

Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Iloilo  
Municipality of Tigbauan  
o0o  
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 34<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE HONORABLE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN, TIGBAUAN, ILOILO, HELD AT THE BENJAMIN MELLIZA HALL, TIGBAUAN MUNICIPAL BUILDING, TIGBAUAN, ILOILO ON AUGUST 31, 1998, 9:25 A.M.

**PRESENT:**

<b>HON. JESSIE G. TERRE,.</b>	<b>Vice Mayor &amp; Pres.</b>
<b>HON. BERNARDITA TAASAN,</b>	<b>T. Officer Councilor</b>
<b>HON. REMEDIOS T. TORRATO,</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>HON. CORNELIA T. TERUEL,</b>	<b>or</b>
<b>HON. GEORGE T. TRIBUNAL,</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>HON. REXFEL G. TRIVILEGIO,</b>	<b>or</b>
<b>HON. RICHARD T. TENERIFE,</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>HON. RENE T. LEDESMA,</b>	<b>or</b>
<b>HON. CECILIA T. GARRIDO,</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>HON. RAMONITA T. ALCALA,</b>	<b>or</b>
	<b>Council</b>
	<b>or</b>

**ABSENT:**

**HON. JONATHAN T. TORRATO,**

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**Municipal Ordinance No. 98-002**

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE SECOND FRIDAY OF OCTOBER EACH YEAR AS "ADLAW SANG TIGBAUAN", THIS MUNICIPALITY, PROVINCE OF ILOILO.**

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SPONSORED BY: HONORABLE CECILIA T. GARRIDO  
VICE MAYOR JESSIE G. TERRE

CO-SPONSORED BY: HON. CORNELIA T. TERUEL  
SECONDED BY: HON. MA. BERNARDITA TAASAN

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WHEREAS, the Maragtas Legend tells us that Panay Island was purchased by ten Bornean Datus/Chieftains led by Datu Puti. Days later, Datu Puti and the six other Chieftains sailed for Luzon, while the three ruling chieftains, namely: Datu Paiburong, Datu Sumakwel and Datu Bangkaya stayed. The tribe of Datu Paiburong and their families chose Irong-Irong (now Iloilo Province) as their dwelling place. The tribe of Datu Sumakwel and their families preferred Hamtik (now Antique Province), and the tribe of Datu Bangkaya and their families opted to reside in Aklan and Capiz Province;

WHEREAS, some of the families from the tribe of Datu Sumakwel, specially from Labing Isog and Mangwalis from Hamtik, Antique has increased tremendously. Because of the scarcity of living

in Hamtik, these families decided to leave the place and ventured to some other places to seek for greener pasture. They sailed their long boats (called barangays) and followed the course of the rising sun until they landed again in the place called "KATIGBAWAN". They called the place Katigbawan because there existed so many giant grasses or tall reeds known to them as "Tigbaw". On the other hand, the Spaniards from La Villa Rica de Arevalo also discovered "Katigbawan" on or before year 1575.

WHEREAS, Maragtas legend identified "KATIGBAWAN", the field of reeds as bounded in the Southeast by Buyu-an Big Creek and in the Northwest by the confluence of two (2) rivers now known as Tacuyong and Sibalom. Year later, the area of Parara, Katigbawan was called by Fr. Pedro Chirino, a well known Jesuit Historian as, "Campo de Suaraga" and later Pueblo de Tigbauan, but later again became as "Encomienda" meaning "land grant" of the King of Spain" to Don Esteban Rodriguez de Figueroa;

WHEREAS, based on the research conducted and evaluation made by the Committee on Education, Culture, Tourism, History, Manpower Development and Civil Service and the sponsors, the time of the venture of the families of Labing-Isog and Mangwalis was during the start of the harvest season concluded to be the month of October;

WHEREAS, in the year 1575, some of the Spaniards who came to the Philippines for ventures and discoveries went to Iloilo, while the priest of the Augustinian order established Christianity in Tigbauan. During that time, there was yet no permanent and independent "Paroquia" in Tigbauan the reason why the Spanish Priest from Oton regularly visits the Paroquia in Tigbauan. Civil Government was administered by the Spaniards, although there was already the Barangay form of administration functioning in years called the "Fundacion Civil";

WHEREAS, in 1580, because of the increase of Christian devotees in Tigbauan, the "Fundacion Ecclesiastica" was officially declared in said municipality and the paroquia was officially separated from Oton. Prior to the establishment of Christianity in Tigbauan, some of the Spaniards joined the natives who were believers in anitos and other celestial objects, i.e., binabaylan or siruwano or disparatis;

WHEREAS, in 1592, according to the book, "The Jesuits in the Philippines", by the late historian and writer, Father Horacio de la Costa, S.J., during the Jesuit interregnum, "The First Boarding School for boys in the Philippines was established in Tigbauan by Father Pedro Chirino who later became a well-known Spanish Jesuit Historian. The said historian stayed in the Philippines up to year 1768, when Christianity was firmly established in this municipality also during that year;

WHEREAS, the Spaniards found out that the people of Tigbauan, Iloilo were very peace-loving and industrious. The men were farmers, fishermen, and hunters. Wild fauna, fish and other marine life were abundant. The women were skilled weavers and engaged in cottage industry of weaving. They produced a durable white land colored cotton cloth called "Lompotes", a fine fabric that had great demand in Mexican Markets, and later shipped to Mexico via the famous galleon trade between Manila and Acapulco. Captain Serapio Teruel, who was a leader in 1870, improved the roads and another public projects;

WHEREAS, because the Spaniards found out that the people of Tigbauan were very industrious, therefore, in 1867 they were utilized to work for the construction of the Tigbauan Parish Church with its famous "Baroque Façade in Rococo Finish" which was completed in 1897 thru the

efforts of Fray Florencio Martin by using forced labor. Because of the forced labor imposed by the Spaniards, some of the Tigbauanons rebelled. In the period between 1897 and 1898, there was an uprising. Capitan del Pueblo Rafael "Awa" Tonogbanua led the people of Tigbauan to fight against the Spanish rule but they were not successful. In 1899 he was succeeded by Vicente Tubongbanua;

WHEREAS, in the year 1898 to 1935, Rev. Fr. Cresencio Montinola was the First Filipino secular priest who served as the parish of Tigbauan Parish Church;

WHEREAS, in 1942, the Japanese Soldiers was already here in Tigbauan and they ambushed the Tigbauan guerilla units thereby resulting to several fatalities on the part of the Filipino soldiers. Because of World War II and there were bombing elsewhere, the parish church was gutted. Between the year 1942 and 1943, the church was reconstructed thru the leadership of the parish priest with the cooperation of the people of Tigbauan. In 1976, because the Tigbauan Parish Church needed to be repaired and reconstructed, Rev. Msgr. Policarpio Parcon initiated the job with the help of the people of Tigbauan under the leadership of Mayor Eugenio Torrento, Sr. In 1982, Fr. Eleuterio Carton continued the reconstruction. The exterior design of the church was beautifully made with clay stones cut in small pieces. It was called a "Biblical Mosaic". This was an added beauty to the

superb aesthetic view of the church, and it was made possible thru the indefatigable efforts of Father Carton with the cooperation of the Municipal Officials, Barangay Officials, the people of Tigbauan residing here and abroad, Christians and non-Christians. In 1997, Mr. Jaime Tacay-Torres and wife Inday Myrna Montealegre-Torres were elected as Hermano and Hermana, respectively, of the Tigbauan Parish Church, and they helped beautify the church, the churchyards and donated the Perpetual Adoration Chapel for a peaceful meditation with God inside the said chapel;

WHEREAS, on March 18, 1945 the United States of America 40<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division landed in the beach of Parara, Tigbauan, Iloilo to liberate Panay and Romblon;

WHEREAS, after the liberation of Tigbauan, civil government was restored and Jose Torre Franca, Sr. was appointed as Mayor from 1946 to 1947. He was succeeded by Gregorio T. Tuvilla who was elected as Mayor in 1948-1955. In 1956 he was succeeded by Mayor Eugenio T. Torrento, Sr.;

WHEREAS, coincidentally, the Parara beach where the U.S. Army 40<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division landed, is the very same beach where the descendants of Bornean Datus landed in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century. The descendants of the Bornean Datus were taught to be Christians by the Spanish Priests and established a civil government to govern its people;

WHEREAS, during the 18<sup>th</sup> century the civil government in Tigbauan was governed by the Spaniards. It was in 1900 that the

Americans landed in Tigbauan. They fought the Spaniards. The Americans appointed the municipal officials. The following were the municipal officials of Tigbauan, Iloilo starting from year 1900.

- |                                    |            |                               |                                |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Aguedo Teruel                   | -1900      | -appointed                    | Municipal                      |
| President                          |            |                               |                                |
| 2. Constantino G. Benedicto        | -1901      | -do-                          |                                |
| 3. Vicente Tubongbanua             | -1902-1903 | -do-                          |                                |
| 4. Ramon M. Altura                 | -1904-1905 | -do-                          |                                |
| 5. Constantino Benedicto Gonzales  | -1906-1907 | -elected                      | Municipal                      |
| President                          |            |                               |                                |
| 6. Ignacio Torre Franca            | -1908-1912 | -do-                          |                                |
| 7. Constantino Benedicto Gonzales  | -1913-1915 | -do-                          |                                |
| 8. Domingo Trompeta, Sr.           | -1916-1921 | -do-                          |                                |
| 9. Francisco "Frank" T. Teruel     | -1922-1924 | -do-                          |                                |
| 10. Tomas Tajanlangit              | -1925-1927 | -do-                          |                                |
| 11. Domingo Trompeta, Sr.          | -1928-1930 | -do-                          |                                |
| 12. Constantino Benedicto Gonzales | -1931-1932 | -do-                          | -died in office                |
| and Pedro T.                       |            |                               |                                |
|                                    |            |                               | Torres, the No. 1              |
|                                    |            |                               | Councilor                      |
|                                    |            |                               | served the unexpired           |
|                                    |            |                               | term                           |
| 13. Pedro T. Torres                | -1933      |                               |                                |
| 14. Gil Rivas                      | -1934-1937 | -do-                          |                                |
| 15. Jose B. Torre Franca, Sr.      | -1938-1940 | -elected                      | Municipal Mayor                |
| 16. Salvador T. Tueres             | -1941-1943 | -do-                          |                                |
| 17. Concordia Palacios             | -1944-1945 | -(Civil Government)           | -appointed                     |
| by Gov.                            |            |                               |                                |
|                                    |            |                               | Tomas Confessor on March 1,    |
|                                    |            |                               | 1944                           |
| 18. Delfin Tumaliuan               | -1944      | -appointed as puppet Mayor by |                                |
| the                                |            |                               |                                |
|                                    |            |                               | Japanese and later fled to the |
|                                    |            |                               | mountain & Mr. Alfredo         |
|                                    |            |                               | Traviña assumed as puppet      |
|                                    |            |                               | Mayor                          |
| 19. Alfredo Traviña                | -1944-1945 | -(Japanese                    |                                |
| Government)                        |            |                               |                                |
| 20. Gregorio Tuvilla               | -1946      | -appointed by PCAU as         |                                |
| Mayor                              |            |                               |                                |
| 21. Jose B. Torre Franca, Sr.      | -1946-1947 | -appointed by                 | Hon.                           |
| Jose C. Zulueta                    |            |                               |                                |
| 22. Gregorio Tuvilla, Sr.          | -1948-1955 | -elected                      |                                |
| Municipal Mayor                    |            |                               |                                |
| 23. Eugenio Torrento, Sr.          | -1956-1963 | -do-                          |                                |
| 24. Bonifacio T. Trivilegio        | -1964-1967 | -do-                          |                                |
| 25. Eugenio Torrento, Sr.          | -1968-1983 | -do-                          |                                |
| 26. Benjamin Taasan                | -1983-1986 | -do-                          |                                |
| 27. Jose Torre Franca, Jr.         | -1986-1988 | -OIC                          | Mayor                          |
| (EDSA Revolution)                  |            |                               |                                |
| 28. Bonifacio Trivilegio           | -1988-1992 | -elected                      |                                |
| Municipal Mayor                    |            |                               |                                |

29.	Celso T. Ledesma	-1992-1998	-do-
30.	Myrna M. Torres	-1998- present	-do-

WHEREAS, starting from July 1, 1998 to the present, the elected municipal officials are:

Mayor Hon. Myrna Montealegre-Torres

Vice Mayor Hon. Jessie Geraldino Terre

\*Sangguniang Bayan Members:

Hon. Ma. Bernardita T. Taasan

Hon. Remedios T. Torrato

Hon. Cornelia T. Teruel

Hon. George T. Tribunal

Hon. Rexfel G. Trivilegio

Hon. Richard T. Tenerife

Hon. Rene T. Ledesma

Hon. Cecilia T. Garrido

Hon. Ramonita T. Alcala - President, Liga ng mga  
Barangay -

representing the Barangay

Captains

Hon. Jonathan T. Torrato - President, Pambansang  
Pederasyon ng

mga Kabataan -

representing the

Sangguniang Kabataan

WHEREAS, in order to keep in mind with gratitude the untiring and valuable deeds of our ancestors, and as an expression of esteem, goodwill and Reverence to our priest and the people of God who had sacrificed their lives and spirits to establish the house of God (the church) and the town of Tigbauan, Iloilo and at the same time converting its people to Christianity which resulted in the foundation of Tigbauan. It may be worthwhile that the month of October shall be remembered by every Tigbauanon as the Foundation Month and the second Friday of October shall be the "ADLAW SANG TIGBAUAN";

WHEREAS, according to the research conducted and evaluation made by the Committee on Education, Culture, Tourism, History, Manpower Development & Civil Service and the sponsors, the first harvest of the year during that time falls on the month of October. This was also the season when the families of Labing Isog and Mangwalis landed "KATIGBAWAN". The word Katigbawan was shortened by the Spaniards to "TIGBAUAN" as an official name, which is carried until now;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Bayan of Tigbauan, Iloilo that:

Section 1. - The second Friday of October shall be declared as 'ADLAW SANG TIGBAUAN', and it shall be strictly observed every year by the residents of this Municipality, Province of Iloilo.

Section 2. - The Tigbauan municipal officials and employees, national officials and employees who hold office in this municipality, the Commission on Higher Education, other school, DECS officials

and employees, teachers, students, government owned and controlled corporations, SEAFDEC, ILECO I, Banks, Telephone companies, private entities and enterprises and other offices as likewise enjoined to observe and attend the mass and other church services during the feast day celebration.

Section 3. - The feast day "ADLAW SANG TIGBAUAN" shall be observed as a working holiday (pending the approval of the House Bill by the Congress of the Philippines), and after approval thereof, shall automatically be a non-working holiday for the Municipality of Tigbauan, Province of Iloilo.

Section 4. - Effectivity Clause - This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval.

ENACTED, August 31, 1998.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

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**I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have quoted correctly the foregoing approved Municipal Ordinance of the Sangguniang Bayan.**

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

**NAVA**

**MARLENE T.**

**S.B. Secretary**

**ATTESTED:**

**JESSIE G. TERRE**  
**Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer**

**APPROVED:**

**TORRES**

**MYRNA M.**

**Mayor**

**Municipal**