

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 537, June 16, 1950]

AN ACT TO REVISE THE CHARTER OF QUEZON CITY

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

PRELIMINARY ARTICLE

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Revised Charter of Quezon City.

ARTICLE I.-*The City as a Public Corporation*

SEC. 2. *General powers.*-The territory within the boundaries described in the next succeeding section is to be known as Quezon City which shall be the capital of the Philippines and the permanent seat of the National Government; and by that name it shall have perpetual succession; have and use of common seal and alter the same at pleasure; sue and be sued, and prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution; take, purchase, revive, hold, lease, convey, and dispose of real and personal property, within or without its corporate limits, for the benefit of the city and, expropriate private property for public use; contract and be contracted with; and execute all the powers hereinafter conferred.

SEC. 3. *Boundaries.*-The boundaries and limits of the territory of said city, containing the total area of fifteen thousand three hundred fifty-nine hectares, more or less, are established and prescribed as follows: Beginning at a point marked "1", which is the northwestern corner of boundary of Quezon City, thence due north 660.00 m. to point "2"; thence N. 43 deg. 30' E., 3,680.00 m. to point "3"; thence, N. 18 deg. 00' W., 3,200.00 m. to point "4"; thence N. 45 deg. 00' E., 4,100.00 m. to point "5"; thence due east 4,200.00 m. to point "6"; thence following the N. boundary line of the Novaliches watershed reservation to point "7"; thence, S. 68 deg. 00' E., 900.00 m. to point "8", which is the center of Marikina River; thence following the center of the downstream course of Marikina River to point "9", which is the intersection of the Arroyo and Marikina Rivers; thence upstream following Arroyo between Payatas and Marikina estates to point "10", which is 100.00 m. to north of the pipe line and which is the corner of Quezon City; thence following the northern boundary of Quezon City to point of beginning; and the territory described as follows: Beginning at a point marked "I" which is identical to boundary monument No. 1, Piedad Estate; thence to point "2", which is boundary monument No. 2 of Piedad Estate; thence downstream following the Arroyo between Payatas Estate and Marikina Estate to point "3", which is 100 meters North of the water pipe line of the Metropolitan Water District; thence following the ridge southwestward to point "4", where the water pipe line crosses the ravine; thence following the ridge south westward to point "5", which is boundary monument No. 25 of Marikina Estate southward to point "6", which is the junction of the Marikina River and Marikina Estate; thence downstream following the Marikina River to point "7", which is the

crossing of Marikina River by the old Rosario Road; thence westward following the old Rosario Road to point "8", which is the intersection of the old Rosario Road with the eastern right of way of the circumferential road (Highway 54) ; thence northwestward following the eastern right of way of the circumferential road to point "9", which is the crossing of the said road by the Santolan Road (northern right of way of the tolan Road) ; thence westward following the northern right of way of the Santolan Road to point "10", which crossing of the said road with the Salapan Creek; thence downstream following the Salapan Creek to point"11",which is the junction of Salapan Creek and Dario River; thence southward following the Salapan Creek to its intersection with the east boundary of the City of Manila to point "12"; thence northwestward following; the east boundary of the City of Manila to point "13", near La Loma Cabaret, which is a corner of the boundary of the City of Manila near the entrance of the North Cemetery; thence northward following the boundary of the City of Manila to point "14", which is the Northeast corner of said city; thence westward along said City of Manila boundary at a distance of 100 meters to point "15"; thence northward paralleling the Novaliches Road to a distance of 100 meters from the property line on the side of said road to point "16", which is at a distance of 100 meters North of the crossing of Samson Street (road connecting Balintawak Monument with Bonifacio Monument) ; thence eastward paralleling Samson Street and the circumferential road at a distance of 100 meters on the North side of said street and road to point "17", which is the center of the Culiati Creek; thence upstream following the Culiati Creek to point "18", which is the junction of Pasong Tamo River and Culiati Creek; thence upstream following Pasong Tamo River to point "19", which is the junction of Pasong Tamo River and Pinagpatayan Buaya Creek; thence to point of beginning."

SEC. 4. *City not liable for damages.*-The failure of any city officer to enforce the provisions of this Act or any law or ordinance, or the negligence of said officer while enforcing or attempting to enforce the same, shall not cause the city to be held liable for damages or injuries to Persons or property.

SEC. 5. *Conduct of elections.*-The duties which are by the Election Code made incumbent upon provincial boards and municipal councils shall be performed by the City Council; and those upon provincial treasurers and municipal secretaries, by the City Treasurer and city secretary, respectively.

SEC. 6. *Police jurisdiction.*-The jurisdiction of Quezon for police purposes shall be coextensive with its territorial jurisdiction only, and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the purity of the water supply of the city such police jurisdiction shall extend over all territory within the drainage area of such water supply, or within one hundred meters of any reservoir, conduit, canal aqueduct, or pumping station used in connection with the city water service. The Court of First Instance and the municipal court of Quezon City shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Courts of First Instance and the courts of justices of the peace of the province and municipalities, respectively, to try crimes and misdemeanors committed within said drainage area, or within said spaces of one hundred meters. The court first taking jurisdiction of such an offense shall thereafter retain exclusive jurisdiction thereof.

SEC. 7. *Representative districts.*-Until otherwise provided by law, the corresponding territories of Quezon City belonging at the time of the approval of this Act to the First and Second Representative Districts of the Province of Rizal, shall continue to

remain parts of said districts.

ARTICLE II.-*The Mayor*

SEC. 8. *The Mayor.-His appointment and compensation.*-The Mayor shall be the chief executive of the city, and as such, shall have immediate supervision and control over the executive functions of the different departments subject to the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior, The Mayor shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, with the consent of the Commission on Appointments of the Congress of the Philippines, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the President. He shall receive a salary of not exceeding nine thousand pesos a year. The City Council may provide the Mayor in addition to his salary a commutable quarter's allowance of not more than three thousand pesos *per annum*.

SEC. 9. *Vice-Mayor.*-There shall be a Vice-Mayor who shall be a member of the City Council, and who shall, during the absence of the Mayor from the city or his disability for any reason, discharge the duties of this office and exercise his powers, except that of removing any officer from office. If, for any reason, the Vice-Mayor is temporarily incapacitated for the performance of the duties of the office of the mayor, or said office of the vice-mayor is vacant, the duties of the Mayor, shall be performed by the City Engineer.

He shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, with the consent of the Commission on Appointments of the Congress and shall hold office at the pleasure of the president. He shall receive a salary of not exceeding three thousand six hundred pesos a year.

SEC. 10. *General duties and powers of the Mayor.*-The general duties and powers of the Mayor shall be:

- a. He shall take care that the laws of the Philippines, the provisions of this Act, and the ordinances and resolutions of the city are duly observed and enforced within the jurisdiction of the city.
- b. He shall see that executive officers and employees of the city faithfully discharge their respective duties, and to that end may cause to be instituted any appropriate criminal action, or take proceedings to bring to the attention of the proper superior officer the derelictions of city officials.
- c. He shall give to the City Council from time to timesuch information and recommend such measures as he shall deem advantageous to the city.
- d. He shall preside at all meetings of the City Council;
shall have the right to vote on all ordinances or other matters coming before the Council, shall sign the secretary's record of the proceedings of each meeting at the same meeting at which same is approved by the Council, and shall sign all ordinances and resolutions.
- e. He shall have power to examine and inspect the records, and papers of all officers, agents, or employees of the city.
- f. He shall represent the city in all its business matters, and sign all warrants drawn on the city treasury and all bonds, contracts, and obligations of the city,

- g. He shall appoint, in accordance with the Civil Service Law, all officers or employees of the city, whose appointment is not otherwise provided by law, and at any time, for cause, he may suspend any such officer or employee thus appointed for a period not exceeding fifteen days which suspension may continue for a longer period if approved by the Department Head; and by and with the consent of the Department Head may discharge any such officer or employee.
- h. He shall cause to be instituted judicial proceedings to recover property and funds of the city wherever found or otherwise to protect its interests, and shall cause to be defended all suits against the same.
- i. He shall, as soon as practicable not later than the month of September, prepare and present to the Department Head an annual report covering the operations of the city government during the preceding year.
- j. To safeguard all the lands, buildings, records, moneys, credits, and other property and right of the city, and subject to the provisions of this Charter, have control of all its property.
- k. To see that all taxes and other revenues of the city are collected, and applied in accordance with appropriations to the payment of the city expenses.
- l. To excuse, with the concurrence of the Director of Public Schools, deserving poor pupils from the payment of school fees or any part thereof.
- m. To take such emergency measures as may be necessary to avoid fires, floods, and mitigate the effects of storms and other public calamities.
- n. To grant or refuse municipal license or permit of all classes and to revoke the same for violation of the conditions upon which they are granted, or if acts prohibited by law or municipal ordinance are being committed under the protection of such license or permit or in the premise in which the business for which the same have been granted is carried on, or for any other good reason of general and public interest.
- o. To receive, hear, and decide as he may deem proper the petitions, complaints, and claims of the residents concerning all classes of local matters of an administrative character.
- p. To require owner of houses, buildings or other structures constructed without the necessary permit or in violation of existing law or ordinance to remove or demolish such houses, buildings or structures within thirty days after notice, and upon failure of such owner to remove or demolish such house, building, or structure within thirty days, the mayor may cause its removal or demolition at the expense of the owner,
- q. To perform such other duties and exercise such executive powers as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

ARTICLE III.-*The City Council*

SEC. 11. *The City Council-Constitution and organization-Compensation of members-Meetings-Ordinances*-There shall be a City Council composed of the Mayor as

chairman, Vice-Mayor, and eight other members. The Council shall fix the time and places for its regular meetings, which shall be held twice in each week, and shall hold special sessions when called by the Mayor. Any meeting, regular or special, may, in case the amount of business shall require, be adjourned from day to day until the business is completed. The meetings of the Council shall be open to the public unless otherwise ordered by affirmative vote of a majority of its members. It shall keep a record of its proceedings and determine its rules of procedure not herein set forth. A majority of the Council shall constitute a *quorum* for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may adjourn from time to time. The ayes and naves shall be taken and recorded upon the passage of all ordinances, upon all resolutions or motions directing the payment of money or creating liability, and, at the request of any member, upon any other motion or resolution. The affirmative vote of a majority of all the members of the City Council shall be necessary for the passage of any ordinance, resolution, or motion directing the payment of money or creating liability. Each ordinance shall be sealed with the city seal, signed by the Mayor and the city secretary, and recorded in a book for that purpose. Each ordinance shall, on the day its passage, be posted by the city secretary at the main entrance of the municipal building and shall take effect and be in force on and after the tenth day following its passage, if no date is fixed in the ordinance.

The eight councilors hereinabove mentioned shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines with the consent of the Commission on Appointments, shall hold office at the pleasure of the President; and, such councilors who are not officers or employees of the Government receiving a fixed compensation or salary from public funds shall receive a fixed salary of not exceeding three thousand six hundred pesos each *per annum*.

SEC. 12. *General powers and duties of the council*-The City Council shall have power by ordinance or resolution:

- (a) To make all appropriations for the expenses of the government of the city, and establish and fix the salaries of city officers and employees whose salaries are not otherwise provided in this Charter, provided that the rate thereof shall not exceed those fixed in the schedule of salary established by the competent authority.
- (b) To provide for the levy and collection of taxes and other city revenues and apply the same to the payment of city expenses in accordance with appropriations.
- (c) To tax, fix the license fee, and regulate the business of the following: Hawkers, peddlers, hucksters, not including hucksters or peddlers who sell only native vegetable fruits or food, personally carried by the hucksters peddlers, auctioneers, plumbers, barbers, embalmers, collecting agencies, mercantile agencies, transportation companies and agencies, advertising agents, tattooers, hotels, clubs, restaurants, lodging houses, boarding houses, livery stables, private police detectives, private detective agencies, special police agencies, guard agencies, special watchmen agencies, massage clinics, masseur and masseuse, chiropodists, hair dressing and beauty parlors, painters, clubs, night clubs, boarding stables, dealers in