

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
San Luis, AZ 85349
February 11, 2026
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
Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz
Council Member Azael De La Hoya
Council Member Lizeth Servin
Vice Mayor Javier Vargas
Mayor Nieves Riedel

ABSENT: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales

OTHERS PRESENT: Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager
Joe Estes, Interim City Attorney
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Adela Cortez, Director of Human Resources
Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation
Antonio Maldonado, Multimedia Production &
Operations Specialist
Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development
Claudia Montoya, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation
Edgar Esparza, Billing & Collections Manager
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator
Jeziel Banos, IT Help Desk Technician
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Jose Guzman, Director of Development Services
Maria Barajas, Human Resources Manager
Maria Sabori, Risk Manager
Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager
Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police
Olivia Jenkins, Administrative Services Manager
Richard Bauermann, Fire Inspector
Roula Encinas, Director of Finance
Tomas Sanchez, City Engineer
Vanessa Iturbide, Graphics and Media Specialist

Victor De La Torre, Safety Officer
Christian Cuevas, Meeting Interpreter
Fabher Sanchez, Resident
Jahaziel Vargas, Resident
James Allen Jr., Resident
Mark Concha Jr., Resident

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

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

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Mayra Franquez, Business Counselor at the Small Business Development Center, indicated she will be the facilitator of the Dream Builder Program. This is a seven (7) week program, where a person can go from a pre-venture to a business in the span of seven (7) weeks. This program is open to the public at no cost, and light refreshments will be offered throughout these classes. The program begins on March 9, 2026, and the graduation will take place on April 20, 2026.

5. PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATION

5. A. Proclamation on Government Communicators Day - February 20, 2026

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

5. B. Presentation on Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation's Mid-Year Report. (Greg LaVann, CEO for Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation)

Mr. Greg LaVann, CEO for Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation (GYEDC), provided the Mid-Year Report, which included the services and support they provide to support economic development throughout the entire region, from workforce development to site selection to infrastructure development, along with market analysis focusing on what matters to the City of San Luis; GYEDC Economic Impact, Jobs by Community, Marketing, Binational Attraction Manager, San Luis Property Site Visits, Data, Reports, Leads, Colorado River Basin Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, Von Verde Mega Site, and Grupo Clisa Gas Line.

Some questions and answers ensued between Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz and Mr. LaVann.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6. A. MINUTES OF

- Regular Council meeting held January 14, 2026
- Special Council meeting held January 16, 2026

6. B. DISBURSEMENTS

From January 21, 2026 to February 2, 2026

Total \$1,101,981.47 (One Million, One Hundred One Thousand, Nine Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and Forty-Seven Cents)

6. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding changes to the employment contract of Chief of Police Nigel I. Reynoso. (Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager)

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Vice Mayor Javier Vargas to approve the Consent Agenda. 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 Lizeth Servin	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 the engagement of legal services from Pierce-Coleman to serve as the contracted City Attorney on an interim basis. (Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, explained that due to Ms. Kay Macuil's retirement, the city is recruiting for an in-house attorney. In the meantime, the staff has asked Pierce-Coleman for an engagement letter to provide legal services until the city fills the position. Mr. Joe Estes has been assigned as the Interim City Attorney.

Mr. Estes stated that he is a partner with Pierce-Coleman, a municipal firm that represents over 24 cities and towns throughout Arizona as the appointed City or Town Attorney. He has experience as a municipal lawyer and served as an elected Council Member for the City of Maricopa from 2005 to 2010. He understands some of the things that the Mayor and Council go through from a political aspect.

Mayor Nieves Riedel and some Council Members provided some welcome remarks.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Javier Vargas/Mayor Nieves Riedel to approve the engagement services of Pierce-Coleman to serve as Interim City Attorney, to waive the procurement code and not to exceed the estimated amount of \$100,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2026. 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 Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

7. B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the acceptance of Arizona Companion Animal Spay/Neuter Committee (AZCASNC) Spay & Neuter Grant Funding. (Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator)

Mr. Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator, indicated that the city was awarded a \$5,000.00 grant from the Arizona Companion Animal Spay/Neuter Committee to incentivize community members to neuter their pets and prevent additional litter. Currently, staff is working with the Graphics and Media Team on a campaign to inform the community about the spay/neuter program.

MOTION: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Lizeth Servin to accept the \$5,000.00 Arizona Companion Animal Spay/Neuter Committee grant, authorize staff to execute all necessary documents, and implement the funded program activities. 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 Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

7. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the acceptance and award of a construction contract to Yuma Valley Contractors, Inc., for the construction of the Lift Station 300 Influent Sewer Force Main project. (Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works)

Mr. Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works, stated that an update was provided by Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, two (2) weeks ago.

He added that during that update, it was mentioned that staff is moving away from the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) delivery method and doing a traditional bid process. The treatment plant expansion will be done in three (3) phases. The first phase is the upgrade of the sewer force main from lift station 300 to the treatment plant. Staff initiated the first phase of the sewer force main project bidding process. Bids were received from various contractors, and the lowest bid was from Yuma Valley Contractors, totaling \$1,627,560.17. The project consists of replacing approximately 2,800 linear feet of sewer main, other fittings and related expenses.

MOTION: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Vice Mayor Javier Vargas to award the contract to Yuma Valley Contractors, Inc. for the construction of the Lift Station 300 Influent Sewer Force Main Project in the amount of \$1,627,560.17, 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 Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

7. D. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the award of a contract to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for the design of Well Site #6 Booster Pumps Station Expansion Design. (Tomas Sanchez, City Engineer)

Mr. Tomas Sanchez, City Engineer, explained that the Engineering Department, on behalf of the Department of Public Works – Water Division, is seeking Council approval for the design of the booster pump station expansion at Well Site No. 6 to address increasing water demands on the east side of the city. The improvements will extend the existing service footprint to better serve the surrounding area and will incorporate future-oriented electrical planning and upgrades, as the current electrical equipment is operating near capacity. These booster pump station expansions and electrical enhancements are intended to ensure reliable system performance today while providing the necessary infrastructure to support future demand and operational needs.

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya asked for the expected time to design the project.

Mr. Sanchez responded that it was expected to be finished and under construction this year, but it was unable to be. Kimley-Horn was hired to conduct a conceptual study because they did not want to begin the design before knowing what they were getting themselves into. Kimley-Horn is expected to start right away, but construction will begin in Fiscal Year 2027. With this, staff will be able to identify whether funds not used this fiscal year can be carried over to the next fiscal year for other projects.

Mr. Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works, added that staff will not be able to use the budgeted amount in its entirety this fiscal year. Kimley-Horn's design is intended to help staff procure electrical equipment early. Therefore, staff will be asking the City Council for authorization to initiate a portion of the purchase of electrical equipment.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Javier Vargas/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to approve the professional services contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., for the designing of Well Site 6 Booster Pumps Station Expansion in the amount of \$136,460.00, 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 Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

7. E. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2392. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, approving the intergovernmental agreement between the City of San Luis and Gadsden Elementary School District for the use of City facilities for reunification drills. (Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager)

Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, described that the Gadsden School District has been working on an emergency plan. As part of their plan, the district has reached out to the City of San Luis to use one of its facilities in the event of an emergency. They began at one park but realized there were too many students to accommodate them all there. Therefore, they selected Joe Orduño as the primary site for those emergencies. The district has been working with every school to practice the drills at those locations. The city and the district have agreed to an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to be approved by the City Council and the District's Governing Board, so that the city's risk pool and the district's trust can cover liability for their respective organizations. The IGA assures that the city will allow the district to use its fields, that the city will allocate resources, and that the staff will guide them. They understand that in a major disaster, Public Safety personnel might not be able to focus on that area if a major emergency occurs throughout the city. The district's responsibility is the kids and get them to a safe location. The IGA has been reviewed by both entities' attorneys, and the staff is ready to proceed.

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya thanked staff for cooperating with the school district. They have been working for a while on creating an emergency procedures manual for all of their schools; hopefully, the district will never have to use it.

He asked if, when the Police Department conducts its training drills at the district's facilities, it requires another IGA.

Mr. Nigel Reynoso, Chief of Police, responded that the Police Department should not have to do another one.

Ms. Torres added that the IGA being presented tonight includes language allowing the city to use the school district's facilities as well.

Mayor Nieves Riedel commented that she has allowed the Fire Department to use Riedel Holdings' large buildings for years to practice because that is what they need. She asked whether the Fire Department requires an IGA for her company's use of the buildings, noting that they are well insured.

Mr. Joe Estes, Interim City Attorney, responded that this is something the city can do to ensure there are no indemnity or liability issues.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera commented he would like to see an IGA for the events the school district asks for the city's support and the events the city asks the school district to support the city on, because it takes peace away from him knowing that the city does not allow them to have a two-block Special Olympics parade. They are among the most vulnerable populations in the community, and the city closed the door because of technicalities. If there is an IGA and they are paying to ensure their students and the city are supporting the district, he does not see why the city cannot cooperate to make a parade possible for the kids, not only for the special education kids, but for other events like the anti-bullying march. The city can always look at a plan, but closing the door to the students is not ok with him. He is glad to see this IGA, and that communication is happening now, but would like to see a little bit more.

Mayor Nieves Riedel stated that she agrees to do as much as the city can to accommodate everybody, and asked what will happen with requests from churches when they have asked to use the streets for marches, and they have been denied. Because if the city opens the doors to one, then it must open them to every single person who wants to use the streets, and the city needs to be very careful, because at the end of the day, it is a big liability. She clarified she is not against any of this, but she knows the liability that comes with it.

Ms. Torres mentioned that staff will review all existing IGAs to understand which collaborations are underway. Usually, IGAs are between governments and there are some with school districts, including with the Gadsden School District a while ago. It will be checked what benefits the IGAs provide to the city and the appropriate entity, as well as the resources that can be mutually shared, and proceed from there. When it comes to parades, staff is working on an application to establish a process so that anyone who wants to use the city streets for a parade can do so.

Council Member Lizeth Servin commented that while staff is looking into the IGAs, they should remember not to make them cookie-cutter, because everyone is different. She asked to consider the level of cooperation and relationship there is when developing an IGA with any entity.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz commented that an IGA is between governments; a church is not a government entity. Proverbs uses the city's policies and procedures; therefore, there is already something established for churches and other organizations.

MOTION: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera/Council Member Lizeth Servin to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2392. 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 Lizeth Servin	Aye
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

8. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Mayor Nieves Riedel reported that last week, she visited the Senior Center due to an occupancy issue at that facility. She thanked the departments involved, as when they met, they worked together to find solutions. Currently, there is a waiting list of 97 participants, and asked them to be patient, as there are a lot of things that go into this, and the city is working on it. On any given day, the Senior Center receives 45 to 60 participants, and it has room for 258. Again, the city is working to resolve this to provide vital services to seniors. Some seniors receive their only meal at the Senior Center during the day, and another important matter is that this is where seniors gather to socialize, which should be very important to everyone.

Council Member Lizeth Servin reported that a pet park was announced a few weeks ago, which is good for the city, but constituents are asking why the original park has not yet been completed. The restrooms were installed, but she did not see any ribbon-cutting or announcement, and asked staff to provide a report or status on the park.

Ms. Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation, stated that staff sent information regarding the update and has been sharing it at Leadership meetings. Staff is currently working on East Community Park; they are finishing the soccer field phase, which includes fencing. They are also preparing a video and will be available soon. She added that it is not only East Park, but also other projects at Joe Orduño Park, including the restrooms and new lighting. At the next Council meeting, she will present an item on this.

She provided an estimated completion date for May for the soccer fields and updates have been provided to Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager. The Parks & Recreation Department has been working with the Departments of Public Works and City Engineer for the sidewalks.

Vice Mayor Javier Vargas reported that this morning, Council Members Luis E. Cabrera, Maria Cecilia Cruz, Lizeth Servin, and he attended the groundbreaking for Bright Night Solar Plant, which is going to be operational next year and will bring approximately \$60 million in local and state property tax revenue, creating about 800 jobs in the region. He added that this will be huge because they will provide 20 years of low-cost electricity for the community.

Council Member Luis E. Cabrera reported that last Saturday, they hosted Community Connections: Conversations with the Council. He thanked the staff for organizing it, and it is scheduled to have several meetings throughout the year. He looks forward to continuing to connect with the community on a more informal basis and listening to their concerns. He thanked those who attended and for sharing their feedback. The next one will take place in April. Regarding the Senior Center, he asked that the City Council be informed of the issues raised by the people who brought them up. There are rules in place to protect them, and if people are there with improper intentions, the rules can be enforced. They need to make the city aware so Ms. Jenny Torres, Acting City Manager, and the Administration can act.

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, provided an update on the bill approved and signed by the Governor regarding the upcoming primary election date. The election date has been changed from August 4, 2026, to July 21, 2026. The Mayor, City Council and potential candidates have been informed about this change. She added that, with the date change, other dates have been affected, including the filing period, the deadlines to register to vote and to request an early ballot. If anyone is interested in obtaining more details, the City Clerk's Office can provide them.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Mayor Nieves Riedel to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at approximately 6:59 p.m. 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 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 Regular City Council meeting of the City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, held on February 11, 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk