



4th SP

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cebu
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
City of Naga



Atong Garbo

35th Session

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 33RD REGULAR SESSION OF THE 4TH SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD (SP) HELD AT THE SP SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, EAST POBLACION, CITY OF NAGA, CEBU ON FEBRUARY 19, 2020.

PRESENT:

HON. KRISTINE VANESSA T. CHIONG
HON. VIRGILIO M. CHIONG
HON. JUSTINO L. DAKAY
HON. AURELIO B. ALINSONORIN
HON. PORFERIO V. RESABA, JR.
HON. DOMINADOR A. LIBOR
HON. LUZMINDA R. LAPITAN
HON. LETECIA F. ABANGAN
HON. RAY A. MANABAT

- Vice Mayor /Presiding Officer
- Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
- Majority Floor Leader
- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

HON. AFSHIN MARK K. SEÑOR
HON. CHARMAINE R. NAVARRO
HON. SCOTT JUVENAL A. CHIONG
HON. JHUN MARK T. SISMAR

- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
- Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
- Assistant Majority Floor Leader/Liga ng mga Barangay President
- SK Federation President



ORDINANCE NO. 2020-13

Hon. Justino L. Dakay - Sponsor
SP Committee Chairman on Agriculture and Food

INSTITUTIONALIZING, PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY OF NAGA, CEBU, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Department of the Interior and Local Government and the Department of Agriculture has enjoined all Local Government Units (LGUs) to implement Republic Act 10068 otherwise known as "An Act Providing for the Development and Promotion of Organic Agriculture in the Philippines and for other Purposes" or simply Organic Agriculture Act of 2010.

These abovementioned government agencies jointly issued Revised Memorandum Circular No 01 dated May 31, 2018, which sets forth the roles and responsibilities of the LGUs in the development, promotion and implementation of the National Organic Agriculture Program.

The City Government of Naga, Cebu, for its part, fully subscribes to the views that shifting back to the traditional ways of raising crops will truly lead to the promotion of ecologically sound, socially acceptable and technically safe and feasible production of food and various farm products in the grassroots.

The current leadership of this LGU believes that the practice of organic farming will refrain local farmers from using harmful chemical fertilizers and pesticides and, in turn, restore the fertility of soil, increase farm productivity, preserve and protect the environment and ensure the health and wellness of both the farmers and the consuming public.

Pursuant to R.A. 10068 and Section 16 or the general welfare clause of R.A. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, this Ordinance explicitly provides the creation of Organic Agriculture Management Council, setting up of agriculture zones and organic centers, establishment of an organic gene/seed bank, research and development, support services and financial assistance for organic farmers and other agriculture-related programs of the City Government.

BE IT ORDAINED, as it is hereby **ORDAINED** by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga, Cebu, in a session duly assembled, that:

**ARTICLE 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE - This ordinance shall be known as the **“ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NAGA, CEBU”**.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY- It is duty of the City Government of Naga, Cebu to protect life and advance the rights of all citizens to food sufficiency, sovereignty and safety, sustainable livelihood and social equity in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. In line with this policy, the City Government will mainstream organic agriculture as its main agriculture practice within its territorial jurisdiction.

SECTION 3. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES - The practice of organic agriculture shall adhere to the following principles to guide the implementation of this Ordinance:

- a) The promotion and enhancement of the conservation and sustainable use of agriculture biodiversity shall prevail over any other activity on organic agriculture sector;
- b) The empowerment of all small and marginalized farmers in the agriculture areas of the City of Naga, Cebu is a priority, which will include the value chain for organic agricultural products;
- c) The implementation of a strategy for mitigation and adoption to climate change is an urgent policy matter that needs to be integrated to all policies in all sectors;
- d) While unifying the initiatives and efforts of all government agencies and instrumentalities in agriculture, the enhancement of the city’s poverty reduction strategy should not be lost in sight;
- e) Organic agriculture is a contributor to the economy of the city and the attainment of food security ecological sustainability and the well being of the people of Naga;
- f) Organic agriculture cannot co-exist with genetically-modified crops, chemically produced food crops and related organisms both living and non-living; and
- g) The integrity of organic agriculture products through the approved organic certification process and organic production handling and processing standards should be ensured.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS- as used in this ordinance, the following shall mean:

- a) Biopesticides - are naturally occurring substances and microorganisms that control pests;
- b) Buffer zones- are defined areas on the boundary of an organic farm that has land use control and allow only activities compatible with the protection of the organic farm. It serves as a barrier that surrounds or separates an organic farm from other traditional or conventional farms where plants are not designated as organic. The area of the buffer zones shall be determined in the implementing rules and regulations depending on the total situation on the ground;
- c) Consumer groups - are organized consumer groups patronizing and advocating organic products;
- d) Conversion- is the process of transforming a traditional or conventional farm into an organic farm for a period of three (3) to five (5) years;
- e) Food security- is the ability of the individual, household and community to produce and/or access/acquire appropriate, abundant, nutritious and safe food on a regular basis using socially acceptable means;
- f) Organic agriculture - is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystem and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions rather than the use of the inputs with adverse effects. Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and good quality of life for all involved;
- g) Organic center- is a center with the following goals:
 1. Establish a strategic venue for consumer education, information and communication for a sustainable healthy lifestyle;
 2. Design as a showcase for organic products and farm technologies;

3. Develop holistic and sustainable technology training program;
 4. Formulate arm-based farmer coordinated applied researched program; and
 5. Promote environment economic values in enterprise development; and
- h) Small farmers - are marginal and sub-marginal farm households and/or cultivating not more than three hectares.

ARTICLE II STRATEGIES

SECTION 5. ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL ZONES - For the effective implementation of this Ordinance, there are hereby set aside agriculture zones that will be protected from encroachment and contamination of using chemical-based farm inputs, mining, including contamination of genetically-engineered crops and other similar activities.

These zones shall be organized according to ecological districts based on existing categories of land tenure instruments and arrangements such as the ancestral domain, the protected area, the agrarian reform communities, the community-based forest management zone, and such similar instruments and arrangements, including the coastal and marine zones.

These zones shall be set up according to the following minimum criteria:

- a) Presence of actual organic agriculture practitioners;
- b) Presence of natural or man-made water formations, including areas covered by irrigation and similar facilities;
- c) Identified buffer zone to shield organic agriculture from other land uses that impact in the integrity of the practice; and
- d) Areas suited for agricultural production as defined in the City of Naga Land Use Plan.

SECTION 6. ORGANIC CENTERS - The City Government of Naga, Cebu, through the City Agriculture Office (CAO), shall establish, recognize and support organic centers including those initiated by the private sector that will promote, market, and develop organic agriculture;

The CAO may also recognize or support market centers which are established for the purpose of marketing organic products.

SECTION 7. CONSERVATION OF INDIGENOUS FARM PRACTICES - Measures shall be established by the farming communities, including indigenous communities, to conserve and protect indigenous knowledge relating to organic agriculture, including those that relate to seed conservation and propagation and the various ways in which a farm and ex-situ mechanisms are established and sustained.

SECTION 8. ORGANIC GENE/SEED BANK - The City Government, through the CAO, in coordination with non-government organizations (NGOs), international organizations and their appropriate agencies shall establish an organic seed/gene bank which will produce and supply organic, endemic or indigenous seeds to farmers.

SECTION 9. SUPPORT SERVICE TO ORGANIC FARMERS - The City Government shall ensure support to organic farmers who wish to engage in organic agriculture, such as training, production, marketing and branding, including financial assistance that will secure a market niche, including the practice of fair trade.

Support services shall also be primarily extended to small and marginalized farmers and woman's groups including the promotion, enhancement and fulfillment of their rights as defined in national laws.

SECTION 10. ACCESS TO CREDIT FOR SMALL AND ORGANIC FARMERS - Small and organic farmers, through the assistance of the CAO, shall have access to credit facility and financial services through organized groups of small farmers preferably those cooperatives registered with the Cooperative Development Authority and other concern government agencies.

SECTION 11. BIOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL CONTROL - Organic farmers shall practice and utilize biological and botanical methods, which rely on predation, parasitism, herbivore or other natural mechanism in the control of pests and diseases in their organic farm. The City Government shall provide support to the research division of the CAO for the research and development of biological and botanical control.

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**ARTICLE III
IMPLEMENTATION MECHANICS**

SECTION 12. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS - The City Government of Naga, through the CAO, shall ensure the implementation of this Ordinance guided by the principles of organic value chain. It shall ensure the marketing of organic products and providing centers for selling, transport and other necessary services. It shall also ensure that organic products have certified organic branding in accordance with the Philippine National Standards.

SECTION 13. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL - The City Government may institute the formation of an Organic Agriculture Management Council (OAMC), headed by the City Agriculturist, to assist in the implementation of the Ordinance and formulation of the city's organic agriculture plan.

The Council, to be composed of appropriate government agencies, NGOs, people's organization (PO's), academe and such other appropriate offices engaged in or advocating organic agriculture, shall have the following functions:

1. Identify and recommend organic agriculture zones as established in Section 5 of this Ordinance;
2. Adopt the existing national standards for the accreditation or organic agriculture practitioners which may take into account second party certification system and farmer's guarantee systems;
3. Develop incentive mechanism for the organic agriculture sector, in collaboration with other government agencies which may include, but not limited to subsidies especially with farming areas that do not exceed the three (3)-hectare limit, and the necessary crop insurance and other system of agriculture sector;
4. Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the realization of the policies as well as the principles enunciated under this Ordinance.

In the absence of the establishment of the said Council, the CAO shall perform the abovementioned functions in collaboration with other government agencies, NGO's, PO's academe and other concern offices.

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - The City Government shall appropriate substantial budget to ensure the implementation of this Ordinance and to support the organic agriculture activities of the city.

SECTION 15. INCENTIVES TO THE FARMERS, SCHOOLS AND BARANGAYS - The City Government shall give incentives, awards and financial support to farmers, schools and barangays which pursue, promote and practice organic farming. The CAO shall formulate guidelines for developing incentive programs, award system and/or financial support.

SECTION 16. STANDARD SETTING - The Office of the City Mayor, through the CAO or the OAMC, shall formulate an organic agriculture standard appropriate for the city's small farmers. The standard to be formulated by the CAO or the OAMC shall be anchored to the utilization of biodegradable waste as a resource for organic agriculture system.

SECTION 17. CAPACITY-BUILDING - To sustain and broaden the base for the implementation of this Ordinance, there is hereby adapted a continuous effort, funded by at least ten percent (10%) from the budget set aside for organic agriculture as identified in Section 14 of this Ordinance, for capacity-building and training, including the accreditation of institutions for standard testing and verification. Measures shall also be adopted to encourage integration of organic agriculture in the primary, secondary and tertiary school curricula.

SECTION 18. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT - A master plan for research and development on organic agriculture shall be created by the CAO in coordination with the Office of the Provincial Agriculture and the Department Of Agriculture- Regional Field Office VII that will be funded by the City Government by at least 10 percent (10%) of the budget set aside for organic agriculture as identified in Section 14 in this Ordinance.

The master plan shall be regularly updated in consultation with different sectors. The participation of farmers and others stakeholders such as, but not limited to, private entities,

NGO's and PO's in the research, development and implementation of the master plan is preferred.

SECTION 19. PROMOTION OF URBAN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE - The CAO shall promote urban organic agriculture even in urban areas utilizing new technologies and taking advantage of ecological solid waste.

SECTION 20. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATION (IRR) - The Office of the City Mayor is hereby authorized to create a joint Executive-Legislative Committee to formulate the IRR of this Ordinance upon its effectivity.

SECTION 21. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE - If any part of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional, the remaining part unaffected thereby shall continue to remain valid and in effect.

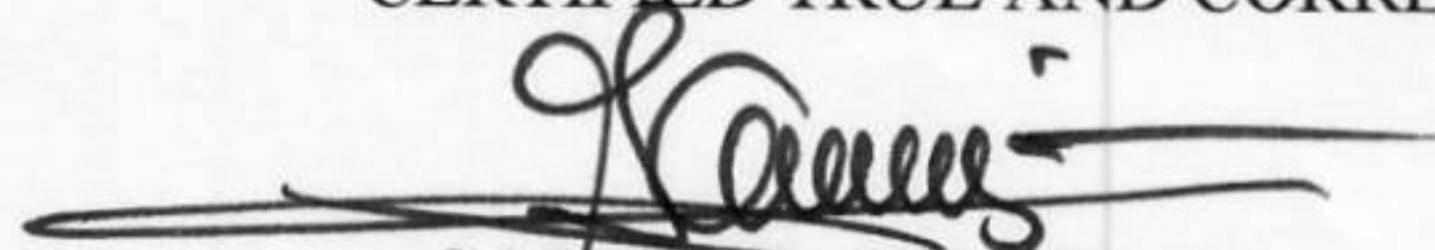
SECTION 22. REPEALING CLAUSE - All ordinances, executive orders, rules and regulation of parts thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 23. EFFECTIVITY- This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval.

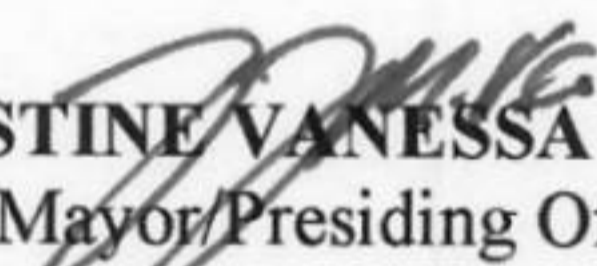
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY this 19th day of February 2020 on motion of Hon. Justino L. Dakay, seconded by Hon. Dominador A. Libor.

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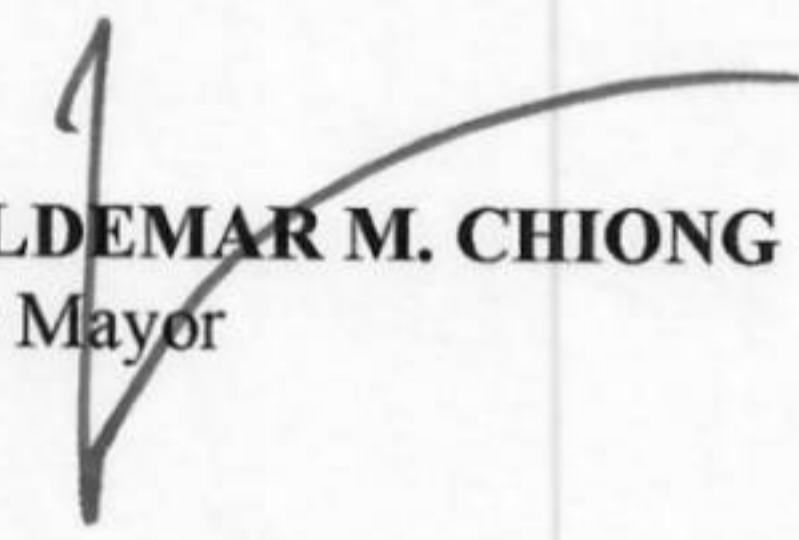
CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:


GARRY A. CABOTAJE
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED BY:


KRISTINE VANESSA T. CHIONG
Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED BY:


VALDEMAR M. CHIONG
City Mayor



