

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
San Luis, AZ 85349
March 25, 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 Maria Cecilia Cruz
Council Member Azael De La Hoya (left at 6:53 p.m.)
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales
Council Member Lizeth Servin
Vice Mayor Javier Vargas
Mayor Nieves Riedel

ABSENT: Council Member Luis E. Cabrera

OTHERS PRESENT: Jenny Torres, City Manager
Joe Estes, Interim City Attorney
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Adela Cortez, Director of Human Resources
Alvaro Escalante, Parks Grounds Manager
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 & Collections Manager
Emmanuel Botello, Police Lieutenant
Enrique Lopez, Assistant Fire Chief
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Francia Alonso, Public Information Officer
Israel Lara, IT Technician
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Maria Barajas, Human Resources Manager
Maria Sabori, Risk Manager
Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager
Olivia Jenkins, Acting Assistant City Manager
Roula Encinas, Director of Finance
Tomas Sanchez, City Engineer
Victor De La Torre, Safety Officer

Cesar Neyoy, Reporter
Christian Cuevas, Meeting Interpreter
David Lara, County Recorder/Resident
Fabher Sanchez, Resident
Gilberto Zarate, Resident
James Allen Jr., Resident
Luisa Arreola, Resident
Scarlett Harper, JP2 Judge/Resident
Yolanda Urias, Pastor/Resident

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. INVOCATION

The invocation was performed by Ms. Yolanda Urias – Pastor for Centro Misionero Yireh.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Javier, Archibald Street and B Street, San Luis, AZ, suggested painting a pedestrian white lining and a sign on Archibald Street for people to cross when they get off work and for students who use that street to cross.

Ms. Leonor Barragan-Godinez of La Mexicana Wholesale stated that they have a problem with people accessing their business due to the southbound lines. Initially, a lane was going to be dedicated to citizens' access to businesses in the Archibald Street area. However, people only followed that for a few months, and then it went back to how it is now: the specific lane is used by cars going to Mexico, impeding access to local businesses in that area. This has become very difficult for trailers to unload merchandise for her business, which has been in existence for more than 60 years, as it is dangerous to cross the street to unload trucks on the other side, with the long lines to Mexico. She understands that changes are good, but asked the city to consider local businesses, as they are being affected by this change.

Mayor Nieves Riedel asked Ms. Barragan-Godinez to schedule an appointment with Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, to discuss this matter and seek a solution.

Mr. Gilberto Zarate, 848 Orquidea Street, San Luis, AZ, stated he wanted to address the Mayor and City Council on the matter raised in the past two (2) weeks regarding Cesar Chavez, the man who fought for farm workers. He suggested postponing the renaming of Cesar Chavez until a judge's order is received. He added that he is against many things.

Mayor Nieves Riedel replied that he was misinformed. The Mayor clarified that, first, the City Council is not making a decision; and just like the Gadsden School District, the city will hold a meeting, and the public will be invited to attend and listen to those who participate, as this is an agricultural city.

Mr. Zarate also stated that the other matter is the taxis, and asked where can they be relocated to? Why aren't they allowed to use three (3) spaces on Main Street to pick up people, or where YCAT is at? There are many elderly people who cross the border and cannot walk. Another issue is what Ms. Barragan-Godinez spoke about; he used to rent one of their spaces and had the same problem. La Mexicana is not given any consideration when the lines to Mexico form. He remembers a meeting where merchants in that area were advised that the third lane would be used solely for people visiting the businesses there, something that, as of today, does not exist.

Mr. Mario Joel Godinez, 532 N. Archibald Street, San Luis, AZ, added to his mother's comments, Ms. Barragan-Godinez, that there is no help from the government for local businesses and the citizens. They have been struggling with this issue since 2015 and have brought it to the city's attention. The problem is not only that the trailers have a hard time getting to their business, but also that the business owners cannot make it to their business unless they use the side road, which is illegal to access. Some police officers cooperate and allow them to use that street, but others do not. He was informed that police officers do not allow trailers because soon, there will be no businesses there. He added that he does not know where that came from, unless the city is planning something the business owners in that area do not know about. He is not there to create a problem but to find a resolution to this matter. They have been in business for more than 60 years.

