

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-008
VVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVV

AN ORDINANCE PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE PRACTICES AT THE BARANGAYS OF NAGA CITY, ESTABLISHING THE EMPOWERMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF BARANGAYS ON LOCAL LEGISLATION (ENABL²E) PROGRAM, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE:-

Introduced by:

Hon. Nelson S. Legacion
City Vice Mayor

Sponsored by:

Hon. Vidal P. Castillo
Hon. Elmer S. Baldemoro
Hon. Esteban Greg R. Abonal III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The City Government of Naga is known for its transparent and participatory governance. Since 1988, the city government has initiated and institutionalized various innovative programs that promote transparency, accountability and people-participation in its system of government.

Over the years, this nationally-acclaimed and internationally-recognized governance practice of the city government has brought forth positive results, especially in the areas of community awareness and engagement, citizen ownership of programs, improved service delivery and enhanced local economic development. As a testament to this fact, the city has received more than 150 regional, national and international awards and distinctions and is now considered as a center of good urban governance in the country.

These accolades and honors, however, should not bring forth complacency and stagnation. The present challenge is to sustain and to advance further the gains of these efforts of the city government. This means that the present administration should enhance existing programs by expanding their coverage and mainstreaming their processes and systems, develop new approaches and mechanisms for the advancement of the principles of good governance, and further strengthen the partnership among and between the different stakeholders of the city.

Given the above, it seems that it is high time for the various good practices of the city government to be brought down to the grass-root level, especially to the barangays. Barangays are the basic political units of government. They are in the front line of delivering crucial social services to the public. They are also authorized by law to legislate and, as a result, are provided with the powers to regulate, restrict and/or broaden the allowable actions and behaviour of the people and other legal entities, such as private corporations.

Considering their functions and roles, barangay governments are vital in the sustainable and inclusive economic development and social progress of Naga. Their competence and responsiveness in addressing the needs of the people shall form a great part in

shaping Naga as one of the most competitive and most liveable cities in the country and in the world. With this, it is, therefore, necessary for the city government to ensure that elected officials in the 27 barangays of the city are highly proficient, effective and well-equipped in performing their duties, most especially in crafting relevant legislations and rational regulatory policies. The principles of transparency, accountability and people-participation should also be inculcated to them so as to improve delivery of basic social services, eliminate corruption, red tape and patronage politics, and, ultimately, eradicate poverty and uplift the Nagueños' quality of life. To achieve this end, the Empowerment and Advancement of Barangays on Local LEgislation (ENABL²E) Program is hereby conceptualized.

Be it ordained, therefore, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. - This ordinance shall be known as the "ENABL²E Ordinance of Naga City."

SECTION 2. - PURPOSE. - This ordinance is enacted in order to:

1. Enhance the awareness of barangay officials on their functions, duties and obligations as local legislators;
2. Educate barangay officials on the various legislative procedures needed in crafting responsive legislation and rational regulatory policies;
3. Engage the barangay officials in promoting transparency, accountability and people-participation in governance processes; and,
4. Strengthen the partnership between and among the officials of the city government and of the 27 barangay governments of Naga City.

SECTION 3. - DEFINITION OF TERMS. -For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

1. Barangays - refer to the 27 smallest administrative divisions in the City of Naga
2. ENABL²E Program - refers to the Empowerment and Advancement of Barangays on Local Legislation Program of the Sangguniang Panlungsod
3. Journals - refer to the collection or compilation of minutes of meeting
4. Minutes - refers to a written record of an official proceeding or session of a barangay government

SECTION 4. - SCOPE. - This ordinance shall engage the 27 barangay governments of Naga City, especially their officials involve in legislation (punong barangay, barangay kagawad and barangay secretary).

SECTION 5.- THE EMPOWERMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF BARANGAYS ON LOCAL LEGISLATION (ENABL²E) PROGRAM. - The Empowerment and Advancement of Barangays on Legislation Program, to be referred herein as the ENABL²E Program, is an initiative of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Naga that seeks to capacitate the newly-elected officials of the 27 barangay of Naga City to better participate in legislative sessions, craft responsive legislation and rational regulatory policies, and to become advocates of good governance.

The ENABL²E Program shall begin no later than four (4) months after assumption to office of the current set of newly elected barangay officials and up to the completion thereof. It shall likewise be undertaken within the contemplated period every time a barangay election is held. It shall be composed of four components or mechanisms, to wit:

1. Conference on Barangay Legislation
2. SP Watch
3. SP Forum
4. Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Award

SECTION 6.- CONFERENCE ON BARANGAY LEGISLATION . -Under this mechanism, barangay officials of Naga City shall undergo a one-day seminar on local legislation to be organized by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Naga, in partnership with the Liga ng mga Barangay and with the support of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). Through this mechanism, barangay officials will be educated on their functions, responsibilities and powers as legislators of their respective barangay.

Legislative procedures, including some of the technicalities involved in establishing a quorum, conducting committee and public hearings and enacting resolutions and ordinances, will also be taught in this seminar. Officials of the city council will also be sharing their first-hand experience on crafting responsive and sound legislative measures, as well as on promoting transparency, accountability and people-participation in policy- and decision-making processes of the government.

The conference shall commence not later than four months after assumption to office of newly elected barangay officials. It will be held every Friday at a venue to be determined by the Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretariat.

For purposes of efficiency and economy, the city's twenty seven barangays will be clustered. There shall be seven (7) barangay governments for the first three sessions. For the last session, meanwhile, six (6) barangay governments shall be in attendance.

SECTION 7.- SP WATCH.-Through the SP Watch, barangay officials will be given the opportunity to watch and observe the

proceedings of the Sangguniang Panlungsod's regular session. Under this mechanism, they will be exposed to the procedures and deliberations of the SP, from the calling to order of a session to its adjournment.

The 27 barangay governments of Naga will be re-clustered into five (5) and, depending on said grouping and scheduling, their officials will sit as audience of the Sangguniang Panlungsod. They will also be provided copies of the agenda, resolutions and ordinances to be discussed in the session and other documents necessary to the knowledgeable and intelligent observation of the SP's regular session.

SECTION 8. - SP FORUM. -This mechanism aims to encourage barangay officials to partake in the development of the city and will also strengthen partnership among and between the city government and the 27 barangay governments of Naga. It will also serve as an interactive feedback mechanism of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, enhancing transparency, accountability and people-participation in governance.

After the regular session of the Sanggunian, an open forum will be conducted between the city officials and the barangay officials attending the SP Watch. This 30-minute interaction will provide an opportunity for the barangay officials to clarify procedural measures of the Sanggunian, provide their thoughts and comments on certain developmental issues being faced by the city and under deliberations of the SP, and/or offer suggestions on how to improve city mechanisms and projects.

SECTION 9. - OUTSTANDING SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY AWARD. - The ultimate goal of the ENABL²E Program is to establish more responsive and more dynamic barangay councils. With this, the City Government of Naga shall recognize barangay councils which have demonstrated exemplary performance in enacting legislative measures that greatly contribute to the achievement of sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development in their respective communities. The Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Award shall also serve as the monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the ENABL²E Program.

This mechanism shall have the following guidelines:

A. CRITERIA OF SELECTION

The Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Award shall be conferred to barangay councils with the highest scores on the following:

1. Effectiveness of Legislative Agenda

- i. The legislative agenda of the barangay complements and supports the Executive-Legislative Agenda and thrusts of the City Government of Naga and the Republic of the Philippines

- ii. Consultations have been made in the development of the Legislative Agenda
- iii. The Legislative Agenda of the barangay provides legislative actions on the Investment and Development Plan of the barangay

2. Effectiveness of the Legislative Tracking System

- i. All legislative measures of the barangay are on file, properly indexed and easily retrievable
- ii. There are mechanisms for monitoring the implementation and impacts of local legislations

3. Availability of Legislative Documents

- i. Journals of the Sangguniang Barangay are on file and easily retrievable
- ii. Minutes of sessions duly signed by all members present and certified by the Barangay Secretary
- iii. Committee Reports signed by majority of all members
- iv. Notices and minutes of special sessions are on file and easily retrievable

4. Efficiency of Performance of the Sangguniang Barangay

- i. Attendance to the Conference on Barangay Legislation, SP Watch, SP Forum and other meetings/projects sponsored by the city government that directly involve the barangay councils, either as beneficiaries or as stakeholders;
- ii. Attendance of barangay officials to regular barangay sessions;
- iii. Number of committee and public hearings conducted and attendance of barangay officials to the same;
- iv. Number of landmark ordinances enacted.

The following are considered as priorities:

- Annual Budget of the Barangay;
 - Barangay Investment Plan;
 - Barangay Revenue Code; and,
 - Barangay i-Governance which shall include the institutionalization of a barangay website, Barangay Citizens' Charter and other people-empowerment programs
- v. Number of resolutions with impact on local communities and adoption/localization of city ordinances/programs;
 - vi. An enacted Internal Rules of Procedure which contain the following minimum requirements:
 - Organization of the Sangguniang Barangay

- Calendar of business for each session
- Legislative process
- Parliamentary procedure
- Discipline of members

5. Quality of Office Set-Up and Sanggunian Deliberations

- i. Barangay Session Hall with appropriate fixtures and equipment
- ii. Performance of the barangay council during the random visitation and observation of the Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Award Committee. The following shall be taken into consideration in rating their performance:
 - a. Observance of the legislative process
 - b. Observance of the parliamentary procedure
 - c. Attendance of barangay officials
 - d. Participation of barangay officials

B. OUTSTANDING SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY AWARDS COMMITTEE

1. Composition

The Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Awards Committee is hereby constituted and shall be composed of the following:

- i. Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod
- ii. Director of DILG-Naga City
- iii. Director of Jesse M. Robredo Governance Institute
- iv. Representative from the Academe, to be appointed by the mayor
- v. Representative from the Private Sector, to be appointed by the mayor

2. Duties and Functions

In order to efficiently and effectively implement the Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Award, the Committee shall:

- i. Craft and implement guidelines on the efficient implementation of the Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Award;
- ii. Review and suggest amendments, if necessary, in the criteria provided in this ordinance;
- iii. Conduct random visitation and observation of the deliberations (sessions or committee hearings or both) being conducted by the 27 barangay councils of Naga;
- iv. Review, validate, evaluate and select the Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Awardees

- following the criteria established in this ordinance and guidelines set by the committee;
- v. Submit to the Vice Mayor and the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod not later than one and a half (1 ½) years, or eighteen months, after the last day of implementation of the SP Watch and SP Forum, the list of the Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Awardees for approval and conferment; and,
 - vi. Plan and conduct a prestigious Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Awards Presentation, the date of which shall be determined by the Vice Mayor in consultation with the other members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

C. PRIZES

Recipient of the Outstanding Sangguniang Barangay Award shall be given the following rewards:

1. First Place - A plaque and One Million Pesos (P1,000,000) worth of barangay project to be funded by the City Government of Naga
2. Second Place - A plaque and Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pesos (P750,000) worth of barangay project to be funded by the City Government of Naga
3. Third Place - A plaque and Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000) worth of barangay project to be funded

Only priority projects of the barangays, as stated in their Barangay Development Plan, shall be funded by the city government subject to strict observance of existing accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 10. - FUNDING. - The City Government of Naga shall appropriate an annual budget of TWO MILLION AND FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P 2,500,000) for the purposes of the successful and efficient implementation of the ENABLE Program. The said amount shall be charged against the General Fund of the City Government of Naga

SECTION 11.- SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - Any provision or portion of this ordinance found to be unconstitutional or invalid shall not impair the other provisions or parts thereof which shall continue to be in force and effect.

SECTION 12. - REPEALING CLAUSE. - Any or all ordinance, rules and regulations which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-008
Series 2 0 1 4

Page - e i g h t -

SECTION 13. - EFFECTIVITY. - This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

ENACTED: February 25, 2014

xxx

xxx

xxx

WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

GIL A. DE LA TORRE
Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

NELSON S. LEGACION
City Vice Mayor
& Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

JOHN G. BONGAT
City Mayor