

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting
San Luis City Council
San Luis Council Chambers
1090 E. Union Street
San Luis, AZ 85349
August 26, 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 Tadeo Azael De La Hoya
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, City Attorney
Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk
Adela Cortez, Director of Human Resources
Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief
Antonio Maldonado, Multimedia Production &
Operations Specialist
Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development
Carolina Corral, Accountant II
Claudia Montoya, Acting Assistant Director of Parks &
Recreation
Damian Miller, Police Lieutenant
Edgar Esparza, Billing & Collections Manager
Ernesto Prieto, Police Sergeant
Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works
Fernando Corona, IT Manager
Francia Alonso, Public Information Officer
Francisca Ramirez, Senior Services Manager
Israel Lara, IT Technician
Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works
Juan Tejeda, Acting Assistant Director of Development
Services
Maria Barajas, Human Resources Manager
Maria Sabori, Risk Manager

Miguel Ramirez, Finance Accounting Manager
Olivia Jenkins, Acting Assistant City Manager
Osvaldo Rodriguez, Lead Custodian
Tomas Sanchez, City Engineer
Victor De La Torre, Safety Officer
Yolanda Dueñas, Facilities Supervisor
Cesar Neyoy, Reporter
Christian Cuevas, Meeting Interpreter
Erik Luzanilla, Council Member-Elect
Fabher Sanchez, Resident
Luisa Arreola, Resident
Manuel Rojas, Resident
Maria Gonzalez, Resident
Mark Concha Jr., Resident

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

The invocation was performed by Ms. Maria Cecilia Cruz – Church for The City.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. James Allen Jr., 1549 E. Babbit Lane, San Luis, AZ, addressed the needs of adults with disabilities in the community, noting that while services and awareness often focus on children, adults with disabilities may feel underserved and overlooked. He emphasized the importance of providing opportunities and resources that support quality of life for individuals with disabilities at all stages of life. He also recommended placing picture communication boards on fire department vehicles and police cruisers to help nonverbal individuals communicate with first responders during emergencies or other interactions. Mr. Allen encouraged the Council to think creatively about improving accessibility and emphasized that local government should reflect the needs of the entire community.

5. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATION

- 5. A. Proclamation on Childhood Cancer Awareness Month - September 2026**
- 5. B. Proclamation on Hunger Action Month - September 2026**
- 5. C. Proclamation on Library Card Sign-Up Month - September 2026**
- 5. D. Proclamation on National Suicide Prevention Month - September 2026**
- 5. E. Proclamation on Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month - September 2026**

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

5. F. Presentation and recognition of the 2026 2nd Quarter Awardees by the Employee Recognition and Awards Program (ERAP) for their outstanding work with the City of San Luis. (Vanessa Iturbide, ERAP Chair)

Ms. Vanessa Iturbide, ERAP Chair, presented and recognized the awardees for the 2026 2nd Quarter by the ERAP for their outstanding work with the City of San Luis.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6. A. MINUTES OF

- Regular Council meeting held July 22, 2026

6. B. DISBURSEMENTS

From August 6, 2026, to August 18, 2026

Total \$2,783,103.29

(Two Million, Seven Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand, One Hundred Three Dollars and Twenty-Nine Cents)

6. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2412. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, approving the assignment of right-of-way on Union Street and 1st Avenue from the Gadsden Elementary School District #32. (Eulogio Vera, Director of Public Works)

MOTION: Vice Mayor Javier Vargas/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya moved to approve the Consent Agenda. 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 City of San Luis Approved Artist List for the Public Art Program. (Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs)

Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs, presented an update on the city's Public Art Program. He stated that the Economic Development Department had been working on the program for some time and had developed a list of 11 artists for consideration and approval.

He added that to identify qualified artists, the city issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) through OpenGov seeking artists interested in working with the city on public art installations. Mr. Esparza explained that the solicitation was intended to identify artists with the appropriate experience and technical knowledge to successfully complete public art projects. The city received 17 applications from local, regional, and statewide artists representing a variety of artistic styles, backgrounds, and mediums. City staff and the Economic Development Commission reviewed and evaluated the submissions and recommended 11 of the 17 applicants for inclusion on the approved artist list. He stated that staff recommended that the City Council approve the Economic Development Commission's recommendation and formally adopt the 11 artists as the city's approved artist list. City staff would use the list for future public art projects and installations conducted as part of the City's Public Art Program.