Mayor Nieves Riedel stated she understands and agreed that a solution is needed. She asked Mr. Godinez to be at City Hall tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. for a meeting.

5. PROCLAMATIONS

- 5. A. Proclamation on Animal Cruelty Prevention Month - April 2026**
- 5. B. Proclamation on Autism Month - April 2026**
- 5. C. Proclamation on Child Abuse Prevention Month - April 2026**
- 5. D. Proclamation on National Fair Housing Month - April 2026**
- 5. E. Proclamation on Records and Information Management Month - April 2026**
- 5. F. Proclamation on Sexual Assault Awareness Month - April 2026**
- 5. G. Proclamation on Stress Awareness Month - April 2026**

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

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- 6. A. MINUTES OF
- Regular Council meeting held February 25, 2026**

6. B. From March 3, 2026 to March 17, 2026

Total \$1,207,707.61

(One Million, Two Hundred Seven Thousand, Seven Hundred Seven Dollars and Sixty-One Cents)

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

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Vice Mayor 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 request from the Yuma County Recorder's Office to place a ballot drop box at City Hall or the Cesar Chavez Cultural Center. (David Lara, Yuma County Recorder)

Mr. David Lara, Yuma County Recorder, stated that he is seeking permission to set up some drop boxes in a specified location in the parking lot away from the entrance. The drop box is coming out of the library; the one at the Medical Mall will remain there. The library is under certain conditions that do not align with the election's procedures manual and the Arizona Revised Statutes as to the requirement for the cameras that each drop box has to have to be specifically monitored by himself, and he and the library did not come to an agreement and decided to just part ways. Previously, the statute was not followed; he is now following it. He added that the City of Yuma and the City of Somerton are on board and the City of San Luis is the only one pending. The Cities of Yuma and Somerton were an administrative decision. Their clerk is the one who decided, and they had no pushback.

Mayor Nieves Riedel asked the City Clerk's Office for their recommendation.

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, stated that this matter had been discussed internally and this is a very good option to allow voters to be able to cast their vote through an early ballot. However, in the past, a drop box was located at City Hall, which created a lot of confusion because there is also a night drop box for utility payments, and people would deposit their payments in the ballot drop box and vice versa. She recommended placing the drop box at the second option, per the Recorder's Office, at the Cesar Chavez Cultural Center, to prevent voter confusion.

Mr. Lara commented that he did include the Cesar Chavez Cultural Center, although it is off the beaten path. If this is the only location allowed, he would analyze it thoroughly. He is looking for the voters.

There were some comments, questions, and answers between Mr. Lara and the City Council.

MOTION: Council Member Lizeth Servin/Vice Mayor Javier Vargas to table the item until they study the statute Mr. Lara is referring to and to speak to the Board of Supervisors or get some input from them. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya asked to reconsider the item, as he has a question about the deadline.

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Mayor Nieves Riedel to reconsider the item to ask a question. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya asked if there is a time limit they have to respect when Mr. Lara is going to place the ballot drop boxes back?

Mr. Lara responded that there would be one (1) month for the primary, 27 days before the election, and then one (1) month for the general election, then after that, they are removed.

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya asked when Mr. Lara needs it placed by?

Mr. Lara replied that early voting for the primary election begins on June 24 and ends on July 20, and for the general election, it begins on October 7 and ends on November 2.

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya asked how often ballots are picked up from any given ballot drop box in Yuma, Somerton, and San Luis.

Mr. Lara answered that when it is a midterm or a presidential election, they are picked up every other day or two (2) to three (3) days a week.

Mayor Nieves Riedel directed Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, to follow up with a letter to the Board of Supervisors and request a meeting with whomever she needed to talk to, or any board member or Council Member who wants to go; it would be ideal to help this process move forward.

7. B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the fencing of the East Community Park soccer fields. (Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks and Recreation)

Ms. Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation, illustrated that the East Community Park has been highly anticipated by the community. Staff has been working very hard to complete some areas so they can be operational and open to the public. The soccer fields are completed, and the next step to make them fully operational is to add fencing. Staff reached out to local vendors and requested quotes for the fencing, receiving quotes from Tornado Fence, Mayas Construction, and RMC Masonry. All three (3) quotes are for the fencing that is needed for the soccer fields, along with the gates and swing doors.

The lowest quote is RMC Masonry at \$48,500.00. Per the City Procurement Code 3.05.010 (D), whenever any contemplated purchase except for professional services as defined in SLCC 3.05.080 is for the sum of \$45,000.00 or more, the purchasing agent shall publish in two (2) issues of a newspaper of general circulation, notice inviting sealed bids or request for proposals.

Staff would like direction on waiving the procurement code and allowing selection of the lowest quote received under City Procurement Code 3.05.010 (F). Staff would like to move forward with fencing the soccer fields as soon as possible to avoid future inconveniences, such as rising material costs or delays in project completion. Staff believes the quotes received are fair in price and would like to move forward rather than go out to bid and wait a couple more weeks before this project begins.

Some comments, questions, and answers ensued among the Mayor, Council Members, Ms. Roldan, and Ms. Roula Encina, Director of Finance.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Javier Vargas/Mayor Nieves Riedel to approve the installation of fencing for the East Community Park Soccer fields by RMC Masonry as presented in the amount of \$48,500.00 and waive formal bidding procedures for the reasons presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

7. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the City of San Luis East Community Park parking lot roundabout paving project. (Angelica Cifuentes, Purchasing Coordinator)

Ms. Angelica Cifuentes, Purchasing Coordinator, indicated that the Parks & Recreation Department, with the assistance of the Engineering Department, is seeking the City Council's approval to accept and award a construction contract for the San Luis East Community Park parking lot roundabout paving project. This project was publicly advertised in the local newspaper and in the city's new procurement and contracts portal, OpenGov. Two (2) bids were received and after staff's review and evaluation of all submitted bids, DPE, Inc., was determined to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$69,985.00. Staff recommended awarding the construction contract to DPE Construction, Inc.

Mayor Nieves Riedel added that the funds already spent have gone a long way, and thanks to the Public Works Department, which has worked hand in hand with the Parks and Recreation Department as the savings that they are acquiring is because of the labor that is being provided by another department. She thanked Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, and his department. She added that the park needs to be finished, as people are waiting. She knows that the staff is doing miracles, and it does not go unnoticed.

Council Member Lizeth Servin noted that she has noticed many weeds in the park and that it appears not to be maintained. She asked whether the Parks & Recreation Department maintains the park.

Mr. Alvaro Escalante, Parks Ground Manager, responded that the Parks Division has been in charge of that. Since the construction of the sidewalks and piping, they have not been there, but they will take care of it.

Mayor Nieves Riedel added that the park is not complete yet, but once it is finished, it will be beautiful, clean and full like the rest of the parks in the city.

Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya commented that, as a former staff member, he knows it is hard to provide more staff to the Parks & Recreation Department or to Public Works to maintain upkeep throughout the city, but he knows staff are doing the best they can with the resources available.

MOTION: Council Member Lizeth Servin/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya to award the contract to DPE Construction, Inc., for the construction of the East Community parking lot roundabout paving project in the amount of \$69,985.00, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

7. D. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the acceptance and award of a construction contract to Merrill Development, Inc., for the construction of the new metal building addition for the water treatment plant project. (Angelica Cifuentes, Purchasing Coordinator)

Ms. Angelica Cifuentes, Purchasing Coordinator, stated that the Public Works Department is seeking approval to award a construction contract to Merrill Development, Inc., for the construction of an approximately 2,000-square-foot pre-engineered metal building, including associated site improvements. This new metal building will serve as an addition to the existing building at the Water Treatment Plant Site #7. The project was publicly advertised in the local newspaper and through the city's procurement and contracts portal, OpenGov. A total of three (3) bids were received and after evaluation, Merrill Development, Inc., was determined to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$421,764.00. Staff recommended awarding the construction contract to Merrill Development, Inc.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Javier Vargas/Mayor Nieves Riedel to award the contract to Merrill Development, Inc., for the construction of the new metal building addition for the Water Treatment Plant Project in the amount of \$421,764.00, as presented, and authorize the budget transfer as stated in the fiscal impact of this item. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye

Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Vice Mayor Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

7. E. Public Hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the recommendation of a Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to authorize the San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club to sell alcohol at the Wild West Casino Night on May 1, 2026. (Marcos Ramirez, San Luis FRONTERA Rotary Club)

A. Presentation by staff and/or applicant

Ms. Angelica Roldan, Director of Parks & Recreation, mentioned that she also represents the San Luis Frontera Rotary Club and the proceeds obtained during this event will be utilized towards scholarships.

B. Open Public Hearing

Mayor Nieves Riedel opened the Public Hearing.

C. Call to the public on this item

Mr. James Allen Jr., 1549 E. Babbitt Lane, San Luis, AZ, expressed concern that when alcohol is served at these events, the real issue is the potential consequences that can occur afterward, as long as the organizers are supervising and ensuring everything stays within standards. While that oversight is important, the first incident outside of that, where someone gets hurt or ends up with a DUI, shows that they are not effectively monitoring the event to keep residents safe.

D. Close Public Hearing

Mayor Nieves Riedel closed the Public Hearing.

E. Action on Special Event Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for the Special Event Liquor License Application for the San Luis Frontera Rotary Club, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
The vote was as follows:

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya	Aye

Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Vice Mayor Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

7. F. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding a budget transfer to cover Solid Waste vehicle maintenance and operation expenses for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2026. (Manuel Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works)

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, explained that his department is requesting the Mayor and Council's approval for a \$150,000 budget transfer to the solid waste budget. Maintenance funds were insufficient to meet fiscal-year needs, so they are seeking to transfer budget capacity from another capital improvement project (CIP). In this case, they plan to transfer funds from the wastewater treatment plant expansion. That project is ongoing and progressing, though not as quickly as expected. The request is to transfer \$150,000.00 to the gas, oil, and vehicle maintenance accounts within the solid waste budget.

There were comments, questions, and answers among the Mayor, some Council Members, and Mr. Vera, including the cost of gasoline, the budget for it, and possibly amending the motion to include additional funds for this expense.

MOTION: Council Member Lizeth Servin/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to authorize a budget transfer of \$170,000.00 from the West Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project, Project #2025-050, to the Solid Waste Fund as outlined in the fiscal impact of this agenda item. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

7. G. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2394. A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, approving the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of San Luis, Arizona, and Yuma County for roadway and traffic signal maintenance. (Manuel Hernandez, Assistant Director of Public Works)

Mr. Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works, stated that this item was presented to the City Council about ten (10) years ago. This is an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Yuma County to collaborate on various projects, but it has primarily been used for ship seals. The Public Works Department has assisted with striping and has helped maintain the city's traffic signals for several years. Recently, the City of San Luis has mainly depended on them for support. This IGA has a five-year term and can be renewed for an additional five (5) years. It has been reviewed by the Legal Department for both entities and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

MOTION: Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya/Council Member Lizeth Servin to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2394. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

7. H. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2395. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, authorizing the submission of an application and committing local match funds for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant for the East Main Canal Shared-Use Path Project (County 22nd Street to Urtuzuastegui Street). (Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development)

Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development, said the Economic Development Department has been preparing an application to the Arizona Department of Transportation's Alternatives Program to secure scoping funds for a multi-use path along the East Main Canal. This program is a pass-through from ADOT, funded by the federal government for rural areas, and provides small transportation projects for recreational bicycles and pedestrians. The city is requesting \$500,000.00 for the scoping project. This estimate is based on Yuma County, which was awarded this grant last year; their project is about two miles. In discussions with the Public Works Department, the city's project would be around five miles, which is how the cost is being calculated. However, if awarded, ADOT will manage the program and determine the project length or the final cost of the scoping documents.

He added that this scoping document is necessary for future design and construction funding rounds, which have a 5.7% local match requirement. Staff is seeking authorization to submit the grant application and to allocate the local match. If awarded, funding would be in Fiscal Year 2027.

