



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Zamboanga del Norte
Municipality of Polanco

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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 67th REGULAR SESSION OF THE 11TH SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF POLANCO, ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, HELD AT THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SESSION HALL, THIS MUNICIPALITY, ON NOVEMBER 15, 2023.

PRESENT:

Hon. Alfredo S. Bait-it	Municipal Vice Mayor
Hon. Ivo M. Mandantes	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Romer B. Ladera	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Venson O. Opulentisima	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Shaia Ruth R. Uy	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Cristoven E. Insoy	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Jennifer O. Rodrigo	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Conceso R. Regencia, Jr.	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Gerard Vicson S. Opulentisima	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Charito C. Ombalino	Liga President/SB Member
Hon. Mark Angelo W. Pagente	SK Federation President/SB Member

ABSENT:

N o n e

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 23-64

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE "LOVE TREE: NURTURING ROMANCE THROUGH NATURE" PROGRAM OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SECTION (EMS) BY REQUIRING COUPLES TO PLANT TREES AS A REQUISITE FOR SECURING PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING CERTIFICATE FROM THE MUNICIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (MSWDO).

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Polanco, Zamboanga del Norte, in a session, assembled that:

SECTION 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be cited, for brevity, as "LOVE TREE" Ordinance of the Municipality of Polanco, Zamboanga del Norte.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared a policy of the Municipal Government of Polanco that:

- The Municipality of Polanco emphasizes the significance of trees in maintaining environmental balance and preserving biodiversity, thereby advocating for and advancing reforestation initiatives and mechanisms;
- The Municipality of Polanco acknowledges that every individual possesses an inherent and unconditional entitlement to a wholesome environment and that each person carries a duty to actively participate in safeguarding and improving it;
- The Municipality of Polanco shall assume a prominent role in carrying out the duties of each generation as custodians of the environment on behalf of future generations;
- It is essential to strike a balance between population size and the utilization of resources;

[Handwritten signatures]

SECTION 3. Scope and Application. This Ordinance shall cover all individuals who intend to enter into marriage and secure a Pre-marriage Counseling Certificate from the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office.

SECTION 4. The Program. "Love Tree: Nurturing Romance through Nature" Program is hereby institutionalized in the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) in coordination with the Environmental Management Section under the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) as a long-running program on massive reforestation.

SECTION 5. Mechanics. The program shall be implemented under the following mechanism:

- a. Couples undertaking Pre-marriage Counseling automatically participates in the "Love Tree: Nurturing Romance through Nature" Program.
- b. The Environmental Management Section under the Municipal Planning and Development Office designates an area for "Love Tree Plantation" and supervises the activity.
- c. There shall be a set of schedules for tree planting for couples to choose at their convenience or based on the schedule set by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office.
- d. Seedlings shall be provided for each of the couple, preference of variety, however, is a discretion of the Environmental Management Section of the Municipal Planning and Development Office.
- e. Each couple applicant must plant at least three (3) trees, register their names and the variety of trees planted in a Love Tree Registry provided for purposes of record and statistics.
- f. A Love Tree Certificate shall be issued jointly to the couple who have planted and signed in the love tree registry.

SECTION 6. Pre-Marriage Counseling Certificate Requirement. A Pre-Marriage Counseling Certificate shall be duly issued to all applicants for marriage by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office upon compliance of the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 7. Separability Clause. In the event that any part of provision of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause. All other ordinances, or provisions thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 9. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

Carried unanimously.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Vilma A. Cabrera
VILMA A. CABRERA
Acting Secretary to the SB

CERTIFIED CORRECT AS TO ITS PASSAGE:

Alfredo S. Bait-It
ALFREDO S. BAIT-IT
Municipal Vice Mayor
(Presiding Officer)

APPROVED: DEC 06 2023

Evan Hope D. Olvis
EVAN HOPE D. OLVIS
Municipal Mayor