ORDINANCE NO. 2003-037

ORDINANCE REGULATING THE NAMING OF, OR THE INSCRIPTION OR PUTTING OF NAME ON, ANY PERMANENT STRUCTURE BUILT USING GOVERNMENT FUNDS, WHETHER OR NOT SITUATED IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY, WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF NAGA:

Author: Hon. John G. Bongat

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga, that:

SECTION 1. - TITLE. - This Ordinance shall be known and cited as an “ORDINANCE REGULATING THE NAMING OF, OR THE INSCRIPTION OR PUTTING OF NAME ON, ANY PERMANENT STRUCTURE BUILT USING GOVERNMENT FUNDS, WHETHER OR NOT SITUATED IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY, WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF NAGA.”

SECTION 2. - BASIS OF ORDINANCE. - This Ordinance is hereby enacted in accordance with what is mandated under Sections 2 and 4 of Republic Act No. 6713, otherwise known as an “ACT ESTABLISHING A CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES, TO UPHOLD THE TIME-HONORED PRINCIPLE OF PUBLIC OFFICE BEING A PUBLIC TRUST, GRANTING INCENTIVES AND REWARDS FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE, ENUMERATING PROHIBITED ACTS AND TRANSACTIONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”, which are reproduced hereunder, to wit:

“SECTION 2. - DECLARATION OF POLICIES. - It is the policy of the State to promote a high standard of ethics in public service. Public officials and employees shall at all times be accountable to the people and shall discharge their duties with utmost responsibility, integrity, competence, and loyalty, act with patriotism and justice, lead modest lives, and uphold public interest over personal interest.

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SECTION 4. - NORMS OF CONDUCT OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES. - (A) Every public official and employee shall observe the following as standards of personal conduct in the discharge and execution of official duties:

a. COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC INTEREST. - Public officials and employees shall always uphold the public interest over and above personal interest.
All government resources and powers of their respective offices must be employed and used efficiently, effectively, honestly and economically, particularly to avoid wastage in public funds and revenues.

b. PROFESSIONALISM. - Public officials and employees shall perform and discharge their duties with the highest degree of excellence, professionalism, intelligence and skill. They shall enter public service with utmost devotion and dedication to duty."

SECTION 3. - PURPOSES. - This Ordinance has the following important purposes:

1. To uphold commitment to public interest over and above personal interest and promote professionalism in public service, which are being flagrantly impeded by the irresponsible use of names of persons through the naming of permanent public or government structures after individuals, whether living or dead, or through inscription of such names thereon, for political ends;

2. To institutionalize high ethical standards in the implementation of infrastructure projects within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Naga;

3. To regulate the use of names of persons insofar as the naming of permanent public or government structures after individuals, whether living or dead, is concerned, and insofar as the inscription of such names thereon is concerned, without any deference to the clear mandate of the code of conduct and ethical standards for public officials and employees.

SECTION 4. - DEFINITION OF TERMS. - As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

a. PERMANENT STRUCTURE - shall refer to any vertical infrastructure made of permanent materials, including but not limited to buildings, edifices, overpasses, monuments and the like constructed or to be constructed on a government-owned or private-owned land or property, using government funds.

b. NAME - shall refer to any distinctive appellation by which a natural person, living or dead, is or was known, including but not limited to full name, first name, surname, maiden name, middle name, nick name, alias or any appellation that may be attributed to or associated with an individual.

c. INSCRIPTION - shall refer to the placing of the name on the permanent structure through inscribing, painting, or through the use of any other method or by using any other material or medium.

d. CITY ENGINEER’S OFFICE - shall refer to the office or department in the City Government of Naga whose functions include, among others, the design, construction, maintenance and monitoring and survey works of all City Government infrastructure projects and other public works, enforcement of the provisions of the National Building Code (NBC) and the local building code, and the repair/maintenance of such permanent structures.

e. R.A. 6713 – shall refer to the “ACT ESTABLISHING A CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES, TO UPHOLD THE TIME-HONORED PRINCIPLE OF PUBLIC OFFICE BEING A PUBLIC TRUST, GRANTING INCENTIVES AND REWARDS FOR EXEMPLARY
SERVICE, ENUMERATING PROHIBITED ACTS AND TRANSACTIONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”.

f. PHILIPPINE HISTORICAL COMMISSION - shall refer to the national government office so designated by law to promote and protect, among others, the historical value and significance of an individual worthy of recognition for his patriotic and cultural achievements.

SECTION 5. - COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE. - For effective implementation of this ordinance, the compliance procedure herein established shall be followed before any permanent structure constructed or initiated by or through the local government unit or the national government or any of its departments, agencies and instrumentalities, shall be undertaken within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Naga, as follows:

a. Any proposal to name an existing permanent structure or one to be constructed or to change an existing name thereof by renaming it, after a person or individual, living or dead, shall be submitted to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for its review, in consultation with the Philippine Historical Commission if the person involved is a national figure or the Naga City People’s Council if the person involved is a local figure, as the case may be. The same rule applies where a name of a person or individual, living or dead, is intended to be conspicuously inscribed and placed permanently on the structure, whether existing or to be constructed.

b. The application shall state the name of the applicant and his personal circumstances, the nature and location of the permanent structure concerned, the name after whom the permanent structure will be called or the name applied for inscription on the permanent structure concerned, the reason for the application or why the individual concerned or his name shall be accorded such stature or recognition.

c. The Sangguniang Panlungsod may, after compliance with the consultation process prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section, either approve the application or deny the same. The denial shall take the form of a resolution while the approval shall be made through an appropriate ordinance, subject in each instance to the approval by affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

d. The Sangguniang Panlungsod may, after compliance with the consultation process prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section, either approve the application or deny the same. The denial shall take the form of a resolution while the approval shall be made through an appropriate ordinance, subject in each instance to the approval by affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

e. The City Engineer’s Office is deputized to enforce this ordinance, and in connection with this authority, said office is given 30 days from effectivity of this ordinance to promulgate its own rules and regulations particularly in the issuance of occupation permit or such other clearances necessary to carry out the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 6. - PENAL PROVISION. - The penalty of imprisonment for a period of one (1) year or a fine of five thousand pesos, or both, subject to the discretion of the court, shall be imposed upon any private individual, contractor or any other person found liable for violation of this ordinance.
The City Legal Officer of the City of Naga is hereby authorized to institute before the appropriate government agency or tribunal the appropriate administrative charges against any public officer or employee who violates the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 7. - SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - Any provision or portion of this ordinance found to be violative of the constitution or invalid shall not impair the other provisions or parts thereof which shall continue to be in force and in effect.

SECTION 8. - REPEALING CLAUSE. - Ordinances, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. - EFFECTIVITY. - This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval and publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

ENACTED: March 26, 2003.

WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

GIL A. DE LA TORRE
Board Secretary II
& Secretary Designate

ESTEBAN R. ABONAL
City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

JESSE M. ROBREDO
City Mayor