



Republic of the Philippines
MUNICIPALITY OF ASINGAN
Province of Pangasinan

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF ASINGAN, PANGASINAN HELD ON MAY 13, 2024 AT THE ASINGAN GOVERNMENT CENTER SESSION HALL

PRESENT:

1. Hon. Heidee L. Ganigan-Chua	Municipal Vice Mayor Presiding Officer
2. Hon. Athena Ira G. Chua	Sangguniang Bayan Member
3. Hon. Marivic S. Robeniol	Sangguniang Bayan Member
4. Hon. Johnny Mar A. Carig	Sangguniang Bayan Member
5. Hon. Joselito V. Viray	Sangguniang Bayan Member
6. Hon. Mel F. Lopez	Sangguniang Bayan Member
7. Hon. Melchor J. Cardinez, Sr.	Sangguniang Bayan Member
8. Hon. Virgilio I. Amistad	Sangguniang Bayan Member
9. Hon. Julio P. Dayag	Sangguniang Bayan Member
10. Hon. Herminio C. Alcantara, Jr.	Sangguniang Bayan Member/Liga President

ABSENT:

1. Hon. Napthali Magiting P. Bernabe	Sangguniang Bayan Member/PPSK President) (On Leave)
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Sponsored by: SB Member Joselito V. Viray

EXPLANATORY NOTE

WHEREAS, Article II Section 16 of the Constitution provides that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7160 or the "Local Government Code of 1991" mandates local government units (LGUs) on the primary conservation, development, protection, and preservation of the natural resources falling within their jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, RA 10176 or "The Arbor Day Act of 2012" mandates the revival of the observance of Arbor Day by authorizing local government units the responsibilities for celebrating the day of tree-planting as an annual event;

WHEREAS, the same Act requires all provinces, cities, and municipalities with their respective component barangays to revive, by appropriate proclamation of their respective local chief executives, through an Ordinance enacted by their respective Sanggunian an Arbor Day at an appropriate fixed date every calendar year as shall be deemed suitable according to the proper time and season for planting trees;

WHEREAS, there is a need for a collaborated effort to combat the loss of our natural resources and rejuvenate our environment by rehabilitating degraded land areas, improving soil fertility and land productivity, and reducing soil erosion especially in the rural and upland areas, undertaking nationwide tree planting activities and providing effective measures for their maintenance and sustainability;

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WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Asingan to enact an ordinance that will institutionalize Arbor Day and establish a continuous tree-planting activities among the members of the community to sustain the local greening program in consonance with national environmental agenda, thereby safeguarding the environment for the enjoyment of future generations;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of SB Member Joselito V. Viray, duly seconded by SB Members Marivic S. Robeniol, Melchor J. Cardinez, Sr., Julio P. Dayag, Herminio C. Alcantara, Jr., Mel F. Lopez and Johnny Mar A. Carig, it was,

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to approve the following ordinance, to wit:

**ORDINANCE NO. 3
SERIES 2024**

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING 14TH OF AUGUST AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER AS
ARBOR DAY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ASINGAN, PANGASINAN**

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Asingan in session assembled:

**CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

ARTICLE A. TITLE AND GENERAL POLICY

Section 1. SHORT TITLE – This Ordinance shall be known as the “AN ORDINANCE DECLARING 14TH OF AUGUST AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER AS ARBOR DAY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ASINGAN, PANGASINAN”.

Section 2. POLICY DECLARATION – The Municipality of Asingan, Pangasinan endeavors to protect and maintain the health and well-being of the Filipino people, through sustainably managing, protecting, and conserving forest resources while reducing poverty, promoting food security, environmental stability, and biodiversity conservation; enhancing climate change mitigation and adaptation, and providing a favorable investment environment with adequate environmental safeguards.

Section 3. OBJECTIVES – Pursuant to the policy declared herein, it is the objective of this Ordinance:

- a. To build, adopt, develop, and maintain forest cover and sanctuaries and accelerate the rehabilitation and reforestation of unproductive, denuded, and degraded areas;
- b. To require the planting of trees and shrubbery and sustain rehabilitation and conservation of watershed areas;
- c. To promote environmental consciousness by encouraging tree-planting activities in the community, especially among students, youth, other civic action groups, and the academe;
- d. To involve and enhance the participation and investment of the private sector in offsetting their carbon emissions with a view towards enabling them to achieve carbon neutrality, among others;
- e. To protect trees from harmful human activities and increase forest covers and sanctuaries in the municipality;

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- f. To provide appropriate management arrangements and incentives to participants to ensure sustainability of the program; and
- g. To harmonize the provisions of existing laws, rules, and regulations and localize the national greening program reflective of the urgent need for intensified efforts for environmental conservation and protection in the Municipality.

Section 4. PROCLAMATION OF ARBOR DAY – Through this Ordinance, the Municipality declares every 14th of August and every year thereafter as the Municipality's Arbor Day. The said day is also declared a regular working holiday to ensure the participation of all the government employees and all concerned sectors.

Section 5. BARANGAY ARBOR DAY – Each component barangay through their Sanggunian is empowered to declare its respective "Barangay Arbor Day" through an enactment, which maybe set on a different fixed date, in accordance with the proper time and season most suited to the trees selected to be planted.

Section 6. TREE PLANTING MONTHS – For effective tree-planting activities, the Municipality hereby declares the months of April, June, July, August, and September as the tree-planting months of every year, which coincides with the annual observance in the country.

Section 7. CREATION OF LOCAL COMMITTEE ON ARBOR DAY – In implementing the intents of this Ordinance, there shall be created in the Municipality a Committee on Arbor Day and other Greening Programs, the composition of which shall be as follows:

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|---------------------|---|--|
| a. Chairperson | : | Local Chief Executive |
| b. Vice-Chairperson | : | Municipal Vice-Mayor |
| c. Focal Person | : | Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer |
| d. Members | : | SB Chairperson, Committee on Environment |
| | | Municipal Agriculturist |
| | | Municipal Local Government Operations Officer |
| | | Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator |
| | | Municipal Tourism Officer |
| | | Chief of Police, Philippine National Police |
| | | President, Liga ng mga Barangay |
| | | President, PPSK Asingan |
| | | District Supervisors, Department of Education |
| | | School Principals, Public and Private Schools |
| | | Director, Pangasinan State University Asingan Campus |
| | | Vocational School Administrator, TESDA-LMMSAT |
| | | Representative from the Civil Society Organizations |
| | | Representative from the Private Sector |
| | | Other representative(s) deemed necessary for the effective performance of the Committee's functions. |

Section 8. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE – The committee shall primarily be responsible in coordinating all greening programs in the Municipality, specifically:

- a. Formulate and develop the Municipal Greening Plan as part of the Parks and Green Space Development and Conservation Plan of the municipality, in consultation with stakeholders and oversee its implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

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- i. Identify and specify tree-planting sites in the barangays;
 - ii. Coordinate the greening program of the local government, the barangays, academe, and civil society and private sectors;
 - iii. Coordinate with concerned National Government agencies for the provision of seedlings, technical support, and collaborative activities;
 - iv. Ensure the survival and maintenance of the planted trees.
- b. Supervise the annual conduct of Arbor Day by the local government and component barangays;
 - c. Conduct information dissemination, awareness campaign, and advocacy in support of the national and local greening programs;
 - d. Propose policies, plans, programs, and guidelines for the effective implementation of this Ordinance and similar initiatives;
 - e. Carry out all other function characteristic of local special bodies of similar mandate.

Section 9. **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** – All able-bodied residents of the Municipality of Asingan, Pangasinan, who are at least twelve (12) years of age and all government employees, shall be individually required to plant ten (10) seedlings every year.

Section 10. **LOCATION** – eligible areas for tree planting shall include the tree-planting sites designated by component barangays and other areas to be identified by the Committee, as follows:

- a. Areas adjoining rivers and creeks;
- b. Public school grounds or compounds designated for planting in accordance with the school landscape/architectural/school improvement plan;
- c. Private schools, parks, and lands with the consent of the owner thereof;
- d. Communal forests within barangays;
- e. Community watersheds;
- f. Land owned by the LGU;
- g. Identified public parks, designated green spaces, and areas designated for planting in accordance with the municipal CLUP;
- h. Open and denuded areas; and
- i. Buffer zones of solid waste Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and Disposal Facility;

Whenever appropriate, all building owners and homeowners are encouraged to plant trees in their backyard or frontage of the building and houses, respectively, to contribute to the local and national greening efforts.

Section 11. **SPECIES SELECTION AND SPACING** – the species of trees to be planted should be appropriate to the location, climate, topography of the area, spacing and density considered and with preference for the planting of indigenous species and fruit-bearing trees.

Section 12. **PROVISION OF SEEDLINGS** – The LGU shall establish collaboration with the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), Department of Agriculture, (DA), Office of Provincial Agriculturist (OPAg), and other source of seedlings for tree planting.

Section 13. **MAINTENANCE OF TREES** – All concerned Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Officials shall ensure the sustainability and maintenance of their respective planting sites. Collaboration with the academe, civil society organizations, and private sector is urged to accomplish the following responsibilities by the barangay:

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- a. Establish a signage with the words "This planting site is under the care of (Name of the Punong Barangay), area of the planting site, number of seedlings planted", and species of trees;
- b. Designate barangay personnel for the monthly/quarterly cleaning of the planting site under their care;
- c. To ensure highest survival rate of planted seedlings, rainwater-harvesting facilities shall be put up near the site to serve as sources of water during dry season;
- d. Schedule a monthly monitoring and cleaning of the planting sites, and quarterly monitoring after the first planting year;
- e. Submission of monitoring report to the Office of the Municipal Mayor, copy furnished the Office of Environment and Natural Resources and Local Government Operations;
- f. Allocate budget for materials, equipment, and workforce needed for the maintenance.

Section 14. PROHIBITED ACTS – All tree-planting sites, forest covers, and sanctuaries established under this Ordinance shall be protected and maintained by all concerned government agencies, the barangays, and schools and shall not be destroyed, except when the cutting and destroying of the same is necessary for public safety.

Section 15. PENALTIES – Any person found guilty of violating Section 14 of this Ordinance shall be penalized accordingly. The MENRO is hereby designated as Deputized LGU Officer and barangay personnel are empowered to apprehend violators and issue citation ticket.

- a. First offense – fine of Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00) at the discretion of the court.
- b. Second Offense – fine of One Thousand Pesos (Php1,000.00) at the discretion of the court.
- c. Third Offense – fine of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00) or ten (10) days imprisonment at the discretion of the court.
- d. Succeeding offenses – fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php2,500.00) or imprisonment of not less than fifteen (15) days at the discretion of the court.

No contest provision. Any person, individual or entity who is apprehended or cited for violation and who does not wish to contest the violation and is willing to pay voluntarily the minimum fine imposed upon him/her prior to the filing of formal charges with the proper court shall be allowed to pay said fine with the Municipal Treasurer to avoid being criminally prosecuted within six (6) hours from apprehension otherwise, the case shall be prosecuted.

For barangays, funds from payment of penalties shall accrue to the General Fund to be used for maintenance of trees and other environmental programs of the barangay.

Section 16. APPROPRIATION – To ensure the implementation of this Ordinance, and for sustainable tree-planting and other local greening programs, special appropriation in the amount of Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php20,000.00) annually shall be provided in the annual general fund budget and other appropriate sources of funds.

Section 17. SUPPLEMENTARY CLAUSE – On matters not provided in this Ordinance, any applicable laws and their corresponding implementing rules and regulations, executive orders and relevant issuances therefore shall be applied in a supplemental manner.

Section 18. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

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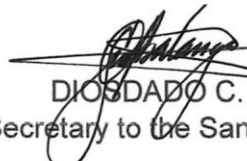
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Section 19. REPEALING CLAUSE – Any issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rules, or regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.


Section 20. EFFECTIVITY – This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval and after ten (10) days from the date a copy thereof is published in the newspaper of general circulation.

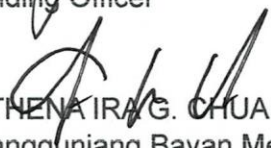
Date Approved: May 13, 2024

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above-quoted ordinance.

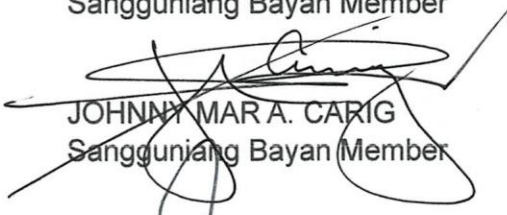

DIOSDADO C. BALANGA
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

ATTESTED:



HEIDEE L. GANIGAN-CHUA
Municipal Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer



ATHENA IRA G. CHUA
Sangguniang Bayan Member
Temporary Presiding Officer

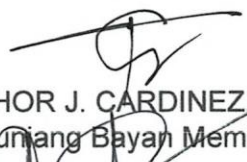

MARIVIC S. ROBENIOL, RN
Sangguniang Bayan Member


JOHNNY MAR A. CARIG
Sangguniang Bayan Member


JOSELITO V. VIRAY
Sangguniang Bayan Member



HERMINIO C. ALCANTARA, JR.
Sangguniang Bayan Member/
Liga President


MEL F. LOPEZ
Sangguniang Bayan Member


MELCHOR J. CARDINEZ, SR.
Sangguniang Bayan Member


VIRGILIO L. AMISTAD
Sangguniang Bayan Member


JULIO P. DAYAG
Sangguniang Bayan Member


NAPHTALI MAGITING P. BERNABE
Sangguniang Bayan Member/
PPSK President
(On Leave)

APPROVED:


ENGR. CARLOS F. LOPEZ, JR.
Municipal Mayor