MOTION: Mayor Nieves Riedel/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2395, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

7. I. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2396. A resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, amending Section HR-4-03(A) of the City of San Luis Personnel Policies relating to Holidays by renaming Cesar Chavez Day; and declaring it an emergency. (Jenny Torres, City Manager)

(6 votes in favor are required in order to pass immediately as an emergency measure per A.R.S. § 19-142)

Ms. Jenny Torres, City Manager, explained that in 2019 the City Council established the Cesar Chavez Holiday, which will be observed next Tuesday, March 3^{1st}. The purpose of this holiday is to honor civil rights leader Cesar Chavez for his advocacy on behalf of agricultural workers. Based on recent allegations, the city staff wanted to bring this to the City Council's attention and seek guidance, as there may be consideration of either renaming Cesar Chavez Day to Farm Workers Day or eliminating the holiday and replacing it with another. If a replacement holiday is considered, the staff would like to recommend using one of the most widely observed holidays by municipalities: Christmas Eve Day, December 24th. She asked for guidance and direction on what the City Council wants to do regarding this holiday.

Mayor Nieves Riedel asked what Ms. Torres' recommendation is.

Ms. Torres replied that the first option is for the City Council to rename the Cesar Chavez holiday to Farm Workers Day. If the Council wishes to make an immediate change, it will require six (6) votes because the change would be enacted with an emergency clause. The second option is to replace the Cesar Chavez holiday with another holiday, which the staff recommends: Christmas Eve, December 24th. A motion can be made with or without the emergency clause. She added that if the motion is made without the emergency clause, the resolution will become effective 30 days after passage, replacing the holiday, with the December holiday taking its place.

Mayor Nieves Riedel stated that six (6) votes are required for the first option. Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya just left for a school function, and Council Member

Luis E. Cabrera is not present. She had spoken with some city employees who already have plans for this holiday, and the City Council needs to be mindful of every city employee and take them into account. She suggested tabling this item until all Members of Council are present to decide on it.

Mr. Joe Estes, Interim City Attorney, stated that the item could not pass with the emergency clause because six (6) votes are required. If the City Council decides to table it, it would be brought back at the next regular meeting, allowing discussion and a potential vote on it with the emergency clause included. If the City Council votes now on the change and the resolution, the change would take 30 days to take effect. The emergency clause provision allows it to take effect immediately.

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Vice Mayor Javier Vargas to table the item. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

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

8. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Vice Mayor Javier Vargas reported that last week, he, along with Council Member Lizeth Servin and Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development, visited the State Capitol and met with their representatives to advocate for the community and express concerns about changes that could affect it. State Representatives listened, heard their voices, understood the city's position, and, most importantly, stood with them. This is what representation should look like: open dialogue, mutual respect, and a commitment to the people they serve.

Mayor Nieves Riedel reported that the war in Iran is causing businesses to close in the city. For example, Wendy's is closing on March 30, 2026, along with two (2) other small businesses.

Council Member Lizeth Servin reported that last week she attended her 8th class with the Civic Craft Leadership Group. This class began in August of last year and includes participants from 40 cities, including Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Council Members. They listen to the challenges each municipality faces. She also received a call from Representative Sandoval inviting her to join the group, Valley Leadership, with Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development, and Ms. Buna George from the Greater Yuma Port Authority. She added that this is a group of professionals and that

this is their 5th year coming and touring different communities. She also reported that they toured the border and were told that, for the new port of entry, they were awarded 200 new officers in total for the whole state. 100 of those officers are being sent to San Luis, and it is a good opportunity for youth interested in that career, as they are seeking 100 Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officers.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz added to Council Member Lizeth Servin's comments and reported that they toured the modernization and expansion of the Port of Entry 1, which had been 12 years in the making and advocated for \$365 million. Seeing it come to fruition is an amazing accomplishment. 8.4 million travelers pass through the San Luis Port of Entry 1 each year. It is a 24-hour port of entry. The new port of entry is a state-of-the-art facility, and there is not one like it in the nation.

Mayor Nieves Riedel added that on the 8th of next month, the 16 lanes from Mexico to the USA will be open; this will help a lot, allowing more people to come over to shop locally.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Mayor Nieves Riedel to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at approximately 7:10 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote was as follows:

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz	Aye
Council Member Esteban C. Rosales	Aye
Council Member Lizeth Servin	Aye
Vice Mayor 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 March 25, 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk