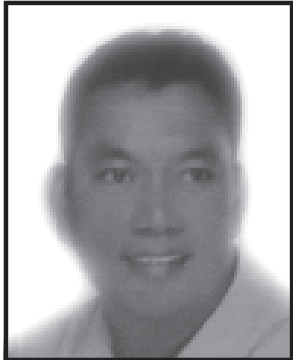


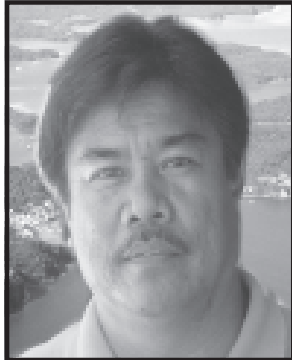
# Who will be the next Mayor of Puerto Galera?



Engr. Kiko Evangelista Atienza



Vic Evangelista Atienza



Bayani Dalisay Datinguinoo



Jimmy Visayana Delgado



Dr. Hubert Atienza Dolor



Dr. Oscar Carvajal Evangelista

**Walking the Extra Mile For  
The Youth of Puerto Galera**



## The Puerto Galera Fortnightly JOURNAL

Volume 4 No. 9 January 16-30, 2007 Issue A PGOnline Publication

## 2006: The Year That Was

PUERTO GALERA will remember 2006 not only from the 3 very destructive typhoons that came our way but also on many highly-charged issues which had brought throngs of people to the Municipal Hall to either fight or support an ordinance.

### One-Point Entry

The One-Point of Entry Ordinance undoubtedly was the most controversial issue in 2006. After many months, the Provincial Board approved the ordinance paving the way for its implementation, which means all sea vessels coming from Batangas must dock at Balatero Pier. The ordinance was not enforced even after Mayor Teo Atienza set a date for ship own-

ers to comply. The shipping companies and various business groups were ready to legally challenge the ordinance if ever it will be enforced. The Mayor, days before his own deadline, backed off telling the Sangguniang Bayan that Balatero pier needs to be improved to accommodate all the vessels.

The ordinance was flawed from the onset. It was practically impossible to implement. The Mayor found a smart way out passing the ball back to the Sangguniang Bayan.

The situation however has changed. The election is fast approaching and no candidate for Mayor or Councilor would

like to make enemies especially from the business community. In the meantime, the politicians will let sleeping dogs lie.

### EUF issue

The Environmental User Fee (EUF) Ordinance made headline when the draft was presented to the public with unclear provisions on who will and will not pay. This was later revised to exclude anyone who is not by definition a tourist.

The proposed ordinance demands payment of 50 pesos per tourist before gaining entry to Puerto Galera. The question to ask is where they will collect the EUF. If Puerto Galera has no single point of entry then the

>>> on page 2

MONTHS AWAY until the start of the official campaign period on March 30, would-be candidates for various local posts have been making their presence felt (the earlier the better).

The Yuletide Season was an opportune time for mayoral hopefuls to signify their intentions to serve in glaring tarpaulins.

The first week of 2007 saw candidates crisscrossing Puerto Galera; it was nearing crunch time to finalize the line-ups. A serious candidate for Mayor needs all the help he can get and

filling up 9 slots is a must to many. But getting a Vice Mayor and 8 councilors to sign-up with you is no easy task. Only 3 out of the 6 prospective candidates for Mayor have so far formed partial line-ups.

Getting into politics in Puerto Galera is not as tempting as in other towns in Mindoro. If our brand of politics was similar to theirs, the big paychecks would have been enough reason for many young professionals to join the electoral fray. But ours is a lot more complicated. We got power brokers who are

willing to outbid each other in soliciting votes from the poor. To be winnable is to be popular to the rich. We got interest groups, religious leaders and even cultural minorities exerting pressure on politicians, the honest paycheck would not be worth the headache.

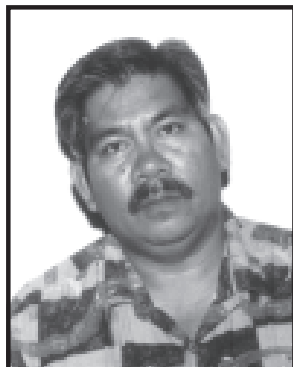
It will take a miracle when we will finally see someone who is attuned to the needs of our time lead this town. Each of the 6 probable candidates for Mayor will surely attest that he is the best man for the job.

>>> on page 3

## Who will be the Vice Mayor?



Melchor Jumaquio Arago



Aristeo Evangelista Atienza



Juan Suzara Ascan Jr.

Melchor Arago is a very popular and charismatic politician, traits which in spite of meager resources gave him a very close fight for the Vice Mayoral last election. He is a building contractor and married to DILG Sylvia Arago. His bailiwicks include Sabang, Tabinay, San Isidro and Sto. Nino.

Melchor was one of the three Councilors who courageously spoke against Mayor Teo Atienza in public, declaring war on corrupt public officials in 2003. He won as Councilor in 1992 and was re-elected in 1998.

Melchor has also been consistently fighting against the one-point of entry ordinance which directs all vessels to dock at Balatero pier when entering or leaving Puerto Galera. He thinks this will be bad for Puerto Galera and that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages at this point in time.

He belongs to the Lakas-CMD party.

Aristeo first tried politics in 1992 when lost as Mayor. He never forgot the experience and learned his lessons. He probably knew then that the Locsin factor is the quintessential element when one aspires to become Mayor. So in 1995 he joined the Mayor Goring Delgado and became his running mate, now with the Locsin support. He won and during his term as Vice Mayor he championed the cause of the environment.

In 1998 he won as Mayor, got re-elected in 2001 and re-elected for the third and final term in 2004.

Mayor Teo Atienza is lauded for his many infrastructure projects which literally bear his name.

Now that he is running for Vice Mayor, he will surely leave the Office of the Mayor with a legacy unlike any of his predecessor. Whether it will be good or bad, only history will tell.

Among the contenders, Vice Mayor Johnny Ascan's record as a public servant remains unsurpassed in terms of length of service; 30 years as an educator, 9 years as a Municipal Councilor and 6 years as Municipal Vice Mayor.

Among his numerous accomplishments as head teacher was the acquisition of the land where the school of Dulangan now stands. He proudly professed that in his 45 years as a public servant there had been no allegation of corruption or any wrongdoing whatsoever.

His family hails from Dulangan and he is married to Zenaida Candava Ascan. Poblacion, Balatero and Dulangan are his traditional bailiwicks. Johnny belongs to the Liberal Party but because of his apparent split with party chairman Teo Atienza, he and his new Mayor, Dr. Oscar Evangelista need another political party.

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*While it is most definitely part of the job, we wish to affirm our commitment to our readers that we will be fair and impartial in our reporting of events especially during the campaign period. We wish to re-assure the candidates that we will endeavor to always give both sides of the issues that arise.*

*This we believe, the people need to be given reliable, relevant information for them to be able to come up with the best decision come Election Day. It is especially during this time when politicians become extra creative in muddling the issue and paint a different picture of their real intentions.*

*The politicians also recognize the role of this paper as a vital source of information and there will be attempt to gain publicity mileage through this medium. We pledge that we will remain vigilant and be open to all political parties or individuals, favor no one and always present both sides of the story.*

*If by any chance you believe, we have denigrated your candidate, feel free to send in your comments and we will be most happy to publish them, verbatim if need be.*

*It is our fervent hope that the candidates will volunteer information to us, the more the public read about them, the better they get to know them. Perhaps, after this exercise, you, dear reader, will one day see the value of having a community paper that serves no one but the truth, and the truth, as oftentimes said, will someday set our people free.*

*Now more than ever, it is not easy to come up with an issue every fortnight but we hope you will continue to help us help you.*

**The Puerto Galera Fortnightly Journal**

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**2006: The Year That Was...**

municipality must employ collectors at 7 or more sites to go after the tourists. Or they can put 24-hour stations at Batangas Port and Lea Beach.

The next question to ask is how the millions of pesos collected will be spent. In one meeting, the municipality earmarked a major portion of the EUF fund for the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) of Sabang. The water quality of Sabang has gone from bad to critical and an immediate solution is needed if not to reverse, place the contamination and pollution at manageable level.

**Lewd Show**

When Councillor Minda Justiniano authored the Anti-Lewd Show Ordinance, little did she know that it will spark controversies, pitting Mayor Teo Atienza together with the girlie bar supporters against the Sangguniang Bayan and the Church. The latter won when 8 members of the Sangguniang Bayan overrode the veto of the Mayor, a historical first for Puerto Galera government.

However, the Videoke Bars in Poblacion, which existence the Church and various women's groups detest, were not affected. These bars are allegedly being used as prostitution fronts. There have been many several stabbing incidents

that started from the bars' premises, at least one this year resulted in the death of an 18-year old boy.

The Sangguniang Bayan promised to put a stop to this whether or not it will mean another Mayor's veto to override. It is interesting to note that almost all the councilors belong to the Mayor's party. And reversing a Mayor's veto goes beyond party lines; it's personal and shall most likely leave a scar.

**Mayor Teo Atienza**

Starting January 1, 2007, Mayor Teo Atienza has been in government for 11 years and 6 months. He first served as Vice Mayor for 3 years and come June 30 shall walk out of the Office of the Mayor which he held for 9 years in 3 consecutive 3-year terms.

The Mayor is known for his aggressive, no-nonsense style of leadership which earned him both adulation and disparagement. The Mayor is credited for numerous infrastructure projects, the gymnasium, the Balet plaza, the public market and the rehabilitation of the water system.

Mayor Atienza in several occasions said he will run for Vice Mayor come next election. These have raised a few eyebrows amongst players in the

political arena. Puerto Galera has not seen an incumbent Mayor run for Vice Mayor in recent history.

**The Sangguniang Bayan**

The Town Council had been busy in 2006. It had conducted public hearings on controversial issues such as the "two-point of entry" ordinance, the EUF and the ban on lewd show ordinance. Many times the councilors have been derided for not heeding the objections of the people who attended these public hearings.

Vice Mayor Ascan would oftentimes quipped the Council is just doing its job of looking for what will be best for the majority.

However, the Council has failed to pass the BMBE ordinance which would have given needed tax relief on small business in Puerto Galera. Otherwise known as the Barangay Micro Business Enterprise Act, this law has been in effect since 2003 but has yet to be realized in this municipality.

Regardless, this newspaper lauds the Council and Vice Mayor Ascan for their efforts to enlighten the public on many issues, good or bad, through these meetings.

2006 was the year when the Vice Mayor and the Mayor parted ways, politically.

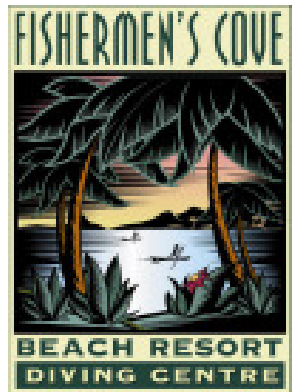
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Who will be the next Mayor of Puerto Galera... from p.1

Two of the prospective candidates are blood brothers of the incumbent Mayor. Engr. Kiko Atienza says he has a different style than older brother Mayor Teo Atienza and fellow mayoral hopeful, younger brother Vic Atienza. Those that know him say Kiko is a devout Catholic and thus, will be an honest government official, a rarity nowadays whether Catholic or not. Kiko has a wide experience on public works, has become president or its equivalent of various organizations, a clear proof of his leadership abilities.

In a phone interview Kiko outlined 8 programs he would like to do if ever he becomes the Mayor, as follows:

- 1. Infrastructure – improvement of the roads, building of a bigger Balatero pier with the Philippine Ports Authority.
- 2. Tourism – develop new tourism sites, construction of a circumferential road from Baclayan to Ponderosa.
- 3. Environment – proper rules and regulations governing mining activities.
- 4. Peace & Order – establishment of police outposts in the barangays, security of the tourists.
- 5. Agriculture – new farming techniques, lower the prices

of commodities.

6. Livelihood – new livelihood opportunities with the help of TESDA.

7. Health – more doctors, care for the senior citizens and the poor.

8. Power & energy – separate power grid for Puerto Galera. Bayani Datinguinoo is the son of former Councilor Briccio Datinguinoo, patriarch of the Datiguinoo clan and shall most likely command the votes of relatives from Sinandigan, Sabang and Balatero. He is the brother-in-law of former Vice Mayor Robinhood Ylagan who is supporting Jimmy Delgado triggering a rift between 2 big families in vote-rich Sabang. Bayani is the owner of Datinguinoo Shipping Lines and is generally known as a successful businessman.

Bayani said that his priority programs include education, health and tourism. He did not however elaborate.

Jimmy Delgado is the brother of former Mayor Goring Delgado. He lost to Teo Atienza in the 1998 election by a slim margin. He owns an antique shop in Manila. Jimmy is regarded as the leader of the opposition. He enjoys the support of many political leaders

including a number of Barangay Captains. His strongest support comes from Aninuan and San Isidro where most of his relatives reside. Jimmy will most likely be the official candidate of the Lakas-CMD party which is the party of Governor Arnan Panaligan and President Gloria Arroyo.

Jimmy is the only one who is not a political newbie, and experience will definitely be a major factor in this contest. Jimmy has reportedly completed his line-up with Melchor Arago as the Vice Mayor. Councilor Joseph Andal will run under Jimmy’s banner.

Dr. Hubert Dolor is the Municipal Health Officer and a nephew of Mayor Teo Atienza who reportedly will be his Vice Mayor. His brother, Bonz Dolor, was a former Provincial Board Member and another brother is a government prosecutor. His mother is a high-ranking official of the Department of Education in the province of Mindoro and definitely holds clout among Puerto Galera teachers.

Hubert is the youngest among the 6 probable contenders but being with the incumbent Mayor means he would have the experience, influence, resources and the machinery of

the Liberal party. Hubert also enjoys the support of many health workers and barangay leaders. He reportedly has a complete slate with 3 incumbent councilors, namely, Raffy Cataquis, Berting Macatangay and Endo Candava joining his ticket.

Last but certainly not the least is Dr. Oscar Evangelista of Dulangan but now residing in Poblacion. After several years as a medical practitioner, Dr. Evangelista now wants to serve his towns mate as its Mayor.

Oscar is a product of Dulangan Elementary and the Puerto Galera Academy. He got his medical degree at Fatima University and is holding clinic together with his wife Dr. Armida Cruz in Bulacan.

He became an assistant physician in the US and upon returning to the Philippines, specialized in orthopedic surgery at the Philippine Orthopedic Center. Oscar said he would be a different Mayor. He likened Puerto Galera to a sick man now in an acute stage of the disease and needs immediate attention, treatment and rehabilitation.

He said his primary concerns are with regards to health and sanitation, education, the environment and sustainable

tourism. He also said that he would talk to foreign residents and solicit their skills in finding solutions to community problems. He said he would decongest the town proper by relocating some public facilities. He plans to improve the quality of education and will concentrate on eliminating illegal activities.

Oscar and his 6 siblings, all US-based, have been actively supporting various community projects including building a school for the barrio in Dulangan, equipped with books and computers donated by friends from the US.

Oscar has reportedly completed his line-up with the incumbent Vice Mayor as his running mate and 3 incumbent councilors, namely, Danny Enriquez, Minda Justiniano and Isidro Bunquin joining his flag.

He also is rumored to be the

bet of the Locsin family which many say is the be all and end all of any election in Puerto Galera.

However, the political dynamics have change since Teo’s ascendancy and the personalities now are more determined to fight, more willing to spend, more committed to win, more daring to act. In other words, it will be more dangerous this election than any other elections. The stakes are much higher, the perks and privileges never as pronounced, to be Mayor is to be Teo.

We can only pray that the blood that was spilled in 1998 will not be forgotten and for such tragedy to not happen again. We hope the politicians will not use foul words against each other and will focus on issues affecting Puerto Galera and how to resolve them.

Public Perception Survey:  
**Who do you think will be the next Mayor and Vice Mayor?**  
*Sino sa palagay mo ang susunod na Mayor at Vice Mayor?*

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Reserved for 2007 Calendar

Reserved for 2007 Calendar

## Puerto Galera Most Beautiful Bay Club seeks more members

The Puerto Galera Most Beautiful Bay, Inc. (PGMBBI) is inviting resorts and other establishments to be members of the association and to authorize them to freely use the logo of the Most Beautiful Bay in the World and other privileges to be later defined.

The PGMBBI through the efforts of its President Hubert d'Aboville was responsible for making Puerto Galera the 30th most beautiful bay in the world, the 3rd in continental Asia, and the first in the Philippines.

Mr. d'Aboville said: "All of us are proud of this prestigious award. And being the lucky recipient, responsibility rests upon us to conserve and safeguard the exceptional qualities that gave us this great distinction."

Puerto Galera needs to pay US \$1000 to the Paris-based Mother Club every year and PGMBBI is asking resort owners and individuals donate from 30 to 100 US\$ to help maintain this prestigious recognition as well as pay for projects related to tourism and the environment.



*Jérôme Bignon, French Congressman and World President of the Most Beautiful Bay Association; François Goulard, French Secretary of Research; Hubert d'Aboville, President of the Puerto Galera Most Beautiful Bay, Inc., and Michel Met, Founding President of the World Most Beautiful Bay Association. This photo was taken during the opening day of the UNESCO & World Most Beautiful Bay Association Photo Exhibit in Paris last 05 October 2006. The exhibit showed beautiful pictures of the 30 Most Beautiful Bays in the World. The Philippine Ambassador to France was guest speaker. More than 100 diplomats, UNESCO officials and special guests attended the opening, among them is Mr. Stan Hilker, another board member of Puerto Galera Most Beautiful Bay, Inc.*



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Talk of the Town

As much as we want to come up with an issue every 15 days, we were faced with the realities of the holiday season. Most of our workers went back to their families to spend Christmas and New Year and such is a tradition no one can say no to.

Add to this was a nasty flu that had me bedridden for almost 2 weeks!

Anyway, we’re back and its not December anymore.

News of the sinking of a Puerto Galera ferry last December was adding insult to injury to the already struggling shipping industry. Not so long ago, supertyphoon Reming nearly wiped out most of the outrigger ferries sinking some beyond repair. Now came this unfortunate incident which also affected the tourist industry as would-be weekend visitors decided to visit some place else away from the sea.

Thankfully not one of the 103 souls onboard M/B Brian ferry was lost. However, controversy soon arose right after as the Coast Guard denied ever giving clearance to sail to the ill-fated ferry that afternoon.

Another issue that the owner of the ferry must resolve

with the authorities is the fact that it would seem that the boat was over the approved capacity, 80 plus only.

Proponents of the one-point of entry were easy to point out that had there been only one pier then the undermanned Coast Guard would have been able to monitor departing vessels.

The war of words between the Mayor and the Vice Mayor is worsening as the election draw near. The Vice Mayor wrote on a piece of paper that it was the Mayor who was insisting on the approval of the one-point of entry.

“This is the reason why I wrote him a letter informing him that ordinance has been approved by the Provincial Board” says the Vice Mayor.

Politicians at this point in time would like to drop the topic like a hot potato. The Mayor is saying the ball is back with the town council as he awaits funds for improving Balatero pier. The Vice Mayor is saying its ready for implementation.

The Council last Jan. 9 cancelled the public hearing on an ordinance regulating Videoke bars. The proposed ordinance

promises to be more controversial as the ban on lewd show ordinance. Under the draft, Videoke bars will be prohibited from employing GROs and entertainers. All the girlie bars must be at a certain distance away from religious, educational and government buildings. They also need to employ security guards to take care of unruly customers. The draft also direct owners to deny entry to minors, to disallow carrying of firearms and to soundproof the establishment.

If you happen to pass by Muelle, you will notice why there is a need to lower the noise in Videoke bars.

Speaking of Muelle, Engr. Rod Manongsong, your attention is gravely needed. Muelle is literally falling apart. The typhoon and powerful waves carved out pockets of holes along the wharf which makes it dangerous for vehicle to park along Muelle.

I have seen the budget for 2007 and I agree with some of the councilors that it would be best to re-enact the 2006 budget. This is to give the new Mayor who will be in office in July this year a budget to tinker with later on, if you get my drift. Next issue we will discuss the vague items on the budget.

Mahilig sa pulitika ang mga Pinoy

ni Pompey Quinto

Ang halalan ang pamamaraan ng demokrasyang sistema upang ang pagkakapantay-pantay at ang panlipunang katarungan ay maipatupad ng wasto. Kaya naman ang ingay at pagkahumaling ng buong sambayanang Pilipino ay ganoon na lang katindi malayo pa man ang eleksyon “Election Fever” sa wikang English. Ganito ang senaryo mula’t sapul nang ang unang halalan ay isagawa noon pang panahon ng Unang Deklarasyon ng Republika ng Pilipinas hanggang sa ngayon. Pagkahumaling na dulot ng pag-asa. Pag-asang sa wakas pagkaraan ng daang taong pananakop ng mga dayuhan, ang progreso dulot ng demokrasya sa ilalim ng kapwa Pilipinong pamumuno ay makakamit. Walang duda na ito ang minimithi ng ating mga lolo at lola noon. Mithiin na hanggang sa ngayon ay animo mailap na hayop na di pa rin makamit. Subalit ang init ng pagkahumaling sa halalan ay andito pa rin manapa’y lalong sumisidhi ganung wala naman tayong makitang liwanag ng progreso sa loob ng daang taong paghahalal ng tamang mamumuno. Napag-iwanan na tayo ng ating mga karatig bansa ganung tayo ang naunang nakalayang bansa sa mga bansa ng timog silangan ng Asya. Tayo ang may pinakamataas na porsyento ng populasyon na nabibiyayaan ng

edukasyon simula pa ng ika-19 na siglo hanggang dekada ‘70 sa rehiyong ito ng Asya. Napakayaman ng bansa natin sa mga yamang mineral na kinakailangang hilaw na sangkap upang maging industriyalisadong bansa. Kilala na sa buong mundo ang sipag, tiyaga, talino at talento ng mga Pilipino. Mga kalidad na sangkap upang maging maunlad at industriyalisadong bansa, ngunit bakit hindi natin ito makamit at patuloy pa ring bigo sa mithiin ang ating mga ninunong nagbuwis ng buhay.

Hindi naman lingid sa nakararami na ang pinakamalaking dahilan ay ang hindi wastong pamamalakad ng mga nasa gobyerno kaalinsabay ang lagana na “Corruption” pagkamakasarily at sa ilang kaso ay ang pang-aabuso sa tungkulin. Ilang opisyaes na ang nagkamal ng bilyong halaga hango sa kabang yaman ng bansa. Ang lahat ng ito’y nag-uugat sa di tamang pagpili ng pinuno tuwing halalan.

Ang basehan ng pagpili ng pinuno noong araw na naaala-ala ko pa noong dekada ’60 sa mga bayan-bayan a pagiging kamag-anak, kaibigan, utang na loob o kaya’y kapanalig sa partidong walang idelohiya, partidong walang malinaw at malalim na programang pamamahala, panahon ng Nacionalista at Liberal, mga partido

politikal na walang laman. Sa ngayon nagbago na ang pangalan ng mga partido pero kaparis pa rin ang mga ito ng partidong walang tiyak na direksyong programa na pagpipilian ng mga botanteng mamamayan. Ang tanging basehan ay personalidad at lumalala pa ang sakit ng kultura ng eleksyon sa ngayon dahil nadagdagan ang mali at baluktot na basehan. Kailanga’y naging artista o kasing popular na personalidad, pagkalat ng salaping pambili ng boto. Lalong umiinit at kalimitan magulo ang halalan, at kung minsan maraming buhay ang nabubuwis.

Ang init ng usaping halalan ay para bagang mas higit na mas mahalaga kaysa paglutas ng kahirapang kinakaharap ng masang Pilipino.

