

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD  
LUNGSOD NG BAKOLOD  
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CITY ORDINANCE NO. 184  
Series of 1997

"AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE RABIES ERADICATION, PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM OF BACOLOD CITY."

WHEREAS, rabies is an infectious, contagious and dreadful viral disease affecting all warm blooded animals including man of which there is no known treatment and the disease is always fatal;

WHEREAS, rabies is an endemic disease of dogs and cats in the city, and its incidence has escalated to an alarming rate as to become one of the serious health concerns in the city;

WHEREAS, Anti-rabies vaccine for man is very expensive and scarce while those for animals is much cheaper and with sufficient available supply locally;

WHEREAS, in the Philippines more than 95% of reported human rabies cases were transmitted by dogs and cats;

WHEREAS, in dogs, the only relevant source of infection is from the bite of another rabid animal, in most instances another stray dog;

WHEREAS, the public should be protected from this health interest and welfare demand that there should be enacted appropriate ordinances, rules and regulations to implement an effective rabies prevention and control program in the city;

WHEREAS, Batas Pambansa Blg. 97 is otherwise known as an "Act providing for the Compulsory Immunization of Livestock, Poultry and other Animals against Dangerous Communicable Diseases."

Section 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Rabies Eradication, Prevention and Control Program of Bacolod City."

Section 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS. For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms and phrases shall apply:

a) Animal - refers to all animals such as horses, asses, ponies, cattles, carabaos, buffaloes, tamaraws, sheep, goats, swine, poultry, birds, rabbits cats, dogs, circus, and pet animas and those intended to be used for diagnostic, experiment and research purposes.



b) **Anti-rabies Vaccination** - the administration of the Anti-rabies vaccine approved by the Bureau of Animal Industry to an animal/s particularly dogs and cats by a licensed Veterinarian or by a trained Livestock Technician from the Department for Veterinary Services under supervision by the City Veterinarian.

c) **Carrier** - refers to any animals that is capable of harboring the causative organism of a communicable disease in its body.

d) **Cat** - refers to animals belonging to the Special Felis felidae.

e) **Central Dog and Cat Registry** - shall refer to the Department of the Veterinarian Services who shall take charge of the registration and licensing of dogs and cats in the city as well as keep records of the same.

f) **City Pound** - a public enclosure managed by the Department of, the Veterinary Services.

g) **Committee/Task Force** - shall herein be referred to the Rabies Control Committee of Task Force which may be created by the City Mayor to implement the city's rabies control program.

h) **Dangerous Communicable Animal Disease** - shall apply to and include all acute or chronic animal diseases communicable from one animal to another animal or to a human being (Zoonosis) or vice versa and is detrimental to public health or loss to the intrinsic value of the animal affected.

i) **Department for Veterinary Services** - refers to the Office of the City Veterinarian which is the Central Registry of dogs and cats in the city.

j) **Dog** - refers to animals belonging to the Species Canis of familiaris of the Carnivorous or flesh-eating mammals.

k) **Endemic disease** - refers to a disease which is commonly found or peculiar to a certain area or that which occurs more or less constantly in any particular locality.

l) **Livestock** - refers to domesticated animals, such as horses, mules, asses, ponies, cattle, carabaos, buffaloes, sheep, goats and swine.

m) **Owner/Possessor** - refers to any person who is the sole or part owner of any animal/s and include any person who is in charge or has custody of the animals. The occupant of the premises on which any animal is found shall be deemed to be the owner/possessor of such animal/s until the contrary is proven.



n) **Premises** - means the owner's house, or fenced yard, where other people have no reason to enter except to conduct business or visit with the members of the household.

o) **Rabies** - is an acute, infectious and contagious disease affecting all blooded warm animals most especially dogs and cats, caused by a virus affecting the central nervous system and is readily transmissible to man by the bite of an affected animal.

p) **Rabies Vaccination Program/campaigns** - shall refer to programs or campaign for mass vaccination of animals against rabies.

q) **Stray animal** - any unleashed animal, loose, unrestrained, unconfined or not complete under control of its owner or the one in possession thereof, freely roaming or loitering at public places or outside the house premises of lots owner/possessor within the territorial limits of the city.

r) **Suspect** - refers to a susceptible animal that has come in contact directly or indirectly with another animal showing the signs of a communicable disease.

s) **Trading of dogs and cats** - refers to the selling and buying of dogs and cats by any person to reasons other than for pet, educational, research or scientific purposes.

t) **Vaccination against rabies** - means the inoculation of a dog or cat and other animals with a rabies vaccine licensed for the species by the Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture. Such vaccination must be performed by a licensed Veterinarian assisted by a trained Livestock Technician from the office of the City Veterinarian.

u) **Vaccinated** - refers to an animal injected or inoculated with appropriate vaccine.

v) **Vaccination Program/Campaign** - shall refer to programs or campaigns for mass vaccination of animals against dangerous animal diseases.

w) **Veterinarian** - a graduate of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and duly registered with the Professional Regulations Commission.

x) **Zoonotic diseases** - refers to diseases of animals which are transferable to man.

**Section 3. CREATION OF THE RABIES CONTROL COORDINATING COMMITTEE.** There is hereby created a City Rabies Control Coordinating Committee (CRCCC), herein referred to as the Committee in the City of Bacolod to be composed of the following:

- a) City Mayor - Chairman
- b) City Veterinarian - Vice Chairman/Executive Officer
- c) Members
  - 1. City Health Officer
  - 2. City Superintendent of Schools
  - 3. City Police Chief Inspector
  - 4. City DSSD Officer
  - 5. SP Chairman on Committee on Health
  - 6. City DILG Officer

#### Section 4. FUNCTION OF THE COMMITTEE

- 1) Provide a forum for an inter-agency coordination in Rabies Control Program;
- 2) Provide a mechanism for linkages with Provincial as well as Regional and National Rabies Consultative Committee;
- 3) Formulate and implement immediate and long term policies, plans and programs for the control of rabies in the City of Bacolod;
- 4) Provide a medium for the involvement of all local officials and inhabitants in the control of rabies in the community;
- 5) Formulate a system of monitoring, evaluating and reporting of the accomplishment of the Rabies Control Program;
- 6) To encourage the participation of the city residents in the eradication, prevention and control of rabies;
- 7) Perform such function as maybe necessary for the prevention and control of rabies in the City of Bacolod;

Section 5. Duties and responsibilities of coordination agencies. To delineate responsibilities, the following program components/output activities are specifically assigned to the participating agencies as their main concern.

- 1) Department of Veterinary Services
  - a) shall be directly responsible in the planning and implementation of the rabies control program in the city;
  - b) enforcement of Dog population control measures;
  - c) to maintain and improve animals rabies surveillance system, monitoring, documentation, data banking and evaluation;
  - d) ensure availability and adequate supply of animal anti-rabies vaccine at all times for the target areas;
  - e) to undertake anti-rabies vaccination of dogs, cats and other susceptible animals;



- f) to strengthen information, education, communication on rabies and its prevention and;
- g) to strengthen participation and coordination with NGO.

2) CHO (City Health Office)

- a) provide Pre-exposure treatment/prophylaxis to high-risk personnel e.g veterinarians, animal handlers, vaccinators;
- b) to develop and maintain a human rabies surveillance system;
- c) enjoin all health workers to effect collaboration with the DVS in the implementation of the program;
- d) provide post-exposure treatment to individuals bitten by animals suspected of being rabid;
- e) to assist in the development of appropriate health education strategy to inform the public on rabies and its prevention and control.

3) DECS

- a) to assist in the dissemination of information about rabies, its prevention and control through school health teachings with support from DVS, CHO;
- b) to assist in the dog mass immunization campaigns in the community.

4) PNP - enforcement of this ordinance relevant to rabies control.

5) SP - enactment of necessary resolutions and/or ordinance relevant to rabies control.

6) DSSD

- a) to provide material assistance to victims or rabid dog bites;
- b) to assist in information dissemination of the rabies control program in the barangay level.

**Section 6. CREATION OF THE BARANGAY RABIES CONTROL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.** Within a month after effectivity of this Ordinance, the Committee shall undertake to organize the BRCCC to be composed of the following:

- a) Punong Barangay - Chairman
- b) SB Chairman, Committee on Health - Co-Chairman
- c) Members:
  - 1. Barangay Health Worker
  - 2. DSSD Social Worker
  - 3. Barangay Secretary
  - 4. Principal of the Public Elementary or High School on the Barangay

**Section 7. FUNCTION OF THE BARANGAY RABIES CONTROL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.**

- 1) provide a forum for an inter-agency coordination in Rabies control program;
- 2) provide a mechanism for linkages with the City Rabies Control Consultative Committee;
- 3) encourage Barangay residents to have their dogs registered and vaccinated against rabies;
- 4) provide a medium for the involvement of all local officials/inhabitants in the control of rabies in the city;
- 5) assist and facilitate the conduct of an animal population in the Barangay down to the Purok Level;
- 6) perform such function as maybe necessary for the prevention and control of rabies in the Barangay.

**Section 8. DUTY OF THE OWNER/POSSESSOR OF DOGS AND CATS.**  
It shall be the duty of every Owner, Possessor, custodian or caretaker to:

- 1) report the number of dogs and cats he/she has in his/her possession or custody and present them for vaccination to a licensed government or private Veterinarian;
- 2) cooperate with the agents of the Department of the Veterinary Services in order to facilitate the vaccination of said animals against rabies when the animal attains three (3) months of age or older and every year thereafter or as indicated in the label/literature of the vaccine, but in no case should it exceed twenty four (24) months;
- 3) leash or confine their dogs inside their house premises. Otherwise, he shall shoulder the hospitalization and other incidental expenses of people bitten by their dogs as provided for under City Ordinance No. 115, series of 1994;
- 4) cause his dog or cat to be registered with the Department for Veterinary Services, Bacolod City directly or through the office of their respective Barangay Captains within 60 days after birth or within thirty (30) days from the date the animal arrived within the Barangay if the same was brought from elsewhere. Within thirty (30) days after the effectivity of this Ordinance, all dogs and cats existing in the Barangays in the city shall be registered through their respective office of the Barangay Captains.
- 5) to notify the Office of the Barangay Captain or the Office of the City Veterinarian of such death, loss or transfer of any licensed/registered dog within a period of seven (7) days and in case of loss, immediately thereafter.



**Section 9. CERTIFICATE OF VACCINATION.** Upon vaccination, a Certificate of Vaccination shall be correspondingly issued by a licensed government or private Veterinarian to the owner/possessor who shall at all times be prepared to present the same to the proper authorities upon demand. The certificate shall include the following information:

1. Owner's Name, address and telephone number (if any)
2. Description of dog (color, sex, markings, age, name, species and breed)
3. Dates of vaccination and vaccine expiration
4. Rabies vaccination tag number
5. Vaccine Producer, lot number, type
6. Vaccinator's Signature
7. Veterinarian's License and PTR Numbers.

**Section 10. REGISTRATION FEE.** There shall be paid a registration fee by the owner/possessor and/or master of dogs and cats the sum of Ten Pesos (P10.00) for each dog and cat registered, the same shall be paid to the City Treasurer or his authorized representative. Out of the said amount, Three Pesos (P3.00) shall be remitted to the Barangay and the remaining Seven Pesos (P7.00) to be constituted as a Special Fund for the maintenance of the City Pound and other rabies control program of the City.

**Section 11. COST OF VACCINATION.** The Rabies Control Committee is hereby authorized to determine and collect the reasonable cost of the vaccine administered, dog tags, and other incidental expenses which shall be paid by individual dog and cat owners. The same shall go to a Special Fund for the maintenance of the city's rabies control program.

**Section 12. MASS VACCINATION.** Free mass dog and cat rabies vaccination campaign may be instituted by the Department for Veterinary Services in identified high risk or qualified endemic areas, where one (1) laboratory supported positive case of rabies infection has been reported. Every dog that is one (1) month of age should be submitted by the owner/possessor for vaccination and to be vaccinated at the age of four (4) months. Appropriate tag or color coded collars or Vaccination Certificates identifying vaccinated from unvaccinated ones shall be attached or issued to dogs or cats, the cost of which shall be determined by the Committee.

**Section 13. RABIES SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING REPORT.** Any person who knows or suspects a dog to be infected with Rabies under any circumstances shall immediately notify the



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Office of the City Veterinarian and/or the City Health Office or their respective Barangay Officials who in turn shall inform the Committee of the incidence of such disease. Private and Government Physicians, hospitals and clinics, in the city shall refer all dog bite cases to a licensed private or government Veterinarian for proper observation and evaluation of the biting animal, and shall submit quarterly Rabies Surveillance and Monitoring Report as may be required by the Committee.

**Section 14. RABIES CONTROL METHODS IN DOMESTIC AND CONFINED ANIMALS.**

1) **Pre-exposure vaccination and management** - it shall be the duty of every owner, custodian or caretaker to present their dogs and cats in his possession or custody for anti-rabies vaccination. Anti-rabies vaccination is compulsory for all dogs and cats in the City. Animal rabies vaccines should be administered only by or under the direct supervision of a licensed Veterinarian. All dogs and cats should be vaccinated against rabies commencing at three (3) months of age and revaccinated annually. Animals vaccinated before three (3) months should be revaccinated when they reach the age of four (4) months. Anti-rabies vaccination is a pre-requisite to licensure/registration of the animals.

2) **Stray Animal Control** - all stray animals, registered or non-registered, vaccinated or non-vaccinated, shall be picked-up or apprehended by authorized animal trappers or catchers of the Department for Veterinary Services and shall be impounded in the City Pound. Dogs and Cats may be claimed by its owner/possessor after confinement for a period of at least ten (10) days. Failure to do so, forfeits his/her right to claim or redeem his/her animal. Livestock and other species of animals may be claimed by its rightful owner within ten (10) days of its impoundment, provided it has not been known to be exposed to a rabid animal. Owners/possessors of impounded animals may claim their animals after complying with all the requirements or obligations as required by this ordinance. It shall be unlawful for any authorized person or association to catch or trap dogs and/or cats in the city streets and other public places.

3) **Quarantine** - incoming dogs and cats shall be quarantined for a period of thirty (30) days and vaccinated against rabies unless a current Certificate of Vaccination against Rabies is presented.

4) **Licensure/Registration of Dogs and Cats Issuance of License/Certificate** - dogs and cats in the city must be registered in their respective Barangays through the Punong Barangay and in the Department for Veterinary Services by the City Veterinarian. Upon payment of the registration/License fee, a Certificate of Registration/License shall be issued for each dog or cat owned or possessed by a single individual. It



shall be the duty of the Barangay Captain to submit the list of dogs and cats registered in his barangay on a quarterly basis to the Central Registry. It shall be unlawful to keep and allow unregistered or unlicensed dogs to roam about in public streets or places.

5) **Mandatory Leashing or confinement of dogs** - immediately after effectivity of this ordinance, all owners of dogs are ordered to leash or provide appropriate confinement of their dogs within their premises in order to curtail/prevent the transmission of rabies and other zoonotic diseases by direct contact to man or animals.

6) **Post-exposure Management** - any domestic animal that is bitten or scratched by a wild carnivorous mammal which is not available for testing should be regarded as having been exposed to a rabid animal.

a) **Dogs and Cats** - when bitten by a rabid animal, unvaccinated dogs and cats be destroyed immediately provided they have not bitten any human. In which case, the dog should be placed under observation for fourteen (14) days prior to euthanasia. If the owner is unwilling to have this done, the unvaccinated animal should be placed in strict isolation for six (6) months and vaccinated one (1) month before being released. Dogs and cats that are currently vaccinated should be revaccinated immediately and observed for ninety (90) days.

b) **Livestock** - livestock known to have been bitten by a rabid animal should be destroyed immediately and/or slaughtered not later than seven (7) days after being bitten. If the owner is unwilling to have this done, the animal should be kept under very closed observation for ten (10) months.

7) **Public information and Education on Rabies** - in coordination with all agencies concerned, the Department for Veterinary Services shall formulate and implement an information and education campaign system to effectively inform the residence of the city of the provisions of this ordinance, and the deadly effect of rabies and the need to periodically vaccinate their dogs and cats.

**Section 15. CITY POUND.** There shall be established and maintained a City Pound in the City of Bacolod which shall be under the direct management, supervision and control of the Department for Veterinary Services

**Section 16. CITY POUND PERSONNEL AND THEIR DUTIES.** Upon the establishment of the City Pound, there shall be created in the Department for Veterinary Services the position of two (2) Utility workers I and one (1) Driver in order to meet the provisions of this ordinance.



| Position         | No.: | Function                 | Duties                                                                                                                                          | Salary Grade:                            |
|------------------|------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Utility worker I | 1    | Animal Care-cher/Trapper | : Take charge of roving and trapping stray dogs, cats & other animals in the city streets. Also assist the animal caretaker. Take charge of the | S/G - 1<br>P 4,400.00/mo.<br>52,800.00/A |
| Utility worker I | 1    | Animal Care Taker        | : feeding & security of the animals, & maintenance of the cleanliness & sanitation of the City Pound cleaning.                                  | S/G - 1<br>P52,800.00/A                  |
| Driver I         | 1    | Driver                   | : Drives the vehicle used in catching stray dogs for impounding in the City Pound. He also maintains the vehicle in good condition.             | S/G - 3<br>P 5,228.00/mo<br>62,736.00/A  |

**Section 17. POUND NOTICE.** Upon receipt of animals into the pound, the City Pound officer shall advertise in the City Hall Building and in the Barangay Hall a pound notice for ten (10) consecutive days stating the following:

a) Color, breed and other description of the impounded animal;

b) The data and time when the respective impounded animals were caught;

c) The place or location where the respective impounded animals were caught;

d) A notice that unless redeemed, the animals will be disposed of in accordance with the provision of this ordinance.

**Section 18. POUNDAGE FEE AND CHARGES.** Owners/possessors of impounded dogs and cats can claim their animals upon establishing ownership of the same and upon payment of the following City Pound fees and charges for each animal:



| SPECIES                               | DOG & CAT                                                         | CARABAO & CATTLE | PIGS/GOATS/SHEEP |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. POUNDAGE FEE PER DAY               | P 30.00                                                           | P 200.00         | P 50.00          |
| 2. REGISTRATION/ LICENSE FEE PER HEAD | P 10.00                                                           | P 0.00           | P 0.00           |
| 3. BOARDING FEE PER HEAD              | P 10.00                                                           | P 50.00          | P 20.00          |
| 4. ANTI-RABIES VACCINATION PER HEAD   | P 50.00                                                           | P 0.00           | P 0.00           |
| 5. DOG TAG PER PIECE                  | P 20.00                                                           | P 0.00           | P 0.00           |
| 6. MEDICATION                         | At cost which shall be determined by the attending Veterinarian : |                  |                  |

The same shall be paid to the City Treasurer and shall be constituted at a Special Fund for the maintenance of the City Pound and other rabies control program of the City.

**Section 19. DISPOSAL OF IMPOUNDED ANIMALS.** Stray animals caught and impounded which are left unclaimed after ten (10) days of confinement in the City Pound may be disposed at the discretion of the City Veterinarian by any of the following ways:

1) **Adoption** - the dog or cat may be released for adoption to any responsible person who will take care of the animal for pet purposes, and upon payment of an adoption fee of ONE HUNDRED PESOS (P100.00), and all other fees and charges incidental to its impoundment which shall be paid to the City Treasurer and the same shall be constituted as a Special Fund for the maintenance of the City Pound and other rabies control program of the City.

2) **Donation** - the dog or cat may be donated to a government recognized institution for research or scientific purposes.

3) **Humane destruction and/or Euthanasia** - any unmanageable stray animal suspected to be infected with rabies and other infectious and contagious zoonotic diseases shall be immediately destroyed and euthanized humanely by the proper authorities, provided, such animal has not been in contact with or known to have bitten any person, in which case, it needs further observation for a period of fourteen (14) days from the date of the bite or contact with the animal.



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4) Livestock may be disposed of by public auction.

5) It shall be unlawful for any person to slaughter dogs and cats for public consumption or for processing to any industrial products.

**Section 20. DESTRUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF EUTHANIZED ANIMALS.** Euthanized dog and cats suspected of rabies infection shall be destroyed by incineration. Other animals found or suspected of being infected with rabies and other infectious and contagious zoonotic disease shall be destroyed by incineration or by other appropriate method under supervision by the City Veterinarian or his authorized representative.

**Section 21. BUYING AND TRADING OF DOGS AND CATS.** Buying and trading of dogs and cats in the city for reasons other than for pet, educational, research or scientific purposes is strictly prohibited.

**Section 22. RABIES DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY.** There shall be established and maintained a Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory under the management, supervision and control of the Department for Veterinary Services.

**Section 23. PENALTY CLAUSE.**

1) Any person found violating any provision of this ordinance shall subject the offender to an Administrative fine of FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00) for the first offense, and for the second and succeeding offenses, an Administrative fine of ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00) and for the third offense a fine of TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00) or imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

2) Vehicle, equipment used in illegal trading, catching/trapping or slaughtering of dogs and cats shall be summarily seized, confiscated, impounded, and shall be released only upon payment of the Administrative fines and penalties, and/or upon order of the court. Likewise the catch shall be impounded in the City Pound and the meat of illegally slaughtered dog/cat shall be destroyed or disposed of immediately.

**Section 24. APPROPRIATION.** To carry out the provisions of this Ordinance, the sum of TWO MILLION PESOS (P2,000,000.00) is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the City Funds for the Salaries of the City Pound Personnel, purchase of Anti-rabies vaccines, dog tags, construction of the City Pound, establishment of the Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory and equipments for Rabies information and education campaigns. Thereafter, such amount shall be provided by the City as may be necessary to carry out the provision of this Ordinance and shall be augmented by the amount collected out of the poundage fees, dog registration/license fees and other charges provided for in this ordinance.



Section 25. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If for any reason, any provision of this Ordinance is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof not so affected shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 26. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances or resolutions which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 27. EFFECTIVITY. This ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after its publication in a local newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bacolod.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF

Affirmative :  
Councilors : Lorendo K. Dilag, Rolando V. Villamor, Juanito S. Amihan, Jr., Napoleon A. Cordova, Constancio Legaspi, Archie S. Baribar, Celia R. Flor, Joaquin L. Torre, Luzviminda S. Valdez, Juan Ramon R. Guanzon, Ricardo L. Tan, Pepito T. Malapitan.

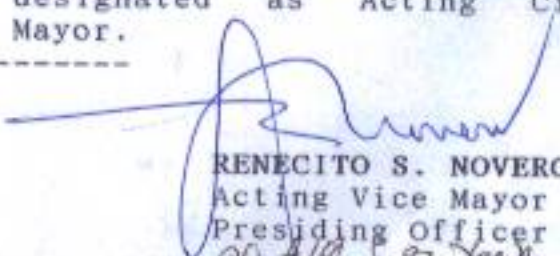
Negative : N o n e .

Main Proponent : Councilor Juan Ramon R. Guanzon

Passed : October 2, 1997

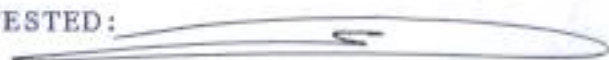
Comments : P a s s e d.  
Councilor Christine Angelie V. Matus was out of the session hall when this resolution was passed.

Vice Mayor Wilmar L. Drilon was designated as Acting City Mayor.

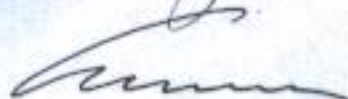
  
RENECITO S. NOVERO  
Acting Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer

OO A/B 5.97 Jan. 11

ATTESTED:

  
ATTY. NILO T. ALEJANDRINO  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: October 30, 1997

  
EVELIO R. LEONARDIA  
City Mayor