

Republika ng Pilipinas
Lungsod ng Dagupan
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
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EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD, DAGUPAN CITY, HELD via ZOOM Conference Meeting, ON MAY 27, 2021.

PRESENT:

Hon. Dean Bryan L. Kua	City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer
Hon. Karlos Liberato E. Reyna IV	Presiding Officer Pro Tempore, Member
Hon. Jose Netu M. Tamayo	Deputy Presiding Officer, Member
Hon. Michael B. Fernandez	Majority Floor Leader, Member
Hon. Luis M. Samson, Jr.	Asst. Majority Floor Leader, Member
Hon. Dennis C. Canto	Second Asst. Majority Floor Leader, Member
Hon. Maria Librada Fe M. Reyna	Minority Floor Leader, Member
Hon. Marvin V. Fabia	City Councilor, Member
Hon. Cisco Jay P. Flores	City Councilor, Member
Hon. Teresa T. Coquia	City Councilor, Member
Hon. Marcelino D. Fernandez	Liga ng mga Barangay President, Ex-Officio Member
Hon. Joshua Bon Bon F. Bugayong	Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan President, Ex-Officio Member

ABSENT:

Hon. Celia C. Lim	Asst. Minority Floor Leader, Member (On Leave)
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ORDINANCE NO. 2234-2021

STRENGTHENING THE PRE-MARRIAGE ORIENTATION AND COUNSELING (PMOC) PROGRAM THROUGH THE ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POPCOM-DOH-DSWD-PSA-DILG JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 1 SERIES OF 2018.

WHEREAS, Article XV Section 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to recognize the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation and shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development. Section 2 of the same Article recognizes marriage as an inviolable social institution that is the foundation of the family and thus, shall be protected by the State;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree 965 and Section 15 of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law require couples who apply for marriage license to present a Certificate of Compliance, certifying that they had duly received adequate instructions and information on responsible parenthood, family planning, breastfeeding and infant nutrition;

WHEREAS, Article 16 of the Family Code further requires couples, applying for marriage license, whose ages fall between 18-25 years old, to undergo marriage counselling by a marriage counsellor duly accredited by the Department of Social Welfare and Development;

WHEREAS, Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 1 series of 2018: Revised Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling (PMOC) Program Implementing Guidelines for 2018 was issued by the Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH) and the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) to streamline and harmonize the implementation of the Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling (PMOC) Program at the local government level;

WHEREAS, Memorandum Circular 2018-182: Adoption of the Revised Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling (PMOC) Program Implementing Guidelines for 2018 was issued by the DILG enjoining all Local Government Units to adopt the JMC No. 1;

NOW, THEREFORE, on joint motion of Councilors Cisco Jay P. Flores, Maria Librada Fe M. Reyna, Teresa T. Coquia, Karlos Liberato E. Reyna IV, and Jose Netu M. Tamayo, duly and jointly seconded by Councilors Dennis C. Canto, Marvin V. Fabia, Michael B. Fernandez, Luis M. Samson, Jr., and Marcelino D. Fernandez, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Dagupan in regular session assembled that:

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Ordinance shall be known and cited shortly as the "Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling (PMOC) Program Ordinance."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It shall be the policy of the City of Dagupan to:

- a) Recognize marriage as an inviolable social institution and the foundation of the family which in turn is the foundation of the nation;
- b) Protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution;
- c) Ensure couples are fully informed and equipped with necessary knowledge and skills in their expected roles and responsibilities as husband and wife, future parents and productive members of the society; and
- d) Provide Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling sessions to all contracting parties who are about to get married/require all contracting parties who are about to get married to attend Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling sessions.

SECTION 3. Adoption and Implementation of JMC No. 1 Series of 2018 on the Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling (PMOC) Program Implementing Guidelines of 2018. The current Pre-Marriage Counseling Program shall be strengthened through the adoption and implementation of the relevant provisions of the JMC No. 1, herewith attached and made as integral part of this Ordinance. Accordingly, the program be reorganized as Pre-Marriage Orientation and Counseling (PMOC) Program, which will provide the requisite pre-marriage orientation and counseling sessions to contracting parties applying for marriage license.

SECTION 4. Organization and Mobilization of the Local PMOC Team. A local PMOC Team shall be organized to oversee and efficiently perform the functions of the team prescribed in the JMC. The PMOC Team, shall be composed of:

- a) City Population Officer - Team Leader;
- b) City Health and Nutrition Office Representative - Member;
- c) City Social Welfare Development Office Representative - Member;
- d) City Civil Registry Office Representative - Member;
- e) City Agriculture's Office Representative - Member;
- f) Civil Society Organization Representative (CSO) - Member; and
- g) Faith Based Organization Representative (FBO) - Member

The City Population Office will provide secretariat support to the local PMOC Team and the implementation of the PMOC Program.

SECTION 5. Training of PMOC Team and Accreditation of PMC Counselors. To equip the members of the PMOC Team with the needed competency in the implementation of the program, all members of the team shall undergo relevant training in coordination and collaboration with national government agencies.

The City PMOC team shall also have at least one (1) accredited Pre-Marriage Counselor, who will provide pre-marriage counseling session pursuant to the Family Code (EO 209). Initially, the member from the City Social Welfare Development Office shall comply to the accreditation requirements of the DSWD. Other members will be supported by the LGU to be able to complete the accreditation requirements of the DSWD.

SECTION 6. PMOC Protocols. The processes and procedures for the issuance of PMOC certificates shall comply with prescribed protocols under the JMC. It shall be the responsibility of the PMOC Team to inform the public about the protocols for compliance.

SECTION 7. Reporting. The City PMOC Team shall maintain a PMOC database and regularly consolidate program implementation reports. The said reports of accomplishments shall be submitted to the Local Chief Executive and the PMOC Regional TWGs annually.

SECTION 8. Confidentiality of the Database. Personal details of the contracting parties shall be stored and maintained confidentially by the PMOC Team. The PMOC Team must observe and respect the data privacy rights of the contracting parties.

The use of any personal information collected, stored, and processed under the PMOC Program shall be subject to the rules and regulations as provided for by the Data Privacy Act of 2012 or RA 10173.

SECTION 9. Appropriations. The needed annual allocation for the efficient implementation of the PMOC program shall be proposed under the budget proposal of the local Population Office (or the Department where the local population office is attached). Moreover, all local departments and offices participating in implementation of the PMOC Program shall allocate in their respective annual investment plan the needed funding.

Furthermore, a fee in the amount of P500.00 will be collected per couple during the PMOC seminar to be paid at One Stop Business Center (OSBC) strictly for the procurement of needed supplies and materials for program implementation and continuing training of the PMOC Team implementers.

SECTION 10. Separability Clause. If any portion of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions not affected thereby.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. All local ordinances, resolutions, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval.

ENACTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Principal Author:

COUNCILOR CISCO JAY P. FLORES

Co-Author:

COUNCILOR MARIA LIBRADA FE M. REYNA

DEAN BRYAN L. KUA

City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

RYAN C. RAVANZO

City Secretary

APPROVED:

MARC BRIAN C. LIM

City Mayor

Date: _____