

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
San Luis, AZ 85349
August 13, 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: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera (via Teams)
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

ABSENT: Mayor Nieves Riedel

OTHERS PRESENT: Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager
Kay Macuil, City Attorney
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Adela Cortez, Director of Human Resources
Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant
Angelica Cifuentes, Purchasing Coordinator
Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation
Antonio Maldonado, Multimedia Production & Operations Specialist
Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development
Edgar Esparza, Billing and Collections Manager
Elias Gonzalez Jr., Police Communications Supervisor
Emmanuel Botello, Police Lieutenant
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Franca Alonso, Public Information Officer
Gabriela Guevara, Police Communications Supervisor
Heriberto Vargas, Public Works Manager
Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator
Israel Lara, I.T. Technician
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Jose Barragan, Fire Battalion Chief
Lizeth Laguna, Police Records Supervisor
Manuel Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Maria Barajas, Acting Human Resources Manager
Maria Sabori, Risk Manager
Michelle Boucher, Police Administrator

Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager
Nancy Juarez, Accreditation and Compliance Coordinator
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
Yadira Bobadilla, Police Sergeant
Brian De La Hoya, Resident
Christian Cuevas, Meeting Translator
Guillermina Fuentes, Resident
James Allen Jr., Resident
Lilia Quiñonez, Resident
Luis Marquez, Resident
Maria Robles, Resident
Perla De La Hoya, Resident

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

The invocation was performed by Mr. David Reynoso, Police Chaplain.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Alfonso Lopez Anguiar, stated that on August 21, 2023, he was taken into custody by the San Luis Police Department in cooperation with Customs and Border Protection (CBP). This incident began when an officer placed a teletype into the new law enforcement system, issuing an official broadcast to other agencies that implied there was probable cause to locate and detain him. That broadcast was issued before he was ever questioned and before any evidence was confirmed. He was locked in a CBP cell for over an hour, searched and questioned as a suspect without his Miranda rights being read. This is not just his claim, the city's Department of Internal Affairs reports confirmed the Miranda violation. Under Arizona law, the alleged offense did not qualify for an arrest without the officer witnessing it or a statutory exception, which did not apply. Broadcasting a teletype under those circumstances not only bypassed the probable cause requirement, it spread false suspicions to the other agencies, creating further risk and liability for the city. Due to this arrest on his record, he lost a career opportunity, resulting in a direct provable economic loss, as well as reputational harm. Comparable civil rights cases in Arizona and California, with similar facts and career loss, have resulted in verdicts and settlements of millions of dollars. This means the city is now exposed to serious legal and financial risk. He added that he also has a video of a San Luis Police Department Officer who cannot state fundamental constitutional rights. The very rights they are sworn to uphold.

He added that this is not about embarrassing one (1) officer, but rather it is evidence of a training failure. Training is a policy and budget issue, and that falls squarely under the oversight responsibility. When officers do not understand the Constitution, they violate it. And when they violate it, the city pays. His detention is a direct example of that risk in action. His request is simple: to fulfill their oversight duty. Ask why documented violations are being defended instead of corrected. Ask the City Attorney and Police Chief to explain why it is worth risking millions of taxpayer dollars defending this case rather than resolving it. The public has a right to transparency and a duty to ensure accountability.

Ms. Maria Robles, 1195 California Street, San Luis, AZ, stated that on October 10, 2025, they will be hosting an event in Somerton to raise funds and support the Josefina Yopez Foundation. This foundation assists cancer patients financially. She has referred both male and female patients to this foundation and realized that the city does not contribute to it. This foundation supports all cancer patients in Yuma County. Ms. Robles invited and encouraged everyone to support this cause. It is essential that communities gather and are united for this foundation. Her organization, We Are Somos, has created a national coalition to support the Josefina Yopez Foundation with donations of medical equipment. They have signed a binational agreement to assist patients in Yuma County and San Luis, Mexico. She invited everyone to support this foundation as no one is so poor that they cannot give, nor are they so rich that they might not need it.

Mr. James Allen Jr., 1549 E. Babbitt Lane, San Luis, AZ, mentioned that he had the opportunity to see an article that was published in a Mexican newspaper. He translated it into English and found that it was very sad, because the implications voiced in some of the responses, such as those from the Mayor, really tore at the fabric of the city's ability to conduct its business in an orderly and correct fashion; tearing down people in the press or things of that nature. The truth is the only thing that one has left to separate one from the beasts and the forest. He had a guy two (2) weeks ago at his door regarding the recalls. He could not even explain to him why he was there. He then read the write-ups that accused the Council Members of, and he found that those were very, very incorrect and far from the truth. He attends most of the Council meetings and thinks maybe they have a different set of glasses on. He asked the public, before they sign their name on a document, to please obtain clarification, read it thoroughly, and make an informed decision. It is the people's decision, but please, before they recall any official or take any action, read and then proceed from there.

Ms. Guillermina Fuentes, a resident of San Luis, AZ, thanked Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya for not taking advantage of public funds by having the City Clerk read the agenda on his behalf. She said she would make her comments in English so they would not be misinterpreted or distorted by attorneys on behalf of their client. She knows how to read. On multiple occasions, the Mayor has stated that she has attended school; she might have, but if she knows how to read, which is a requirement for serving as a public officer.

She asked, how is it that they, as a government body, are allowing a public employee, in this case the City Clerk, to serve as a private secretary to read the agenda? The City Council is spending public funds using a city employee serving as their own secretary. The Mayor, like all other mayors from other cities, should run and read the agenda. She asked if the Mayor is paying the City Clerk as her own secretary? Ms. Fuentes mentioned she is sure she is not. She asked if they knew that Robert's Rules of Order were meant to help politicians run meetings. And if they believe they do not have to follow a procedure to run a meeting, then they should not be in this position and should resign if they are unwilling to follow a protocol or the rules of order. She asked if they were ignorant.

Ms. Angela Delgado, resident of San Luis, AZ, stated she has filed a lot of complaints for the Los Alamos subdivision. Currently, a house located there poses a fire hazard. She reported this and has been told that it has been taken care of and it has been going on for a year now. She does not want her subdivision to go up in flames. Another thing is that the striping on the road is disappearing, and that is very dangerous when going down the dip to enter Los Alamos. She has been a resident of Los Alamos for 12 years, having lived in the city for 25 years. She added that this is enough, and someone needs to take the reins and make it safe, not just this section but the entire city for the residents.

5. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

5. A. Proclamation - National Senior Citizens Day August 21, 2025

5. B. Proclamation - Women's Equality Day August 26, 2025

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya read the proclamations by title and declared the proclamations for the City of San Luis.

5. C. Presentation of San Luis Police Department, Police Officers Arnaldo Acosta & Paul Monge, Transit Enforcement Officers Alexis Hernandez, Isaac Cortez, & Jesus Cardenas, and Communications Officer Eryx Zaragoza. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, introduced the Police Officers, Transit Enforcement Officers and Communications Officer.

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya welcomed the new members of the Police Department.

5. D. Presentation of Certificate of Accreditation to the San Luis Police Department by the Arizona Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. (Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police)

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, stated that on April 25, 2025, the San Luis Police Department was certified and awarded reaccreditation from the Arizona Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. He noted that this is a systematic method of conducting a detailed internal review of the agency's policies, procedures, operations and training. The accreditation is a four (4) year process, and the San Luis Police Department first received its initial certification on September 15, 2020. He recognized and thanked the personnel involved in this process.

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya congratulated the San Luis Police Department for this achievement.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

**6. A. MINUTES OF
- Regular Council meeting held July 9, 2025**

**6. B. DISBURSEMENTS
From July 23, 2025 to August 5, 2025**

Total \$4,570,239.23

(Four Million, Five Hundred Seventy Thousand, Two Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars and Twenty-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
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. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

7. A. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding authorization to approve Fiscal Year 2026 cumulative purchases for the Public Works Department. (Angelica Cifuentes, Purchasing Coordinator & Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works)

Mr. Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works, explained that this item is for the cumulative purchases for Fiscal Year 2026 for the Department of Public Works. The procurement policy has a threshold of \$45,000.00, which requires City Council approval for purchases exceeding this amount. He briefly explained some of the items and vendors on the cumulative purchases list attached to the agenda item.

MOTION: Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to approve purchases for Fiscal Year 2026 of services and materials listed on the Public Works cumulative purchases schedule as presented in this agenda item, and waive formal purchasing procedures. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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) fully marked and equipped new 2026 Ford Explorer using Arizona Department of Public Safety Local Border Support Grant budgeted funds. (Emmanuel Botello, Lieutenant)

Mr. Emmanuel Botello, Police Lieutenant, stated that the San Luis Police Department is seeking approval to purchase one (1) 2026 Ford Explorer Interceptor vehicle. This vehicle will replace vehicles over ten (10) years old with 100,000 miles. The funds that will be used were approved for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 as part of the Capital Projects Grant Funds. The Explorer will be fully equipped and marked and the total amount for the vehicle and equipment is \$82,070.15. He added that the local dealerships were contacted and due to immediate availability, the Explorer will be purchased from Peoria Ford.

MOTION: Council Member Lizeth Servin/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to approve the purchase of one (1) new 2026 Ford Explorer, to approve the marking and equipping of the vehicle for a total amount not to exceed \$90,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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 Order No. 2025-07. 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 State Electronic Data Collection (SEDC) Grant by approving Contract #2025-SEDC-003 between the City of San Luis, Arizona, through the San Luis Police Department and the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety. (Alan Guevara, Lieutenant)

Mr. Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant, indicated that the San Luis Police Department has been awarded \$74,069.42 to support material and supplies for mobile data computers and office documents, which will be used explicitly for 100% statewide electronic collection efforts throughout the City of San Luis. The San Luis Police Department intends to use these funds to upgrade and standardize the state's crash data collection systems to enable electronic data collection, intrastate data sharing, and full electronic data transfers to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to increase the accuracy, timeliness, and accessibility of the data, including data relating to fatalities involving vulnerable road users. This means that officers will be able to collect data on scene of accident collisions and the reports will be electronically transferred.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Javier Vargas to approve and adopt Order No. 2025-07. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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 authorization for the purchase of ten (10) touchscreen mobile data computers using the Governor's Office of Highway Safety State Electronic Data Collection Grant Funds. (Alan Guevara, Lieutenant)

Mr. Alan Guevara, Police Lieutenant, said that the San Luis Police Department is seeking approval for the purchase of ten (10) touchscreen mobile data computers (MDCs), vehicle docks, and adapters. The MDCs will be assigned to all staff engaged in enforcement, replacing current MDCs, which are scheduled to be obsolete by the end of the current year. The equipment will be purchased from Code 3 Technology, which has provided a bid of \$74,069.42, including tax, and is an authorized vendor of the GETAC products. The GETAC products are covered under the Sourcewell Contract #090122-GET.

MOTION: Council Member Javier Vargas/Council Member Lizeth Servin to approve the purchase of ten (10) touchscreen mobile data computers and components, for a total amount not to exceed \$74,069.42. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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. Public hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2369. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis authorizing the submission of an application for FY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Regional Account funds (RA), certifying that said application meets the community's previously identified housing and community development needs and the requirements of the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) Community Development Block Grant Program, and authorizing all actions necessary to implement and complete the activities outlined in said application. (Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development & Government Affairs)

A. Staff presentation

Mr. Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator, presented a brief PowerPoint presentation highlighting the National Objectives, the benefits to Low and moderate-income people, the prevention and elimination of slums and blight, the Urgent Need, and the Anti-Displacement Policy. He added that the application is due on September 1, 2025, and the available funding is \$480,965.00. The funds will be applied to Merrill Avenue Phase 2.

B. Open Public Hearing

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya opened the Public Hearing.

C. Call to the public on this item

Mr. James Allen Jr., 1549 E. Babbitt Lane, San Luis, AZ, inquired whether this would more or less eliminate the existing slum-like areas? A good example is 20th Place, located behind Merrill Avenue and privately owned. He added that he has brought this up before and mentioned that whoever the owner is, they do not have any speed limit signs; and the area is not marked appropriately for addresses. Therefore, if Fire or Police need to go there and act in the interest of the citizens, how will they know where they are going? They are delayed in call time. When he brought this matter to the City Council, he was advised to consult with the people there. However, the Mayor and Council Members have the authority to contact the property owner in conjunction with the person in charge of safety.

Ms. Maria Robles, a resident of San Luis, AZ, opined on where funds should be invested. She showed a poster that read, "Littering Prohibited" in Spanish. She added that she belongs to an organization and the entire year, residents suffer from the mountains of trash throughout the city, specifically at the alley on Cesar Chavez Street between C and D Streets. She believes it is convenient to invest in educating the neighborhoods and neighbors on this matter and suggests that all deserve respect. Her organization will hang the posters in the alley and as neighbors, they will be vigilant so that no one goes and disposes of trash in the community. If there is an organized community, the city will prevent spending a lot of money, she suggested involving the community.

D. Close Public Hearing

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya closed the Public Hearing.

E. Action on Resolution No. 2369

MOTION: Council Member Javier Rosales/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2369. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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 Resolution No. 2370. A resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, Yuma County, committing local funds as leverage for FY 2025 Community Development Block Grant Regional Account (CDBG-RA). (Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development & Government Affairs)

Mr. Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator, stated that they are requesting authorization from the City Council to commit the leverage of \$640,742.00 for this project. The city is receiving \$462,289.00 from the CDBG to complete Phase 2 of Merrill Avenue.

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Lizeth Servin to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2370, committing city funds for the Community Development Block Grant application as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

8. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Council Member Esteban C. Rosales reported that a panel was held last week to discuss childcare and how it could be improved within the community. He looks forward to securing additional funding to attract more daycares to the city.

Council Member Lizeth Servin invited everyone to attend a local Girl Scouts group for ages 9-17 to learn more about Girl Scouts and their community activities. This will take place at Eddie's Place from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on August 28, 2025.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera announced that they will be hosting another community event, "Conversations with Council," on September 6, 2025, at the Yuma County Library-San Luis Branch at 10:00 a.m. He thanked the people who joined them during the first event, held in June 2025.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Tadeo Azael De La Hoya adjourned the Regular Council meeting at approximately 6:54 p.m.

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 13, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk