

Republic of the Philippines  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD  
CITY OF SURIGAO

MINUTES OF THE 10<sup>th</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF THE  
CITY OF SURIGAO HELD AT THE SP SESSION HALL ON MARCH 7, 2024.

**PRESENT:**

Hon. Alfonso S. Casurra	- City Vice Mayor (Presiding Officer)
Hon. Sebastian Ric A. Nagas	- City Councilor
Hon. Cacer R. Azarcon	- City Councilor
Hon. Joenil B. Aldonza	- City Councilor
Hon. Joel E. Tinio	- City Councilor
Hon. Joshua Emilio S. Geli	- City Councilor
Hon. Baltazar C. Abian	- City Councilor
Hon. Noel Christian G. Catre, Jr.	- City Councilor
Hon. Jose Expeditus B. Bayana	- City Councilor
Hon. Joseph Joey S. Yuipco	- City Councilor
Hon. Karl Duane A. Casurra	- City Councilor
Hon. Jenelyn Edulzura	- SK Federation President

**ABSENT:**

Hon. Florenillo B. Ravelo	- Liga ng mga Barangay President
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The session was called to order at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of March 7, 2024.

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**OPENING PRAYER**

**HON. JOENIL B. ALDONZA:**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Holy One we come to you today, asking for your guidance, wisdom, and support.  
As we begin this session, help us to engage in a meaningful discussion.  
Allow us to go closer as a group and nurture the bonds of the community.  
These we ask in Jesus Name. Amen.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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**SINGING OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

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ROLL CALL

The roll call was conducted with all the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod listed herein as present in attendance, and thereafter a **QUORUM** was declared.

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PERUSAL AND APPROVAL OF THE  
PREVIOUS MINUTES

Before the approval of the Minutes, Acting SP Secretary, Ms. Edna B. Siega read the resolutions that were passed and approved in the previous regular session.

Thereafter, Honorable Joel E. Tinio was recognized and presented a motion for the approval of the Minutes of the previous regular session, seconded by Honorable Sebastian Ric A. Nagas, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Regular Session held on February 29, 2024, re: Resolution Nos. 43-47 be as it is hereby approved.

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MATTERS OF INFORMATION

None

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INCLUSION, AMENDMENT AND  
APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Honorable Sebastian Ric A. Nagas duly seconded by Honorable Joel E. Tinio, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED,** to approve, as it is hereby approved, the agenda of the 10<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Sangguniang Panlungsod dated 7 March 2024 as prepared and presented.

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FIRST READING:

- Proposed Ordinance, An Ordinance Adopting / Approving the Revised Schedule of Fees and Charges for Laboratory Testing of Construction Materials as Prescribed by Department Order No. 188, Series of 2022 of the Department of Public Works and Highways.
- Proposed Ordinance, An Ordinance Adopting the 2023 Local Revenue Code of the City of Surigao.

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REFERRAL TO COMMITTEES:

- a. Committee on Appropriations —

- Letter from the City Budget Officer, submitting the Annual Budget for CY 2024 of Barangays Cagutsan and Mabua, this city, with Technical Review Analysis Sheet
- Letter from the City Budget Officer, submitting the Annual Budget for CY 2024 of Barangays Alang-Alang, Ipil and San Isidro, this city, with Technical Review Analysis Sheet.
- b. Committee on Trade, Business, Industry and Economic Enterprise —

  - Indorsement from the City Mayor, the herein Resolution No. 16, Series of 2024 of Barangay Washington, this city, "A Resolution Recommending Amendment to the Ordinance No. 463, Section 1 (c), Series of 2022 on Schedule of Tabo at Barangay Washington and for Other Purposes, particularly requesting for change in schedule tabo from Saturday (4:00 AM to 8:00 PM) to every Friday (4:00 AM to 8:00PM) and Saturday (4:00 AM to 12:00 NOON)
- c. Committee on Social Welfare and Committee on Youth and Sports Development —

  - Indorsement from the City Mayor, requesting to the City Council to pass an Ordinance, "An Ordinance Establishing The Surigao City Teen Center, Prescribing Its Core Functions, and Providing Funds Thereof."
- d. Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries —

  - Forwarding the herein Barangay Ordinance No. 02, Series of 2024 of Barangay Aurora, this city, "A Comprehensive Barangay Code Providing for the Sustainable Management, Development and Conservation of the Municipal Waters and Its Coastal Resources, Harmonizing and Integrating All Ordinances Pertinent Thereto and For Other Purposes (Prohibiting Any Kinds of Fishing Within the Vicinity/Jurisdiction of Barangay Aurora)
  - Indorsement from the City Mayor, requesting the City Council to authorize him to enter into a Data Processing and Non-Disclosure Agreement with the Department of Agriculture, Regional Field Office XIII, for the LGU to have access to the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA)
- e. Committee on Transportation and Communication Utilities —

  - Indorsement from the City Mayor, denominated as URGENT, forwarding the Draft Ordinance, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 228, Series of 2005, and For Other Purposes."
  - Indorsement from the Tricycle and Trisikad Franchising Office, endorsing the herein Five Hundred Eighty One (581) applications for the tricycle franchise classified as Five Hundred One (501) Extension of MTOP Validity (Renewal), Forty Seven (47) Substitution of Unit and extension of MTOP Validity (Renewal/Amendment of Franchise), and Thirty Two (32) Substitution of Unit (Amendment of Franchise)
- f. Committee on Ways and Means —

  - Indorsement from the City Mayor, denominated as URGENT, forwarding to the City Council the proposed ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Prescribing the Rental Fees on the Use of Led Wall and Tents Owned by the Local Government Unit of Surigao."

- Re-indorsement from the City Mayor, denominated as URGENT, forwarding to the City Council the proposed ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance Amending the Imposition of Service Fees and the Fixing of Fees and Charges for the New Laboratory Services in the City Health Office and For Other Purposes."
- Re-indorsement from the City Mayor, denominated as URGENT, forwarding to the City Council the proposed ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 413, Series of 2019, "An Ordinance Fixing the Rental Fees for the Use of the Surigao City Auditorium and City Cultural Center and For Other Purposes."

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Honorable Bayana was recognized.

HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:

*Ah good afternoon, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon to my colleagues. The Committee Report covers the Ordinances Containing the Annual Budgets of Barangays Poctoy, Anomar, Baybay, Capalayan, and Serna.*

*All the Annual Budgets of Barangays Poctoy, Anomar, Baybay, Capalayan, and Serna were favorably endorsed by the Local Finance Committee, subject to the usual statutory limitations.*

*The Committee on Appropriation finds the recommendation of the Local Finance Committee to be reasonable and in accordance with law. It is therefore recommended that the Resolution be passed, approving the Ordinances containing the Annual Budgets of Barangays Poctoy, Anomar, Baybay, Capalayan and Serna.*

*May I move Mr. Chairman for the adoption of my Committee Report.*

The motion to adopt the committee report was approved. Thereafter, a motion was presented and favorably seconded and approved, to wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 50 - 2024

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BARANGAY ANNUAL BUDGETS FOR CY 2024 OF BARANGAYS POCTOY, ANOMAR, BAYBAY, CAPALAYAN, AND SERNA, ALL OF THIS CITY.**

**WHEREAS**, endorsed to the Sangguniang Panlungsod are the Annual Barangay Budgets for CY 2024 of Barangays Poctoy, Anomar, Baybay, Capalayan, and Serna, all of this city, for the conduct of a review process;

**WHEREAS**, the annual budgets of the enumerated barangays were favorably endorsed by the Local Finance Committee subject to the usual statutory limitations provided under the Local Government Code, as well as, other rules;

**NOW THEREFORE**, on motion of Honorable Jose Expeditus B. Bayana, seconded by Honorable Sebastian Ric A. Nagas, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED:** To pass a Resolution Approving the Ordinances containing the Annual Barangay Budgets for CY 2024 of the following barangays, to wit:

1. *Annual Budget of Barangay Poctoy in the amount of ₱ 3,843,855.00;*
2. *Annual Budget of Barangay Anomar in the amount of ₱ 4,035,434.00;*
3. *Annual Budget of Barangay Baybay in the amount of ₱ 2,227,049.00;*
4. *Annual Budget of Barangay Capalayan in the amount of ₱ 4,411,280.00; and*
5. *Annual Budget of Barangay Serna in the amount of ₱ 4,035,356.00;*

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That copies of this resolution be furnished the Local Finance Committee and the aforementioned Barangays, this city, for their information and guidance.

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**1. CALENDAR OF BUSINESS**

**A. Pending Matters:**

None

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**B. Urgent Matters:**

None

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**C. Business of the Day:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

- Proposed Ordinance "An Ordinance for the Abolition of Existing Plantilla Positions in the Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary and the Office of Vice Mayor, Creating New Plantilla Positions in Lieu Thereof, Retitling of Existing Positions and for Other Purposes."

**RULES ARE SUSPENDED** to allow Ms. Hairee Cel S. Pedimonte, CHRMD Officer to join the discussion.

During the discussion, it was known that the positions that are proposed to be abolished have been vacant for quite some time, i.e 2 years for Security Officer III, more than 5 years for Stenographer II and 4 years for the Board Secretary IV.

**HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

*These positions remained vacant, and now we will be abolishing them and the next step after we will be, after abolishing these positions is we have to hire employees to occupy the new positions, correct?*

**MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

278 Yes, Sir.

279 **HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

280

281 Why?

282 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

283

284 *Let me just say Sir that probably the reason why it was not... these positions were not filled*  
 285 *out, filled up for the past few years it's because they are not considered the needed personnel for*  
 286 *that office. So, now they are seeing that based on their current function. . .*

287 **HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

288

289 *Who are this they, when you say they who are you referring to?*

290 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

291

292 *The office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod... I mean the office of the Vice Mayor and also*  
 293 *the office of the Secretary Sir, because these positions are under their offices.*

294

295 Ms. Pedimonte then read the duties and responsibilities of the Local Legislative Staff Officer  
 296 IV and clarified that this item is separated and distinct from the Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary.  
 297 Moreover, it was also discussed that as of this time, the Presiding Officer, being the appointing  
 298 authority has until August to decide as to who will be the permanent Sangguniang Panlungsod  
 299 Secretary.

300

301 **HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

302

303 *Now let's go to Security Agent II and Security Agent I. What are their duties and*  
 304 *responsibility? Because I noticed that the original position was Security Officer, now we changed it*  
 305 *to a Security Agent. What is the difference between an officer and an agent? Basi kung lain pagka*  
 306 *agent agent ini ha?*

307 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

308

309 *This position po talaga is Co-Terminous so . . .*

310

311 **HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

312

313 *Yeah, I know it's co-terminous, it's stated here for co-terminous position.*

314 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

315

316 *And the . . .*

317

318 **HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

319

320 *Why do we have to rename it from officer to agent?*

321 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

322

323 *For this position po, if I'm not mistaken because during our meeting with the Vice Mayor, the*  
 324 *Vice Mayor already has the PNP detailed personnel, so he only needs a special agent or security*  
 325 *agent as detailed to his office.*

326

327 **HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

328

329           *You are not answering my question, you are too far.*

330 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

331

332           *But if it's Security Officer III po kasi it's very big position and it can be parang the position of*  
 333 *Security Officer can be performed also by the PNP personnel as already assigned to the City Vice*  
 334 *Mayor. So this special agent will perform other . . .*

335

336 **HON CACEL R. AZARCON:**

337

338           *So instead of 1 position we will be... this will be split into 2 positions although ang mga salary*  
 339 *grade are lowered, noh?*

340

341 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/ CHRMD OFFICER:**

342

343           *Yes Sir.*

344

345           One of the items that are proposed to be created as well is the Reproduction Machine  
 346 Operator III with salary grade 7. Ms. Pedimonte also read the qualifications, and duties and  
 347 responsibilities of the position.

348

349 **HON. CACEL R. AZARCON:**

350

351           *And in section four of the proposed ordinance, uh, there is a need to retitle the existing*  
 352 *position from Local Legislative Staff Officer V to Information Technology Officer II. What are the*  
 353 *technical reasons or legal reasons for the retitling of these, uh, positions, including this Administrative*  
 354 *Officer I to be retitled to Local Legislative Staff Assistant III?*

355

356 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/CHRMD OFFICER:**

357

358           *For the Local Legislative Staff Officer V to Information Technology Officer II, uh, because of*  
 359 *the digitalization activities or program of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, we want to strengthen our IT*  
 360 *Office here in the Sangguniang Panlungsod and that's the reason why this position is proposed to*  
 361 *be retitled so that we can also hold on to our existing and also attract candidates, qualified candidates*  
 362 *for the position.*

363

364           It was also added that no additional funding requirement is needed for the creation of the  
 365 items as it is within the confinement of the existing budgetary allocation as certified by the Budget  
 366 Officer.

367

368           Honorable Bayana was recognized and asked how many existing stenographers do the  
 369 Sangguniang Panlungsod have to which the Acting Secretary answered that there is only one but  
 370 there are also 6 Job Order Employees who performs the functions of the Stenographers during  
 371 Committee Meetings.

372

373           There being no more discussion, the **RULES ARE REINSTATED**. The proponent presented  
 374 a motion to approve the Proposed Ordinance under second reading which was favorably seconded  
 375 and approved. It was then requested to calendar the same on third and final reading in the next  
 376 Regular Session.

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378           -----

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383

- Proposed Ordinance "An Ordinance Institutionalizing the Organizational Structure of Persons with Disability Affairs Office

(PDAO) for its Operations And Management, Creating Necessary Positions per Republic Act 10070, Providing Funds Therefor And For Other Purposes.”

The **RULES ARE SUSPENDED** to allow the resource persons to join the discussion. Honorable Aldonza was recognized and read the objective of the Proposed Ordinance as well as the qualifications of the Disability Affairs Officer (DAO IV) with Salary Grade 22.

**HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA/PRESIDING OFFICER:**

*So, in this office structure, only the...kindly go back to salary grade 22, in all the other staff except the one who is handling this, ang Disability Affairs Officer must be a member of, meaning in plain language, has to be a member of a disability group..*

**HON. JOENIL B. ALDONZA:**

*Yes, Mr. Chairman.*

**HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA/PRESIDING OFFICER:**

*But the rest, may not be a member? Ahh Attorney? Can we enlighten us on this? Ang Disability Affairs Officer must be a member of a disability group, meaning he or she is disabled. But, just plain language, but the rest of the personnel may not be a member of the disability group. Is that what we are trying to impress upon the creation of this office?*

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

*Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, and to the members of this honourable body. Per inquiry, yes, that is true, the Disability Affairs (DAO IV), with Salary Grade 22, will be the only one required to be a bona fide member of any PWD Organization. The question is, why? Why do we require? Because, per implementing rules and regulation of RA 10070 or the Amendment to the Magna Carta Rules for Disabled or Person with Disabilities, there is a provision stating that there must be priority, Mr. Chairman, for persons with disability to be prioritized as the DAO IV. And we might be asking why is there a need for them to be salary grade 22, where the same law also provides for the same, that with component cities, the DAO IV must have a salary grade of 22, Mr. Chairman. So that is the requirements.*

**HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA/PRESIDING OFFICER:**

*But under this ordinance, whoever is the one appointed as Disability Affairs Officer must be a member of a disability group?*

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

*Yes, Mr. Chairman.*

**HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA/PRESIDING OFFICER:**

*But the rest can be not a member?*

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

*Yes, Mr. Chairman.*

Honorable Catre was recognized.

**HON. NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.:**

What if there will be no applicants, Mr. Chairman? I mean, no qualified applicants based on the provision mentioned by the Legal Officer, Mr. Chairman.

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

If I may, Mr. Chairman. The proposed ordinance states of the qualification. Now if no one will qualify based on the qualifications, then the Mayor as the appointing officer, cannot appoint anyone who is not qualified, based on the qualifications.

**HON. NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.:**

Can you read to us again the section? 'Ton requirements, hai adto.

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

Please refer to Section 4.B.2, Qualifications. So per B.2, on qualifications:

1. Must be a bona fide member of any duly-accredited PWD Organization;
2. He or she must have a Bachelor's Degree;
3. He or she must have three (3) years relevant experience on disability affairs;
4. With sixteen (16) hours relevant training on disability affairs;
5. He or she must have Career Service Professional/Second Level Eligibility.

**HON. NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.:**

And the basis that you mentioned a while ago, you mentioned that the Magna Carta Rule prioritizes persons with disabilities?

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

The IRR. The Implementing Rules on RA 10070.

**HON. NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.:**

The implementing rules...so it does not follow that only persons with disabilities can be appointed. But with this ordinance, sa ato kailangan gajud a member of the PWD?

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

Yes, Sir.

**HON. NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.:**

Okay, that is all, Mr. Chairman.

Honorable Bayana was recognized.

**HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

Under Section 11 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of PD 10070, "Upon the creation of the office, the Chief Executive is mandated to call for a general assembly. And during the general assembly, three (3) qualified applicants for consideration will be chosen and submitted to the local Chief Executive, being the appointing officer." Why is it that this provision is not incorporated in the ordinance?

**ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

498 *Actually, Sir good afternoon...Mr. Chairman, the Section 4.B states that the DAO shall be*  
 499 *nominated by the PWD General Assembly facilitated by the organization of Persons with Disability,*  
 500 *and appointed by the City Mayor as per implementing rules of RA 10070 and the city ordinance. The*  
 501 *purpose of the General Assembly is to ensure the participation of PWDs in the recruitment process*  
 502 *in compliance to Article 4.3 of the UN Convention.*

503  
 504 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

505  
 506 *Hai daw? Uno na provision jaon?*

507  
 508 **ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

509  
 510 *Letter B, Honorable...Section 4.B.*

511  
 512 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

513  
 514 *Section 4.B.*

515  
 516 **ATTY. LEX JOSHUA ANDREW U. SILVOSA/CITY LEGAL OFFICER:**

517  
 518 *Of our proposed ordinance, Sir.*

519  
 520 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

521  
 522 *Organization of persons with disabilities? Is there such a thing? There is no such a thing*  
 523 *stated in the implementing rules, what organization are we talking about here? Do we have an*  
 524 *organization of persons with disabilities?*

525  
 526 **HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA/PRESIDING OFFICER:**

527  
 528 *Can you...*

529  
 530 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

531  
 532 *I can read Section 11, Mr. Chairman.*

533  
 534 *"Upon publication of the position, the concerned Governor, City or Municipal Mayor shall*  
 535 *instruct the Local Government Operations Officers, the local Social Welfare and Development*  
 536 *Officer, and the President of the local Federation/Association of Persons with Disabilities to prepare*  
 537 *for a general assembly of persons with disabilities which shall be conducted on the last day of the*  
 538 *posting period. The general assembly shall nominate at least three (3) qualified applicants for*  
 539 *consideration of the local selection board and the local Chief Executive. The Human Resource*  
 540 *Management Officer shall document the proceedings of the general assembly."*

541  
 542 *I am confused as to the organization of persons with disabilities...what organization are we*  
 543 *talking about?*

544  
 545 **HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA/PRESIDING OFFICER:**

546  
 547 *He can answer the question now.*

548  
 549 **MR. MARKCAVEN SALAR/ ASST. CSWD OFFICER:**

550  
 551 *Good afternoon, Mr. Chair, and to this august body. So, what it means Sir, is every*  
 552 *municipality, as the Social Welfare and Development Office, we are encouraging our PWD sector to*  
 553 *organize as a federation. So, in Surigao City, all of our 54 barangays have already the officers of*

554 each barangay. Then we have the federation na po sa city level, our person with disability officers  
555 po, in Surigao City.

556  
557 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

558  
559 *So, why don't we use the term Federation of Persons with Disabilities, and not a mere, which*  
560 *is rather vague, organization of persons with disabilities.*

561  
562 *Second question, who will compose the local selection board?*

563  
564 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/CHRM OFFICER:**

565  
566 *The HRMSB, the Human Resource Management and Selection Board of the city government*  
567 *will...*

568  
569 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

570  
571 *The Personnel Selection Board?*

572  
573 **MS. HAIREE CEL S. PEDIMONTE/CHRM OFFICER:**

574  
575 *Opo, plus one (1) representative from the PWD na employee.*

576  
577 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

578  
579 *Plus one representative because he represents the office.*

580  
581 **HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA / PRESIDING OFFICER:**

582  
583 *Anything? Anymore?*

584  
585 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

586  
587 *We can make an amendment, the change, the terminology of organization of Persons With*  
588 *Disability to Federation.*

589  
590 **HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA / PRESIDING OFFICER:**

591  
592 *Federation of?*

593  
594 **HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

595  
596 *Persons with disabilities.*

597  
598 *It was also discussed that as per DOH guidelines, there are several categories of disabilities*  
599 *and there are: cancer patients, intellectual disability, visual disability, hearing impairment, orthopedic*  
600 *disability, non-apparent disability, psycho-social, physical and mental.*

601  
602 *Honorable Geli was recognized.*

603  
604 **HON. JOSHUA EMILIO S. GELI:**

605  
606 *I remember that we have PWD ID being issued in our CSWD, is that correct? What is, can*  
607 *you refresh us on what will be the benefits for our PWD constituents if they get that ID, jaon bay ila*  
608 *makuha na discount or priorities, whatever?*

609  
610 *Can you refresh us?*

**MR. MARKCAVEN SALAR/ ASST. CSWD OFFICER:**

*Sir, as the laws ahmm, the benefit no, for PWD is same with our senior citizen, the 20% discount.*

There being no more queries, the **RULES ARE REINSTATED.** The proponent was recognized.

**HON. JOENIL B. ALDONZA:**

*May I move, Mr. Chair that this proposed ordinance have one amendment, Section 4B, which is the Disability Affairs Officers that the DAO shall be nominated by the PWD General Assembly facilitated by Federation of Persons with Disability. I so move, Mr. Chair.*

**HON. BALTAZAR C. ABIAN:**

*Second.*

**HON. ALFONSO S. CASURRA / PRESIDING OFFICER:**

*Yes, the discussion has already been completed so we are now in the amendment stage. There is now an amendment that is being accepted to by the proponent unless there are any objections, then we will just adopt the amendment to change the nomenclature to Federation of Persons with Disability. Is there any objection to the amendment? Hearing none, the motion is APPROVED. The same is hereby amended. We'll now go to objection that this ordinance passed under second reading. There is none, then is there any objection? Hearing none, the motion is hereby APPROVED, the said ordinance is now passed under second reading.*

The proponent requested that the same be calendared for third and final reading in the next Regular Session.

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3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Reading:

- Proposed Ordinance "An Ordinance Establishing the VAWC Desk in Every Barangay of the City of Surigao and Prescribing the Protocol in the Handling of all VAWC Cases Filed Thereof, And For Other Purposes."

On motion of Honorable Noel Christian G. Catre, Jr., seconded by Honorable Karl Duane A. Casurra and Honorable Baltazar C. Abian, it was unanimously

RESOLVED: That the following Ordinance, be as it is hereby enacted, to wit:

**ORDINANCE NO. 501  
SERIES OF 2024**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE VAWC DESK IN EVERY  
BARANGAY OF THE CITY OF SURIGAO AND PRESCRIBING THE PROTOCOL IN  
THE HANDLING OF ALL VAWC CASES FILED THEREOF.**

**WHEREAS**, Article II Section 14 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides, that the state recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and shall ensure their fundamental equality before the law of men and women;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9262 is known as *The Anti-Violence against Women and their Children Act of 2004* was made into law to recognize “the need to protect the family and its members particularly women and children from violence and threats to their personal safety and security”;

**WHEREAS**, *Section 12 D, Rule IV of the Rules and Regulations* implementing Republic Act 9710 of the *Magna Carta for Women* provides for the establishment of a VAW desk in every barangay to ensure that violence against women cases are fully addressed in a gender-responsive manner;

**WHEREAS**, relative thereto, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Health (DOH) and Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) issued Joint Memorandum-Circular No. 2010-2 to provide the guidelines and procedures for the *above cited IRR section* and to enjoin all local government units to establish a Violence Against Women (VAW) Desk in their respective barangays;

**WHEREAS**, the Sanggunian recognizes that the VAW Desk or the VAWC Desk as contemplated in the context of this Ordinance shall serve as an important mechanism that will institutionalize the support for victims and bring the perpetrators to justice;

**WHEREAS**, the Sanggunian through the Committee on Women has adopted key provisions of the DILG-DSWD-DepEd-DOH-PCW Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2010-2 in formulating the protocol in the handling of VAWC cases filed in the barangays;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANGLUNGSOD OF SURIGAO CITY IN SESSION ASSEMBLED**, That:

**SECTION 1. TITLE-** This Ordinance shall be known as an Ordinance establishing the VAWC Desk in every Barangay of the City of Surigao and prescribing the protocol in the handling of all VAWC cases filed thereof.

**SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS-** For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms and phrases shall apply:

**2.1 Violence Against Women and their Children (VAWC)-** refers to any act or a series of acts committed by any person against a woman who is his wife, former wife, or against a woman with whom the person has or had a sexual or dating relationship, or with whom he has a common child, or against her child whether legitimate or illegitimate, within or without the family abode, which result in or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological harm or suffering, or economic abuse including threats of such acts, battery, assault, coercion, harassment or arbitrary deprivation of liberty. It includes, but is not limited to, the following acts:

A. *"Physical Violence"* refers to acts that include bodily or physical harm;

B. *"Sexual violence"* refers to an act which is sexual in nature, committed against a woman or her child. It includes, but is not limited to:

1) rape, sexual harassment, acts of lasciviousness, treating a woman or her child as a sex object, making demeaning and sexually suggestive remarks, physically attacking the sexual parts of the victim's body, forcing her/him to watch obscene publications and indecent shows or forcing the woman or her child to do indecent acts and/or make films thereof, forcing the wife and mistress/lover to live in the conjugal home or sleep together in the same room with the abuser;

719 2) acts causing or attempting to cause the victim to engage in any sexual activity by  
 720 force, threat of force, physical or other harm or threat of physical or other harm or  
 721 coercion;

722 3) Prostituting the woman or child.

723 C. "*Psychological violence*" refers to acts or omissions causing or likely to cause mental or  
 724 emotional suffering of the victim such as but not limited to intimidation, harassment, stalking,  
 725 damage to property, public ridicule or humiliation, repeated verbal abuse and mental  
 726 infidelity. It includes causing or allowing the victim to witness the physical, sexual or  
 727 psychological abuse of a member of the family to which the victim belongs, or to witness  
 728 pornography in any form or to witness abusive injury to pets or to unlawful or unwanted  
 729 deprivation of the right to custody and/or visitation of common children.

730 D. "*Economic abuse*" refers to acts that make or attempt to make a woman financially  
 731 dependent which includes, but is not limited to the following:

732 1. withdrawal of financial support or preventing the victim from engaging in any  
 733 legitimate profession, occupation, business or activity, except in cases wherein the  
 734 other spouse/partner objects on valid, serious and moral grounds as defined in  
 735 Article 73 of the Family Code;

736 2. deprivation or threat of deprivation of financial resources and the right to the use  
 737 and enjoyment of the conjugal, community or property owned in common;

738 3. destroying household property;

739 4. controlling the victims' own money or properties or solely controlling the conjugal  
 740 money or properties.

741 **2.2 VAWC Desk-** a facility that addresses all VAWC cases in a gender-responsive and child-  
 742 friendly manner which is managed by a person designated by the Punong Barangay. It is  
 743 situated within the premises of the barangay hall. In the absence of a barangay hall, the  
 744 VAWC Desk shall be established within the premises where the punong barangay holds  
 745 office.

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 747 **SECTION 3. SCOPE AND COVERAGE-** This ordinance shall cover all the 54 Barangays of  
 748 the City of Surigao.

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 750 **SECTION 4. GENDER-** Every word in the Ordinance importing the feminine gender shall  
 751 extend to both the female and child unless its context clearly indicates it in the feminine.

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 753 **SECTION 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF VAWC DESKS IN EVERY BARANGAY-** All Punong  
 754 Barangays are mandated to establish a VAWC Desk in their barangays.

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 756 **5.1 Setting up the VAWC Desk-** the punong barangay shall designate an area within the  
 757 barangay hall for the VAWC desk. S/he shall provide for the necessary furniture and fixtures  
 758 such as, but not limited to, table, chairs, separate filing cabinet and logbook for record-

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 760 keeping of cases. Likewise, the punong barangay shall ensure the confidentiality of the case  
 761 and the privacy and safety of the victim-survivor.

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 763  
 764 **5.2 Designation of VAWC Desk person-** the punong barangay shall designate a VAW  
 765 Desk person who is trained in handling gender-sensitive cases; preferably a woman  
 766 barangay kagawad who Chairs the Committee on Women or a woman barangay tanod. In

cases where there are no trained personnel, the punong barangay ensures that the person assigned shall undergo basic gender sensitivity training and orientation on anti-VAWC laws.

**5.3 Treatment of VAWC Records.** Only the punong barangay and the VAWC desk in-charge shall have access to all VAWC records; however, the same shall be made available to the City Social Welfare Office and the Police for the records or for case filing purposes.

## **SECTION 6. FUNCTIONS OF THE BARANGAY VAWC DESK IN-CHARGE**

**The VAWC Desk in-charge shall perform the following tasks:**

**6.1.** Respond to the gender-based violence cases brought to the barangay:

**6.2.** Keep VAWC case records confidential and secured, and ensure that only the authorized personnel can have access to them;

**6.3** Assist victims of VAWC in securing Barangay Protection Order (BPO) and access necessary services;

**6.4.** Develop the barangay's gender-responsive plan in addressing gender-based violence, including support services, capacity building and referral system;

**6.5.** Coordinate with and refer cases to government agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), institutions, and other service providers as necessary;

**6.6.** Address other forms of abuse committed against women, especially the elderly women and women with disabilities.

**6.7.** Lead advocacies on the elimination of VAWC in the community;

**6.8.** Perform other related function, as may be assigned by the Punong Barangay.

## **SECTION 7. PROTOCOL IN HANDLING VAWC CASES AT THE BARANGAY LEVEL**

The following protocols shall be observed by the Barangay VAWC Desk person when responding to VAWC situations:

**7.A. When the VAWC victim-survivor is accompanied by someone to the barangay or the victim herself goes to the barangay.**

**7.A.1.** The VAWC Desk-in-charge shall immediately receive the victim-survivor.

**7.A.2.** Make the woman or the child comfortable in a safe and secure area and attend to the complainant's immediate needs, as necessary.

**7.A.3.** Assess the situation and initial information to determine the risks involved and if immediate medical attention is needed facilitate referral to the nearest medical facility.

**7.A.4.** After the victim-survivor has calmed down, assist the punong barangay in the conduct of an investigation in a gender sensitive and non-judgmental manner in a language understood by her.

**7.A.5.** Inform the victim-survivor of her rights and the legal remedies available to her and the processes involved particularly in relation to the Barangay Protection Order (BPO) and to assist her to file the application, if she decides to have a BPO.

**7.A.6.** Record the incident using the National VAWC Documentation System barangay form.

824 **7.A.7.** If victim-survivor desires to be in a safe shelter, seek the assistance of the other  
 825 barangay affairs, barangay tanod or the police in getting her belongings and refer her to  
 826 Surigao City Women and Children Crisis Center or to the CSWDO, as the case may be.

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 828 **7.A.8.** Assist victim-survivor to file for a temporary protection order (TPO) or permanent  
 829 protection order (PPO) with the nearest Family Court within 24 hours after the issuance of  
 830 the BPO.

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 832 **7.A.9.** Report the incident within four hours to the PNP and the CSWDO.

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 834 **7.B. When the abuse is reported by a concerned community member.**

835  
 836 **7.B.1.** Upon the receipt of the report, the VAWC Desk-in-charge shall immediately verify the  
 837 information and when so warranted, seek the assistance of the PNP.

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 839 **7.B.2.** Assess the situation and facilitate the rescue of the victim-survivor when necessary  
 840 to ensure her safety, and the safety of her children.

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 842 **7.B.3.** Inform the victim-survivor about her rights and remedies available her particularly the  
 843 BPO and its processes. Assist her to apply for a BPO, if she so desires.

844  
 845 **7.B.4.** Refer the victim-survivor for medical care and temporary shelter when needed based  
 846 on the assessment done.

847  
 848 **7.B.5.** Record the incident using the National VAWC Documentation System barangay form.

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 850 **7.B.6.** If not done earlier, report the incident within four hours to the PNP and the CSWDO.

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 852 **7.B.7.** For rape, trafficking in persons and other cases which do not fall under the jurisdiction  
 853 of the barangay, assist the victim-survivor file a complaint at the PNP Women Center or the  
 854 National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

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 856 **SECTION 8. ROLE OF CITY MAYOR.** The City Mayor shall ensure the establishment of a  
 857 VAWC Desk in every Barangay within the City, and provide the technical and financial assistance  
 858 from the Gender and Development (GAD) Fund.

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 860 **SECTION 9. ROLE OF THE PUNONG BARANGAY.** The Punong Barangay ensures the  
 861 establishment of a VAWC Desk in the barangay and ensure that the operation of its VAWC Desk  
 862 such as but not limited to; Gender Sensitive/ Responsive and conducive office including the  
 863 necessary furnitures and fixtures, Financial Support to VAW Survivor/s, and other Logistical support  
 864 to VAWC Desk Officer from the Gender and Development (GAD) Fund out from the BLGU NTA.

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 866 **SECTION 10. MONITORING AND REPORTING.** All Punong Barangays or VAWC Desk  
 867 Person in-Charge shall, within three (3) months after the passage of this ordinance, submit a  
 868 compliance report to the Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod under the Committee on Women  
 869 and to the City Social Welfare and Development Office.

870  
 871 Furthermore, the VAWC Desk person-in-charge shall submit quarterly reports on all filed  
 872 VAWC cases, which should clearly specify the action taken and their status and to submit the same  
 873 to the aforementioned offices. VAWC case records should be treated with utmost confidentiality and  
 874 security, and ensure that only the authorized personnel(s) have access to them.

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 876 **SECTION 11. REPEALING CLAUSE.** Any or all ordinances, rules and regulations which  
 877 are inconsistent or in conflict with the sections or provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed,  
 878 revoked and modified accordingly.

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**SECTION 12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If for any reason any part of this ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Enacted on March 7, 2024.

**SPONSORED BY: HON. NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.**  
Chairman, Committee on Women and Family

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**PRIVILEGE HOUR/SPEECH**

None

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**OTHER MATTERS**

Honorable Bayana was recognized.

**HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

*I have other matter, Mr. Chairman, for the guidance of the Secretary, Mr. Chairman, this is with respect to the Swine Breeding Proposal of the City Government which was originally only for the transfer of the same from barangay...*

**MS. EDNA B. SIEGA / ACTING SP SECRETARY:**

*Mabini to Silop.*

**HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

*Barangay Mabini to Barangay Silop. The Committee on Appropriation ba adto Edna?*

**MS. EDNA B. SIEGA / ACTING SP SECRETARY:**

*Committee on Appropriations.*

**HON. JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA:**

*The Committee on Appropriations would include in the committee hearing, the Committee on Agriculture, Mr. Chairman because during the discussions in the last session some issues related to agriculture came up, Mr. Chairman. That would be all.*

**MS. EDNA B. SIEGA / ACTING SP SECRETARY:**

*Noted.*

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**ADJOURNMENT**

(As to what transpired in the discussion, the transcribed stenographic notes of the same are kept and filed in the SP Office for record purposes and reference.)

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**HON. JOENIL B. ALDONZA:**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear Lord, thank You for Your presence during our session today.  
As we depart guide us, in applying the decision made here in our lives  
and work. May Your protection, Your wisdom and grace, bless us. Bless each one  
of us and may our efforts contribute to the betterment of our community.  
These we ask, in Jesus' name. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

.....

APPROVED, this \_\_\_\_ day of March 2024.

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing statements, resolutions and the like were passed and approved by us, members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Surigao, Province of Surigao del Norte.

**EDNA B. SIEGA**  
Acting Sanggunian Secretary

**SEBASTIAN RIC A. NAGAS**  
City Councilor

**CACEL R. AZARCON**  
City Councilor

**JOENIL B. ALDONZA**  
City Councilor

**JOEL E. TINIO**  
City Councilor

**JOSHUA EMILIO S. GELI**  
City Councilor

**BALTAZAR C. ABIAN**  
City Councilor

**NOEL CHRISTIAN G. CATRE, JR.**  
City Councilor

**JOSE EXPEDITUS B. BAYANA**  
City Councilor

**JOSEPH JOEY S. YUIPCO**  
City Councilor

**KARL DUANE A. CASURRA**  
City Councilor

**JENELYN EDULZURA**  
SK Federation President

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ATTESTED BY:

**ALFONSO S. CASURRA**  
Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer