



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Surigao del Sur
MUNICIPALITY OF CAGWAIT

Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CAGWAIT, SURIGAO DEL SUR, HELD AT POBLACION GYMNASIUM, POBLACION, CAGWAIT, SURIGAO DEL SUR ON AUGUST 13, 2026.

Present:

See attached attendance sheet

I. CALL TO ORDER

Presiding Officer Melchie C. Tuscano, Municipal Vice-Mayor, called the public hearing to order at 1:30 in the afternoon.

II. NATIONAL ANTHEM

The national anthem was sung through an audio visual presentation.

III. INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Ms. Haivy Lamela.

IV. OPENING MESSAGE

Hon. Bernard V. Loma, Punong Barangay of Poblacion, delivered his welcome message to the attendees of the public hearing.

V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PARTICIPANTS

Mr. Alan A. Cabrera, Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan, acknowledged the representatives of the five (5) barangays, as well as the invited guests and resource persons from various agencies and offices.

VI. MESSAGE

Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada, SB Member, expressed his appreciation for the presence and active participation of the members of the general public. He emphasized that everyone was encouraged to raise questions, comments, and seek clarifications regarding the ordinance being presented. He further informed the public that, for additional inquiries and updates, the SB Members of Cagwait have a Facebook page where the public can view updates on the legislative measures they are working on, as well as the various activities and programs conducted together with the Vice Mayor.

VII. PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

- 1. An Ordinance Establishing the Integrated Preemptive/Forced and Emergency Evacuation System in response to disasters in the Municipality of Cagwait, Province of Surigao del Sur imposing penalties and violation thereof and for other purposes.**

Authored by Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada

Hon. Bernard V. Loma presented the first proposed ordinance and briefly explained its key provisions and objectives. He emphasized that the measure aims to ensure the safety of the constituents during calamities such as floods, tsunamis, and earthquakes. He also explained the three (3) alert levels and their corresponding colors as indicators of the severity of the situation. He

further highlighted the provision imposing a penalty on individuals who refuse to comply with a forced evacuation order, as well as the specific roles and responsibilities of each barangay during calamities and emergency situations.

After the presentation, the open forum followed.

Dr. Sherwin Mantilla suggested that provisions be included for the evacuation of live animals, such as dogs and pigs, by providing a safe and designated area for them during calamities.

Hon. Lozada stated that the ordinances being proposed by the Sangguniang Bayan Members are part of the primary duties and functions of the local legislative body, which is to enact laws and policies at the local level. The proposed ordinances are presented to the public for information and consultation. Once approved, however, the authority to implement the ordinances rests with the Office of the Mayor, not with the SB Members or the Vice Mayor. Any deficiencies or provisions that may need further clarification could be addressed through the issuance of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). Regarding forced or preemptive evacuation, this refers to mandatory evacuation when the situation requires immediate action. Under the proposed ordinance, the municipal officials, barangay officials, and law enforcement agencies are responsible for implementing forced evacuation. The primary priority is to save human lives. With regard to animals, he acknowledged the concern and stated that their protection may be included in the IRR. He emphasized the need for each barangay, particularly those located along the coastal areas, to identify and establish a safe evacuation center.

Mr. Delberto Luna raised concerns regarding households located in high-risk or "killing zone" areas, such as Purok 9 in Poblacion, particularly those who may refuse to evacuate despite being ordered to do so and facing penalties for non-compliance. He also expressed concern about the limited capacity of existing evacuation centers, noting that NEMSU Cagwait, which has been identified as an evacuation site, may not be sufficient to accommodate the affected residents. He requested that additional evacuation centers be established. He further raised a concern regarding persons with disabilities (PWDs) who may have difficulty evacuating and asked whether they would still be subject to penalties for failing to evacuate.

Hon. Lozada answered that PWDs should be assisted during evacuation, with volunteers and able-bodied neighbors expected to provide support. Regarding evacuation centers, he explained that areas designated as no-build zones should have corresponding resettlement areas within their respective barangays. Informal settlers living in danger zones need to be relocated, which should be addressed at the barangay level. However, where the land is privately owned, negotiation and possible purchase by the barangay may be necessary. Limited resources remain a challenge, and that while the legal framework is already in place, proper implementation is needed to address the concern. He also mentioned that there is an evacuation center in Casurucan that is ready for use. The barangay will determine the designated evacuation area, which should already be identified and planned before any disaster occurs.

With no further comments or concerns raised, the discussion was brought to a close.

- 2. An Ordinance providing for a Community Based-Mental Health Program and Delivery System in the Municipality of Cagwait, Province of Surigao del Sur, Establishing Mechanisms and Guidelines for its implementation and appropriating necessary funds therefore and for other purposes.**

Authored by Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada

Hon. Angelyn P. Prado presented the second proposed ordinance and explained its contents and salient features. She emphasized that stress is among the primary causes of the problem being addressed by the ordinance.

After the presentation, an open forum followed.

There being no comments, the discussion was concluded.

- 3. An Ordinance providing for the streamlined guidelines for the Issuance of Permits, Licenses, Clearances and Certificates for Business and Non-Business related transactions in all offices/departments of the Municipal Government of Cagwait,**

pursuant to the Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 2019-001, series of 2019, entitled: Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 11032, otherwise known as the "Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018", and for other purposes.

Authored by Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada

Hon. Guardiano Lozada made the presentation and explained the content of the said ordinance.

After the presentation, the open forum followed.

No comment.

- 4. An Ordinance declaring all water bodies, coastal resources and other tributaries as biodiversity and conservation areas of the Municipality of Cagwait for the purpose of protection and preservation, and imposing penalties for violations thereof and for other purposes.**

Authored by Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada

Hon. Amelito E. Estrada presented the proposed ordinance and explained its contents and salient provisions, particularly the prohibited acts and penalties for violations.

After the presentation, an open forum was conducted.

Punong Barangay Sherly Banda stated that in Barangay Tawagan, there are pig-raising activities within the central area of the barangay, resulting in unpleasant odors from pig waste. She expressed that the proposed ordinance would be beneficial in addressing and potentially resolving this concern.

Hon. Estrada said that this is indeed one of the objectives of the ordinance. Once the ordinance is approved, pig pens should no longer be constructed anywhere and must instead be located in designated areas.

Mr. Roy Martinez stated that their concern in their purok involves pig raising, wherein pig waste flows directly into the sea or river. He emphasized the need to keep the waterways clean, as the community itself will be affected by the pollution.

Dr. Sherwin Mantilla stated that the concern is true. He suggested increasing the penalty, as some individuals may still disregard the regulation despite the existing penalty. He also shared, from the health perspective, they have established the required distance for pig-raising activities.

Hon. Estrada said that the suggestion was duly noted.

Punong Barangay Sherly Banda stated that in their barangay, the sanitary personnel suggested that septic tanks should be provided. However, based on her observation, there is still an unpleasant odor even when septic tanks are present.

Dr. Sherwin Mantilla added, ideally, pig pens should be located far from residential areas.

There being no further comments or concerns, the discussion was concluded.

- 5. An Ordinance Institutionalizing the Safer Municipality Program of the Municipality of Cagwait, Surigao del Sur, pursuant to DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2026-029 and the Approved TSP Resolution No. 1117-26, providing guidelines for its implementation, appropriating funds therefore and for other purposes.**

Authored by Hon. Arthur M. Sanchez

Hon. Arthur M. Sanchez presented the fifth proposed ordinance and briefly discussed its key provisions and salient features. Following the presentation, an open forum was conducted to allow the attendees to raise questions and concerns.

Mr. Mamerto Buton stated that, since street lighting was being discussed, I would like to ask whether the Municipality has plans to install streetlights along the exit road from Cagwait White

Beach. The area is very dark due to the lack of lighting and that streetlights would improve the safety of people passing through the area, especially at night.

Hon. Sanchez answered that even though the ordinance has not yet been approved, the LGU already has plans to install streetlights in the area.

Presiding Officer Tuscano added that the LGU had allocated funds for the Kaliguan Festival, and since the festival did not push through, a portion of the funds was realigned for the installation of streetlights in the area. He noted that additional space had been provided along the roadside, with the installation of the streetlights as the next step.

There being no further comments or concerns, the discussion was concluded.

6. An Ordinance Regulating the Serving, Sale, Distribution, and Promotion of Carbonated Soft Drinks and High-Sugar Juices in Government Offices, Government-operated Canteens, and during official meetings, trainings, seminars, conferences, and other similar activities, and Promoting healthier beverage options in support of Healthy Eating, Nutrition, and Wellness initiatives in the Municipality of Cagwait, Surigao del Sur.

Authored by Hon. Joanne Socorro L. Ubongen

The sixth proposed ordinance was presented by Hon. Rogen P. Tabugoc and explained its contents and salient provisions, particularly the prohibited acts and the corresponding penalties for each offense.

After the presentation, an open forum was conducted to allow the attendees to raise questions, concerns, and clarifications.

Punong Barangay Rene Joy Adaya greeted and asked what would happen to private catering services if clients in government offices insisted on serving soft drinks during meals.

Hon. Tabugoc answered that the ordinance applies to government offices and agencies, which will no longer be allowed to be served of carbonated soft drinks. However, private entities or individuals will not be covered by the prohibition and may still serve them.

Ms. Yrica Jie Colongan greeted. She asked whether government offices conducting activities, such as the MSWD Office, would need to revise their submitted PPMP for next year, since canned juice or soft drinks are indicated in their proposed menus. What would happen to the PPMP if the proposed ordinance is approved, considering that the menu is already specified therein?

Hon. Tabugoc answered that under the proposed ordinance, serving carbonated soft drinks will no longer be allowed. He advised that, during the budgeting process, government offices should no longer include soft drinks in their PPMP and may instead replace them with bottled water.

Hon. Lozada said that the PPMP may be revised accordingly. As to the implementation of the ordinance, this will fall under the Executive Branch and not the Legislative Branch.

Punong Barangay Sherly Banda stated that bottled water is acceptable for snacks, but soft drinks are still preferred during meals. She suggested that an exception may be considered for such occasions.

Hon. Tabugoc stated that people may initially find it difficult to adjust, but they will eventually get used to it. He added that all comments were duly noted.

There being no further concerns or comments raised, the discussion was brought to a close.

7. An Ordinance Strengthening the Implementation of Executive Order No. 51, otherwise known as the "Philippine Milk Code of 1986", Promoting, Protecting, and Supporting Breastfeeding, Regulating the marketing, promotion, distribution, and donation of Breastmilk Substitutes, Breastmilk Supplements, Feeding Bottles, and Teats,

Establishing local mechanisms for compliance and enforcement, and providing penalties for violations thereof in the Municipality of Cagwait, Surigao del Sur.
Authored by Hon. Angelyn P. Prado

Hon. Angelyn P. Prado presented the seventh proposed ordinance and explained its contents and salient features. She emphasized the importance of breastfeeding, particularly for infants aged zero (0) to six (6) months, and the prohibition against encouraging mothers to discontinue breastfeeding in favor of purchasing infant formula from stores.

After the presentation, an open forum followed.

There being no comments raised, the discussion was concluded.

- 8. An Ordinance Establishing the Rental Fees, Rates and Charges, Rules and Regulations for the use of Municipal Badminton and Pickleball Courts, Sports Equipment, Multipurpose and Evacuation Center, Commercial Stalls, Stores, Canteen Spaces and other facilities therein, providing funds for its Maintenance and Operation and for other purposes.**

Authored by Hon. Rogen P. Tabugoc

Hon. Joel E. Bayogbog presented the eighth proposed ordinance and briefly discussed its key provisions and salient features, highlighting the fees and charges and the penalties for violations thereof.

After the presentation, an open forum was conducted to allow the attendees to raise questions, concerns, and clarifications.

Since there were no concerns raised, the discussion was concluded.

- 9. An Ordinance requiring Operators, Owners or Proprietors of Restaurants, Fast Food Chains, Eateries, Canteens, Food Courts/Hubs, Carenderias, Bars and other similar establishments operating within the Municipality of Cagwait to put-up a potable drinking water system accessible to the customers or serve the same without cost and providing penalties therefore.**

Authored by Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada

The proposed ordinance was presented by Hon. Joanne Socorro L. Ubongen and explained its contents and salient provisions.

After the presentation, an open forum was conducted.

Hon. Lozada stated that the main substance of the ordinance is to require eateries and restaurants to provide drinking water. He explained that customers should automatically be served drinking water when dining in restaurants, or have access to a water dispenser where they can get water without having to request it from the establishment.

There being no further comments, the discussion was brought to a close.

- 10. An Ordinance Revising Municipal Ordinance No. 07-04, expanding its area of coverage as declared Arangasa Marine Eco-park, Organizing the Arangasa Marine Eco-Park Project Management Group as well as the Project Management Office, defining its duties and functions, allocating funds thereof and for other purposes.**

Authored by Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada

Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada presented the tenth proposed ordinance and explained its contents and salient features. He explained that the ordinance introduces new tourism offerings in Cagwait, consisting of various tour packages and activities, including snorkeling, diving, surfing, and other applicable recreational activities.

After the presentation, an open forum followed.

Presiding Officer Tuscano stated that this is different from the Cagwait White beach, where access is free to the public. He explained that an environmental study was conducted by environmentalists, which determined that the number of visitors to the area should be limited. The facility has a maximum capacity of fifty (50) persons to help preserve its natural beauty. Even Cagwait residents are required to pay the applicable fees. He emphasized that Cagwait is fortunate to have such a tourist destination, where various activities can be enjoyed.

Mr. Mamerto Buton asked whether the 500-meter area covered by the sanctuary includes the portion at the back extending toward Puro, considering that the sanctuary is located in front of the 180-hectare area.

Hon. Lozada answered that the area is already included. However, fishing activities are still allowed in designated areas. The boundaries will be properly established to avoid disturbing the mangrove area.

There being no further concerns or comments raised, the discussion was concluded.

**11. An Ordinance Enacting the 2026 Revised Revenue Code of the Municipality of Cagwait, Province of Surigao del Sur.
Authored by Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada**

Hon. Guardiano C. Lozada presented the proposed ordinance and highlighted its salient features. He explained that once the ordinance prescribing the fees and rental rates for the pickleball court, as presented earlier, is approved, the same will be incorporated into the Revised Revenue Code. This is just a revision of the revenue code.

After the presentation, an open forum was conducted.

There being no comments, the discussion was concluded.

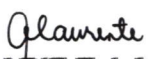
VIII. CLOSING MESSAGE

There being no further matters to discuss, Hon. Rogen P. Tabugoc was requested to deliver the closing message and formally close the public hearing.

After the closing message, twenty (20) lucky names were drawn, with each winner receiving five (5) kilograms of rice. The lucky winners expressed their appreciation and delighted upon receiving the assistance. In addition, Hon. Rogen P. Tabugoc personally gave ₱500.00 each to additional four (4) lucky winners as his own personal gesture of support.

The public hearing adjourned at 4:50 in the afternoon.

Prepared by:


ESTELA MARIE T. LAURENTE
Records Officer II

Approved by:


MELCHIE C. TUSCANO
Municipal Vice Mayor