Council Member Lizeth Servin asked about the geographic locations of the artists who submitted applications.

Mr. Esparza stated that approximately half of the applicants were from San Luis, 25% were from the Phoenix area, and one (1) applicant was from New York. He noted that the remaining applicants were from other locations.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Javier Vargas/Council Member Lizeth Servin moved to approve the San Luis Economic Development Commission's recommendation to adopt the City of San Luis approved artist list and authorize staff to utilize the list for the Public Art Program. 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. B. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the authorization to utilize budgeted Historic Preservation matching funds to complete National Register of Historic Places nomination services. (Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs)

Mr. Armando Esparza, Director of Economic Development and Government Affairs, explained that the Economic Development Department had applied for a grant from a national philanthropic organization that funds historic preservation programs, including initiatives along the U.S.-Mexico border. Although the city was not awarded the grant, the city had previously allocated \$36,000.00 in matching funds. He requested Council authorization to use the \$36,000.00 to begin the historic preservation program originally proposed in the grant application.

He added that the program would build upon the Historic Preservation Plan approved the previous year and focus on establishing recommended historic districts within the community. Because city staff lacks the specialized expertise needed to conduct the required outreach and work with property owners, the department proposed contracting with Designing Local to continue the preservation plan work. The program would include engaging property owners in the proposed districts, documenting properties that contribute to the community's historic character, and pursuing the districts' designation. Mr. Esparza explained that historic district designation would make eligible properties potentially qualify for federal rehabilitation tax credits and grant opportunities to assist with the rehabilitation of vacant or older buildings. He emphasized that the program would not impose additional restrictions on property owners and would primarily provide access to preservation-related incentives and funding opportunities for those who choose to participate.

MOTION: Council Member Lizeth Servin/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales moved to authorize the use of previously budgeted historic preservation matching funds, in an amount not to exceed \$36,000.00, for Designing Local's National Historic Register nomination services. 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
Council Member Javier Vargas	Aye
Mayor Nieves Riedel	Aye

7. C. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the agreement for Onvida to continue being our Base Hospital. (Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief)

Mr. Angel Ramirez, Fire Chief, presented the agreement with Onvida to continue providing base hospital privileges for the city's emergency medical services. He emphasized that the agreement is an extension of the city's existing partnership and not a new arrangement. Chief Ramirez stated that renewing the agreement will ensure uninterrupted medical oversight and support for the city's paramedics. Through the continued partnership, paramedics will maintain access to physician medical direction, clinical oversight, and professional support necessary to provide high-quality prehospital emergency medical care. He further explained that the agreement provides established medical protocols that paramedics rely on daily when treating patients and responding to emergency calls. Continued base hospital privileges will help ensure paramedics have the appropriate medical guidance and resources to safely and effectively provide patient care.

MOTION: Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz/Council Member Esteban C. Rosales moved to approve the Base Hospital Agreement with Onvida, 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. Public Hearing followed by discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding the recommendation of the Liquor License Application submitted to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control by Nieves Riedel on behalf of Colibri Market LLC, located at 4626 E. County 24th Street, San Luis, Arizona. (Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk)

Mayor Nieves Riedel declared a conflict of interest regarding the item and recused herself from the discussion and consideration of the matter. She requested that Vice Mayor Javier Vargas preside over the item.

A. Staff and/or Applicant presentation

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, explained that the required notice and application for the liquor license for Colibri Market, LLC, were posted in a conspicuous location at the proposed premises for at least 20 days, in accordance with state law. The City Clerk's Office received no public comments, objections, or concerns regarding the application. Staff recommended that the City Council approve the city's recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for the liquor license application submitted by Colibri Market, LLC. The applicant was present and available to answer questions from the City Council, and the City Clerk offered to provide any additional information requested.

B. Open Public Hearing

Vice Mayor Javier Vargas opened the Public Hearing.

C. Call to the public on this item

The public made no comments on this item.

D. Close Public Hearing

Vice Mayor Javier Vargas closed the Public Hearing.

E. Action on the recommendation of the Liquor License Application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for Colibri Market LLC

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Lizeth Servin moved to recommend approval of the liquor license application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for Colibri Market LLC, as presented. The motion passed with five (5) Ayes and one (1) Abstention by Mayor Nieves Riedel.

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	Abstained

Mayor Nieves Riedel asked Vice Mayor Javier Vargas to preside over the remaining agenda items.

7. E. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Order No. 2026-07. An Order of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, approving and adopting the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of San Luis and Portable Practical Educational Preparation, Inc. (PPEP Tech High School) for funds supporting the San Luis Police Department's participation in the School Resource Officer assignment at PPEP Tech High School-Cesar Chavez Learning Center. (Damian Miller, Lieutenant)

Mr. Damian Miller, Police Lieutenant, stated that the San Luis Police Department requested approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of San Luis and PPEP Tech High School - Cesar Chavez Learning Center to provide a School Resource Officer (SRO) at the school. The agreement will become effective upon approval by the PPEP Tech High School Governing Board and remain in effect through June 30, 2027, covering the 2026–2027 school year. Under the agreement, an AZPOST-Certified sworn officer from the San Luis Police Department will serve as the School Resource Officer for up to 200 school days, eight (8) hours per day, with additional hours available, subject to funding, upon request of the Principal or the Principal's designee. The agreement is intended to provide a consistent law enforcement presence and support a safe and secure learning environment for students and staff.

The City Council had a brief question-and-answer discussion with Lt. Miller regarding the proposed agreement and School Resource Officer assignment. Lt. Miller answered the Council's questions.

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya moved to approve and adopt Order No. 2026-07, 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 Resolution No. 2411. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, Yuma County, committing local funds as leverage for Federal Fiscal Year 2025–2026 Community Development Block Grant State Special Project (CDBG-SSP) application. (Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator)

Mr. Humberto Arcos, Grants Coordinator, explained that the Arizona Department of Housing's Federal Fiscal Year 2025–2026 Community Development Block Grant State Special Project Account (CDBG SSP) allows the city to request up to \$750,000.00 for an eligible project. He stated that the estimated cost for the Rancho Los Oros Roadway Improvements Phase III project is \$985,488.00, requiring a local match of \$235,488.00, which would be budgeted in Fiscal Year 2028 if the grant is awarded. The project includes reconstructing approximately 3,260 linear feet of roadway, upgrading nine (9) sewer manholes and approximately 21 water valves, and installing six (6) survey monuments. Improvements will be made along Los Portales Avenue, Los Valles Street, and El Chamizal Street. Staff recommended that the City Council adopt the proposed Resolution committing the required local matching funds and authorize staff to submit the CDBG SSP grant application for the Rancho Los Oros Roadway Improvements Phase III project.

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya moved to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2411, 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. G. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Resolution No. 2413. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, authorizing and directing the entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Yuma Union High School District #70 for joint athletic and recreational facilities use through the city's Parks and Recreation Department and San Luis High School. (Claudia Montoya, Acting Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation)

Ms. Claudia Montoya, Acting Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, explained that on March 10, 2021, the City Council approved a five-year agreement with the Yuma Union High School District No. 70 (YUHSD) for joint use of city and district facilities, with an option to renew for three (3) additional five-year periods. YUHSD was required to submit a written renewal request within the specified timeframe; however, it did not submit one, resulting in termination of the agreement. She stated that YUHSD expressed interest in entering into a new agreement, which its Board of Directors approved on August 12, 2026. Staff negotiated the basic terms of the new agreement, with several updates from the 2021 agreement, including adding provisions for fingerprinting requirements, workers' compensation, and record retention; removing references to the High School's prior \$150,000.00 lump-sum payment for field lighting; removing expired provisions; and eliminating COVID-19-related public health requirements.

Discussion, comments, questions, and answers ensued among the City Council Members, Ms. Montoya, and Ms. Jenny Torres, City Manager, regarding the proposed agreement and a potential agreement with PPEP Tech High School.

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya moved to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2413, 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. H. Discussion and possible action on any and all matters regarding Ordinance No. 487. An Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Luis, Arizona, amending San Luis City Code Section 13.30.010; Setback Distance; Wastewater Treatment Plants for clarity. (Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works)

Mr. Jorge Perez, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented a proposed amendment to Ordinance No. 460, which established setback requirements for wastewater treatment plants. He explained that the ordinance, adopted on March 12, 2025, reduced the setback from 100 feet to 50 feet from any dwelling and required the city to implement full noise, odor, and aesthetic controls when a dwelling, workplace, or private property is located within the 50-foot setback at the treatment plants. Mr. Perez clarified that the proposed amendment does not change the 50-foot setback requirement but adds clarifying language to ensure consistent interpretation by reviewing agencies. The amendment specifically states that when an adjacent dwelling, workplace, or private property is located within the 50-foot setback, the applicable noise, odor, and aesthetic controls required under the Arizona Administrative Code must be implemented.

Council Member Esteban C. Rosales asked whether there had been any previous complaints regarding the wastewater treatment plant setbacks.

Mr. Perez responded that Public Works had not received any complaints regarding the existing ordinance. He explained that the clarification was prompted by the city's permitting process with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) for the wastewater treatment plant expansion, during which the ordinance was being interpreted differently from its original intent at the time of adoption in 2025.

A. Action on Reading of Ordinance No. 487 by title only

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Tadeo Azael De La Hoya moved to approve the Reading of Ordinance No. 487 by title only. 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

Mrs. Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 487 by title only.

B. Action on Ordinance No. 487

MOTION: Council Member Esteban C. Rosales/Council Member Lizeth Servin moved to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 487. The motion passed unanimously.

A roll call vote was requested by Vice Mayor Javier Vargas to ensure a clear record of the vote on passage of Ordinance No. 487; the Mayor and the City Council voted.

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

8. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Vice Mayor Javier Vargas reported that he attended the Arizona League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference in Phoenix the previous week and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to represent the City of San Luis. He recognized and thanked city staff for their efforts in representing the community at the Showcase of Cities and Towns, noting that the city's booth looked great and that considerable work had gone into its preparation. He also extended special thanks and congratulations to the Gadsden Elementary School District Norteño Band for their outstanding performance and representation of the community. He noted that the band showcased the culture, talent, and spirit that make San Luis special. He added that events such as this conference provide an opportunity to highlight the City of San Luis and share with communities throughout Arizona what the city has to offer.

Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz reported she also attended the conference and shared information from a session she attended titled "Managing Growth in Rural Arizona." She noted that these sessions provide valuable opportunities for municipal leaders to share solutions and discuss challenges facing their respective communities. Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz highlighted a presentation by Mayor Nancy Smith of the City of Maricopa on the City Council's approval of a half-cent sales tax intended to generate approximately \$50 million to widen the congested two-lane SR 347 highway. Council Member Maria Cecilia Cruz noted that San Luis, like many communities throughout Arizona, continues to experience significant growth. She emphasized the importance of proactive planning and design for future infrastructure projects, noting that major projects require significant funding and can take years to complete. She referenced the ongoing construction along Cesar Chavez Boulevard and throughout the city, stating that the city should begin considering and planning for future projects as current construction is completed.

She congratulated Mayor Nancy Smith on the initiative and suggested that Yuma County consider a similar approach to generate revenue for infrastructure improvements, noting that a half-cent sales tax could provide funding that would remain within the county rather than being allocated to the State.

Council Member Lizeth Servin reported on several matters. She asked staff to review the city's current development impact fees to ensure they adequately reflect the infrastructure needs associated with current and future growth. She also asked staff to research whether to require perimeter walls for new residential subdivisions. Council Member Lizeth Servin reported attending the Arizona League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference and highlighted sessions on data centers and the upcoming Census. She emphasized the importance of staying informed and preparing for future growth and Census participation. She also reported attending the Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (YCIPTA) Board meeting and highlighted the positive impact of public transportation in South County, particularly for students. Council Member Lizeth Servin clarified that recent social media reports about Yuma County Area Transit (YCAT) eliminating routes are inaccurate and stated that efforts are underway to secure additional funding to expand services, particularly in East San Luis and Somerton.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Javier Vargas adjourned the Regular Council meeting at approximately 6:44 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 26, 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Sonia Cornelio, City Clerk