

Republic of the Philippines
Quezon City
23rd CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE 1st REGULAR SESSION

held on

MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025, AT THE SESSION HALL

City Vice Mayor GIAN G. SOTTO - Presiding Officer

The following were present:

1st DISTRICT

Councilor Tany Joe “Tj” L. Calalay, *2nd Asst. Minority Floor Leader*
Councilor Bernard R. Herrera, *President Pro-Tempore*
Councilor Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., *Minority Floor Leader*
Councilor Joseph P. Juico
Councilor Charm M. Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD, *3rd Asst. Majority Floor Leader*
Councilor Nicole “Nikki” V. Crisologo

2nd DISTRICT

Councilor Mikey F. Belmonte
Councilor Candy A. Medina,
Councilor Atty. Voltaire Godofredo “Bong” Liban III, *2nd Asst. Majority Floor Leader*
Councilor Aly Medalla, *Majority Floor Leader*
Councilor Dave C. Valmocina*
Councilor Ranulfo “Tatay Rannie” Z. Ludovica*

3rd DISTRICT

Councilor Geleen “Dok G” Lumbad
Councilor Atty. Christoffer Allan “Tope” Liquigan
Councilor Albert Alvin “Chuckie” L. Antonio III, *1st Asst. Majority Floor Leader*
Councilor Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay
Councilor Don S. De Leon, *1st Asst. Minority Floor Leader*
Councilor Luigi D. Pumaren

4th DISTRICT

Councilor Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr.
Councilor Edgar “Egay” G. Yap
Councilor Nanette Castelo Daza
Councilor Imee Rillo
Councilor Atty. Jesus Miguel Suntay
Councilor Raquel S. Malañgen

5th DISTRICT

Councilor Joseph Joe Visaya
Councilor Aiko Melendez
Councilor Alfred Vargas, MPA
Councilor Karl Edgar Castelo
Councilor Shaira “Shay” L. Liban
Councilor Ram V. Medalla

6th DISTRICT

Councilor Maria Eleanor “Doc Ellie” R. Juan, O.D.
Councilor Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar
Councilor Kristine Alexia Matias, RN
Councilor Victor “Vic” D. Bernardo
Councilor Vito Sotto Generoso
Councilor Erwin Rey “Cocoy” A. Medina

SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES

Councilor Jose Maria “Mari” M. Rodriguez, *President, Liga ng mga Barangay, Quezon City Chapter*
Councilor Jhon Angelli “Sami” C. Neri, *President, Sangguniang Kabataan Federation, Quezon City Chapter*

*arrived after the roll call

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I. OPENING PRAYER

Councilor Calalay led the opening prayer.

II. NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Community Singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

III. COUNCILORS' CREED

The members of the City Council recited the Philippine Councilors' Creed led by Councilor Herrera.

IV. CALL TO ORDER

The 1st Regular Session was called to order at 2:14 P.M. by the Presiding Officer, Vice Mayor Gian G. Sotto.

V. ROLL CALL

The Secretary to the Sanggunian, Atty. Alferos, called the roll.

The following council members were present during the roll call, namely: Councilors Calalay, Herrera, Delarmente, Juico, Ferrer, Crisologo, Belmonte (Mikey), Medina (Candy), Atty. Liban (Bong), Medalla (Aly), Lumbad, Atty. Liquigan, Antonio, Lagumbay, De Leon, Pumaren, Atty. Belmonte (Vicente), Yap, Castelo Daza, Rillo, Atty. Suntay, Malañgen, Visaya, Melendez, Vargas, Castelo (Karl), Liban (Shay), Medalla (Ram), Juan, Pilar, Matias, Bernardo, Generoso, Medina (Cocoy), Rodriguez, Neri, and the Presiding Officer, Vice Mayor Sotto.

There being a quorum, the Body proceeded with the order of the day.

Subsequently, delivering a short message, Vice Mayor Sotto expressed his gratitude to the members of the Quezon City Council for the support, trust, and love showered upon him over the years and for believing in him. His Honor reminded everyone that public service is not about one name, person, or personal wants, but about the lives of the people and families they serve; as one Body, unity is very important, not for politics, but for true service to their constituents. His Honor further encouraged the councilors to have a humble heart and love each other despite their differences. Although there would be times of disagreement, Vice Mayor Sotto assured that, being their Presiding Officer, he would be a servant leader helping them legislate measures to uplift the lives of QCitizens and that no judgment would come from him. Love God and love others, His Honor expressed.

In addition, the Presiding Officer relayed that there are some modifications made to their Internal Rules aiming for a better City Council, focusing on their primary duties as councilors, specifically conducting their session twice a week instead of once. He then enjoined the Body to support the same by attending physically during their Monday and Wednesday sessions. His Honor reiterated that their primary objective is to propose and enact measures that would help their constituents.

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The good Vice Mayor imparted that what they have now is a people-centered form of government headed by Mayor Joy Belmonte. As such, he encouraged the 23rd City Councilors to focus on building a relationship not only within themselves in the City Council, but within the community to ensure that legislation would benefit every sector of the community; to have one goal, purpose, and commitment to uplift others first.

His Honor welcomed the new members of the 23rd City Council and urged veteran councilors to share their valuable voices and experiences. He encouraged QCitizens to visit their offices or comment on the official Facebook page of the Quezon City Government or City Council to improve their services, as they are their priority.

VI. CALENDAR OF BUSINESS

A. BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

1. ADOPTION OF THE INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE 23rd QUEZON CITY COUNCIL.

PR23CC-001 – RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE 23RD SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF QUEZON CITY. (*Introduced by Councilors ALY MEDALLA, ALBERT ALVIN “Chuckie” L. ANTONIO III, VOLTAIRE GODOFREDO L. LIBAN III, CHARM M. FEERRER, BERNARD R. HERRERA, DOROTHY A. DELARMENTE, M.D., DON S. DE LEON and TANY JOE “TJ” L. CALALAY*)

Councilor Medalla (Aly) moved for the favorable consideration of PR23CC-001.

In her sponsorship speech, the Lady Proponent stressed that as members of the 23rd City Council, they have to operate with efficiency, transparency, and integrity in service to their community. To ensure the same, they must adopt a clear and comprehensive framework that guides their processes, decision-making, and interactions. She then presented, for approval, the Internal Rules of Procedures of the 23rd City Council encompassing key provisions to the fundamental operations, which includes the composition of the City Council with thirty eight (38) members, the primary roles and responsibilities of individual members, officers and their corresponding duties, roles and responsibilities of the Secretary to the Sanggunian, structure, functions, and the procedures of the thirty eight (38) committees being proposed, guidelines for the sessions of the Sanggunian and the procedures, and other essential provisions. The Internal Rules, she added, serve as the backbone of their governance structure, ensuring order, accountability, and collaboration in all their undertakings. A copy of the Rules has been furnished to all the officers and members of the Council before the convening of this 1st regular session for review and consideration.

Moving on, Councilor Medalla (Aly) enumerated the proposed amendments to the filed Internal Rules, viz:

- Page 3, Section 4, Election of Officers and Committee Chairmanships, Request to Transfer - the written explanation to be made for the transfer.

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- Page 8, Section 9 - the committees may conduct meetings or hearings through video or teleconference or appropriate information and communications technology in case of a force majeure or occurrence of emergencies only, which may prevent each member from physically attending the committee hearings; and allowing a joint committee hearing for a maximum of two committees only.
- For the posting, a written notice of hearings and meetings shall be posted two (2) days prior to the scheduled date.
- Other provisions relating to the Filipiniana attire and requirements during the session.
- To cope with the required number of sessions to be conducted by the City Council, two (2) sessions shall be conducted weekly. Further, it was proposed that the Wednesday session be likewise conducted face to face, which the Lady Proponent leaves up for discussion of the Body.

Discussing the conduct of holding a Wednesday session, the Presiding Officer recalled that during their seminar, it was proposed by Councilor Liban (Bong) to officially hold the session face to face instead of online; only those councilors with health or medical reasons will be allowed to attend via online.

Meanwhile, a recess was declared. And when the session resumed, Councilor Liban (Bong) clarified that in instances where a councilor is sick, he/she will be excused from the session and will not be considered absent, but he/she will not be allowed to do an online session. With that, the Presiding Officer was enlightened and stated to forego the online session.

Following the termination of the period of discussions, the period of amendments was opened.

Aside from the earlier-mentioned revisions, the following additional modifications were also adopted:

- Section 9 - Committees of the Sanggunian – relative to the Sangguniang Panlungsod website.
- Section 20 - provision for the conference committees to convene at any time to settle differences between the legislative and the executive.
- Section 37 – the use of the term or nomenclature.
- To reflect the proposed amendment to the absence of the councilor in case of sick leave or on official business.
- To include all members of the 23rd City Council as introducers of the measure.

Finally, on motion, duly seconded, **PR23CC-001** was **APPROVED** on its second reading, as amended.

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2. DECLARATION OF AFFILIATION (*Majority or Minority*)

Proceeding with the declaration of affiliation, as facilitated by the Secretary to the Sanggunian, each member of the City Council stood up and pronounced their preferred affiliation.

To summarize, twenty-seven (27) councilors joined the Majority Group while eleven (11) councilors joined the Minority Group, to wit:

MAJORITY GROUP:

Councilor Bernard R. Herrera
 Councilor Joseph P. Juico
 Councilor Charm Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD
 Councilor Nicole “Nikki” V. Crisologo
 Councilor Mikey F. Belmonte
 Councilor Atty. Voltaire Godofredo “Bong” Liban III
 Councilor Aly Medalla
 Councilor Dave C. Valmocina
 Councilor Ranulfo “Tatay Rannie” Z. Ludovica
 Councilor Geleen “Dok G” Lumbad
 Councilor Albert Alvin “Chuckie” L. Antonio III
 Councilor Luigi D. Pumaren
 Councilor Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr.
 Councilor Edgar “Egay” G. Yap
 Councilor Nanette Castelo Daza
 Councilor Imee Rillo
 Councilor Raquel S. Malañgen
 Councilor Joseph Joe Visaya
 Councilor Alfred Vargas, MPA
 Councilor Karl Edgar Castelo
 Councilor Shaira “Shay” L. Liban
 Councilor Ram V. Medalla
 Councilor Maria Eleanor “Doc Ellie” R. Juan, O.D.
 Councilor Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar
 Councilor Kristine Alexia Matias, RN
 Councilor Victor “Vic” D. Bernardo
 Councilor Vito Sotto Generoso

MINORITY GROUP:

Councilor Tany Joe “Tj” L. Calalay
 Councilor Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D.
 Councilor Candy A. Medina
 Councilor Atty. Christoffer Allan “Tope” Liquigan
 Councilor Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay
 Councilor Don S. De Leon
 Councilor Atty. Jesus Miguel Suntay
 Councilor Aiko Melendez
 Councilor Erwin Rey “Cocoy” A. Medina
 Councilor Jose Maria “Mari” M. Rodriguez
 Councilor Jhon Angelli “Sami” C. Neri

There being no objection, the Body proceeded with the next item on the agenda.

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3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Moving on to the election of officers and committee chairpersons, as requested by the Presiding Officer, the Secretary to the Sanggunian read the pertinent provision under the earlier adopted Internal Rules of Procedure governing election, specifically Section 4 of Rule III thereof.

Thereafter, as nominated and duly seconded, the following councilors were elected officers of the majority and minority groups:

President Pro-Tempore	-	Councilor Bernard R. Herrera
Majority Floor Leader	-	Councilor Aly Medalla
1 st Asst. Majority Floor Leader	-	Councilor Albert Alvin “Chuckie” L. Antonio III
2 nd Asst. Majority Floor Leader	-	Councilor Atty. Voltaire Godofredo “Bong” Liban III
3 rd Asst. Majority Floor Leader	-	Councilor Charm Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD
Minority Floor Leader	-	Councilor Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D.
1 st Asst. Minority Floor Leader	-	Councilor Don S. De Leon
2 nd Asst. Minority Floor Leader	-	Councilor Tany Joe “Tj” L. Calalay

After which, the above-mentioned elected officers of the majority and minority groups of the 23rd Quezon City Council took their OATH headed by Vice Mayor Gian Sotto.

On the other hand, the following Council members were elected chairpersons of the different City Council’s standing committees:

Laws, Rules and Internal Government	Councilor Aly Medalla
Appropriations	Councilor Shaira “Shay” L. Liban
Barangay Affairs	Councilor Jose Maria “Mari” M. Rodriguez
Blue Ribbon and Ethics	Councilor Bernard R. Herrera
Children’s Welfare	Councilor Atty. Christoffer Allan “Tope” Liquigan
City Planning, Building and Zoning	Councilor Mikey F. Belmonte
Civil Service, Appointments and Reorganization	Councilor Atty. Voltaire Godofredo “Bong” Liban III
Communications	Councilor Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay
Cultural Communities and Religious Affairs	Councilor Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D.
Dangerous Drugs	Councilor Don S. De Leon
Disaster Risk Reduction	Councilor Alfred Vargas, MPA
Education, Science and Technology	Councilor Nicole “Nikki” V. Crisologo
Energy, Water and Other Natural Resources	Councilor Ram V. Medalla
Environment and Climate Change Adaptation	Councilor Vito Sotto Generoso
Food Security and Urban Agriculture	Councilor Erwin Rey “Cocoy” A. Medina
Games and Amusements	Councilor Dave C. Valmocina
General Services and Patrimonial and Proprietary Property	Councilor Edgar “Egay” G. Yap
Health and Sanitation	Councilor Kristine Alexia Matias, RN
Information and Communications Technology or Cyber Technology	Councilor Atty. Jesus Miguel Suntay
International Affairs	Councilor Albert Alvin “Chuckie” L. Antonio III
Justice and Human Rights	Councilor Aiko Melendez
Labor, Employment and Overseas Filipino Workers	Councilor Candy A. Medina
Markets and Slaughterhouses	Councilor Victor “Vic” D. Bernardo
Micro, Small and Medium Business & Entrepreneurship Development & Cooperatives	Councilor Charm Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD
People with Disabilities	Councilor Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar
Public Affairs, Social and Mass Media Information and People’s Participation	Councilor Karl Edgar Castelo
Public Order and Security	Councilor Ranulfo “Tatay Rannie” Z. Ludovica
Public Works and Infrastructure	Councilor Imee Rillo
Senior Citizens Affairs	Councilor Geleen “Dok G” Lumbad

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Social Services	Councilor Joseph Joe Visaya
Subdivision Planning and Real Estate	Councilor Luigi D. Pumaren
Tourism, Cultural Affairs and Heritage	Councilor Tany Joe “Tj” L. Calalay
Trade, Commerce and Industry	Councilor Nanette Castelo Daza
Transportation	Councilor Raquel S. Malañgen
Urban Development and Human Settlement	Councilor Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr.
Ways and Means	Councilor Joseph P. Juico
Women, Family Relations and Gender Equality	Councilor Maria Eleanor “Doc Ellie” R. Juan, O.D.
Youth and Sports	Councilor Jhon Angelli “Sami” C. Neri

Whereupon, the foregoing chairpersons of the different standing committees of the 23rd Quezon City Council were **CONFIRMED**.

4. OATHTAKING OF ELECTED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Similarly, the above-mentioned officers and elected chairpersons of the different City Council’s standing committees took their OATH headed by Vice Mayor Gian Sotto.

The Presiding Officer, thereupon, congratulated the elected officers and committee chairpersons of the 23rd City Council. His Honor further thanked the Secretary to the Sanggunian’s staff as well as the legislative staff.

(Full text of the proceedings is duly incorporated in the journal of the day’s proceedings.)

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VII. CLOSING PRAYER

Councilor Delarmente led the closing prayer.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items to be discussed, on motion, duly seconded, the day's session was adjourned.

SESSION ADJOURNED: 3:19 P.M.

Prepared by:

MARISA S. DE JEMIL
Senior Administrative Asst. I
(Stenographic Reporter IV)

ANITA A. CABALQUINTO
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GLEND A. FELIX
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MARITESS DG. AÑASCO
Legislative Staff Officer IV

MARILYN B. DELA CRUZ
Legislative Staff Officer V

MARILYN JANET B. BUL-LALAYAO
Legislative Staff Officer VI
Chief, Journal & Minutes Division

ATTESTED BY:

Atty. **JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III**
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the Sanggunian)

APPROVED BY:

GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer