit greatly, as it is aware that the lack of gas infrastructure has led to some business losses. This is a plus for the City of San Luis, its region, and Mexico.

Mayor Nieves Riedel added to Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz's comment that she had visitors from that project in her office today, from the Mexican delegation, it was very entertaining and informative. She is pleased to know that Mexico is ready to buy this type of energy.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera also reported that the Gadsden School District will commence its school session on August 6, 2025, and welcomed everyone back to school, wishing a great and successful academic year.

## **9. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

**Vote to hold Executive Sessions pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A) (3)(4) and (7).**

**9. A. 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. Discussion and possible action to hold an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3)(4) and (7) on any and all matters regarding a proposal for a forbearance agreement including use of potential proceeds from the potential sale of property to be used to request a court order granting the forbearance agreement terms control the San Luis Regional Detention and Support Center Project revenue allocation for two years in Case No. 62-TR-CV-24-31 Minnesota Second Judicial District for discussion or consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney, in order to consider and instruct the City Attorney regarding the Corporation's position. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)**

**9. C. Discussion and possible action to hold an Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) on any and all matters regarding San Luis Proposition 434 on eliminating City Council compensation for discussion or consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney. (Kay Marion Macuil, City Attorney)**

**9. D. 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 certain claims under the Employee Benefits Plans and discussion or consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney. (Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager)**

**MOTION:** Council Member Javier Vargas/Mayor Nieves Riedel to go into executive sessions at approximately 7:18 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Was not present to vote as he left the meeting
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

## 10. MOTION TO GO BACK INTO SPECIAL SESSION

**MOTION:** Mayor Nieves Riedel/Council Member Javier Vargas to go back into Special Session at approximately 9:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Was not present to vote as he left the meeting
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

## 11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM:

**11. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2368. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, ordering and calling a Special Election to be held on November 4, 2025, in and for the City of San Luis, Arizona, to submit to the qualified electors of San Luis Proposition No. 434 regarding the City Council's compensation, benefits, and/or travel allowances. (Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk)**

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, explained that this resolution calls and orders the Special Election to be held on November 4, 2025, regarding Proposition No. 434. The resolution establishes the election date, in addition to other deadlines, including the deadline for filing arguments.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera inquired about the timeline for this election.

Mrs. Cornelio responded that there is a timeline, and usually it is not attached to the resolutions, but one is available.

**MOTION:** Mayor Nieves Riedel/Council Member Lizeth Servin to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2368. The motion passed with four (4) Ayes and one (1) Abstention by Council Member Luis E. Cabrera.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Abstained
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Was not present to vote as he left the meeting
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Mayor Nieves Riedel/Council Member Javier Vargas to adjourn the Special Council Meeting at approximately 9:03 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera	Aye
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Was not present to vote as he left the meeting
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	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 Special City Council meeting of the City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, held on July 30, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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