Wala na sa kaisipan nating mga Pilipino ang tunay na kahalagahan ng halalan. Ang pagpili ng nararapat na pinuno kung kaya’t ang halalan natin dito sa ating bansa ang nagbunsod, nagbubunsod at magbubunsod pa sa ating kahirapang kinakasadlakan at patuloy pang kasasadlakan hangga’t hindi mababago ang kultura ng eleksyon. Sa ating mamamayang Pilipinonakasalalay ang pag-unlad ng bansa subalit kung patuloy nating babaluktutin ang layunin ng halalan patuloy nating kinikitil ang ating pag-asa.

Greetings of a Prosperous New Year!  
*Pagbati ng isang Masaganang Bagong Taon!*



Engr. Kiko E. Atienza

Pagbati ng Isang Manigong Bagong Taon!



Bayani Datinguinoo

“Muli nating ibalik ang magagandang tradisyon at kaugalian ng Puerto Galera. Ibantayog ang moralidad sa pamamahala ng bayan.”

# Ang aking Vice Mayor

HINDI ko alam kung paano sisimulan ang artikulong ito. Sa isang banda’y nangingiming isulat ang maselang paksa bunga ng dalawang katuwiran. Una, dahil ang inyong lingkod ay minsan ding napasabak sa mundo ng pulitika, at ikalawa, dahil ang mga aspirante ay malapit sa aking kalooban. Subalit matapos ang mahalagang payo ng isang malapit na kaibigan, muli na namang nagsulat at ito ang produkto. Inuulit na walang sinumang tinutukoy bagkus ito’y paglalahad lamang ng sariling opinyon. Ika nga, walang personalan, trabaho lamang.

Ang Vice Mayor ang siyang presiding officer ng Sangguniang Bayan. Kung baga siya ang Speaker ng mini-kongreso. Bilang presiding officer, siya ang may hawak ng “gavel” na siyang simbolo ng kaayusan, kapangyarihan, katarungan at demokrasya sa loob ng Sangguniang Bayan.

Hindi basta ang humawak ng “gavel”. Alam ng aking Vice Mayor kung paano ito gamitin at kung kailan dapat gamitin. Nasa tamang paggamit ng “gavel” ang tagumpay ng mga kasapi ng Sangguniang Bayan.

At dahil sa ang Sangguniang Bayan ang nagbabalangkas at gumagawa

ng mga ordinansa at kapasyahan para sa bayan, may sapat na kaalaman ang aking Vice Mayor sa proseso ng paggawa ng mga panukala at mga tanging batas. May sapat na kaalaman ang aking Vice Mayor sa “parliamentary rules and procedure” na siyang pangunahing alituntunin sa pagtatanghal ng mga pormal na usapin.

Pinakikinggan ng aking Vice Mayor ang lahat ng panig bago gumawa ng desisyon. Iginagalang niya ang opinyon ng lahat, walang itinatangi maging kalaban man sa pulitika. Bilang presiding officer pantay-pantay ang pagtingin ng aking Vice Mayor sa mga konsehal at panauhin sa mga pag-uusap ng Sangguniang Bayan.

Iniisip ng aking Vice Mayor na ang boses ng bawat konsehal ay boses ng mga mamamayang kinatawan nito kaya’t binibigyan niya ng sapat na panahon para ilahad ang kanyang kanyang pananaw at panukala sa mga usaping pambayan.

Isa sa katangian ng aking Vice Mayor ang maging isang tunay na pinuno na hinihikayat ang mga konsehal na gawin ang kanilang tungkulin bilang mambabatas at kinatawan ng bayan. Binibigyan niya ng takdang tungkulin ang mga konsehal na naaayon sa

kanilang kakayahan at karanasan.

Ang aking Vice Mayor ay nauunawaan ang laman ng diwa ng bagong Local Government Code na siyang bibliya ng lokal na pamahalaan. Alam niya ang hangganan ng kanyang tungkulin at pananagutan.

Ang aking Vice Mayor ay bihasa sa pag-aayos ng mga sigalot at may diplomasya at dunong na kalimitan ay nagbubunga sa maayos na pagsasamahan at kasunduan.

Ang aking Vice Mayor ay madaling lapitan, hindi pikon at may mahabang pasensiya. Higit sa lahat may matibay na paninindigan ang aking Vice Mayor. Hindi niya ipinagbibili ang kanyang prinsipyo at ipinaglalaban niya ang kagustuhan at kapakinabangan ng nakakarami.

Ang aking Vice Mayor ay maka Diyos, makabayan, maka-tao at maka-kapaligiran. Iniisip ng aking Vice Mayor ang kapakanan ng susunod na salinlahi kaya’t binibigyan niya ng masusing atensiyon ang lahat ng panukalang ukol sa likas ng yaman at kagandahan ng Puerto Galera.

Dasal ko ngayong halalan na lumitaw ang mga katangiang ito sa ngayo’y naghahangad na manungkulan bilang ikalawang punong bayan

# Ang tipo kong Mayor

MALAPIT NA ang eleksiyon. Marami ang nagtatanong sa akin kung sino ang aking paborito sa pagka-Mayor. Ngunit bago ganap na makapagbigay ng kasagutan ang sinuman ay kailangan muna na pag-aralan ang maraming aspeto na umiikot sa isang Mayor.

Bago ko simulan ang artikulong ito ay nais kong ipaabot sa mambabasa na wala akong pinupunteryang tao o sektor, at tanging opinyon ko lamang ito sa tanong na: “Ano ang gusto kong makita sa aking Mayor?”

Sa ilalim ng bagong Local Government Code ay pinagkalooban ng malawak na kapangyarihan ang Mayor. Ang Mayor ang pinaka-mataas na opisyal ng bayan. Siya ang kumakatawan sa isang bayan sa mga pagtitipon, kasunduan at iba pang gawaing opisyal.

Maraming tungkulin na dati-rati’y sa pamahalaang nasyonal naka-atang ang ngayo’y responsibilidad na ng pamahalaang lokal, tulad ng regulasyong pang-turismo, regulasyong pagbibigay proteksiyon sa likas na yaman, agraryo, pangingisda, transportasyon at marami pang iba.

Ang aking Mayor na pipiliin ay ang taong may tamang kaalaman sa mga tungkuling sa kanya’y naka-atang, may

kakayahang gampanan ang mga ito. Meron siyang plano para sa Puerto Galera, plano na nahuhubog sa pakikinig sa kanyang kababayan at hindi sa iilang tao lamang.

Ang aking Mayor ay alam kung paano palaguin ang kaban ng bayan na hindi nangangahulugan ng dagdag na pahirap sa mga taga-Puerto Galera. Sa ilalim ng bagong batas, binigyan ng malawak na kapangyarihan ang pamahalaang lokal para maging self-sufficient, makapangalap ng buwis at taripa para ito’y makatindig sa sariling paa at hindi umasa sa pamahalaang nasyonal o donasyon mula sa pribadong sektor.

At kapag may sapat na pondo na ang bayan, ang aking Mayor ay pahahalagahan ang paghahatid ng mga pangunahing serbisyo, tulad ng patubig, kuryente, edukasyon, tulay, kalye, kalusugan, hanapbuhay at palengke.

Isasaayos ng aking Mayor ang sistema ng kalakal sa munisipyo. Magkakaroon ng magagalang, marangal at masisipag na kawani ng pamahalaan na laging handang tumulong sa mga nangangailangan.

Ang aking Mayor ay malimit makipag-ugnayan sa kanyang nasasakupan,

bumibisita sa mga barangay at inaalam ang kanilang mga hinaing at kahilingan.

Ang aking Mayor ay may tapang, lakas ng loob, at kakayahang ipatupad ang mga ordinansa at batas, lalo’t higit na napapatungkol sa pangangalaga sa likas na yaman na walang sinasanto maging kaibigan man o kamag-anak ang sangkot sa illegal na gawain.

Iisipin ng aking Mayor na siya ay inihalal para maging lingkod ng bayan, para itaguyod ang interes ng nakararami at hindi ng iisang tao lamang.

Ang aking Mayor ay may malaking pagpapahalaga sa moralidad, lalo’t higit sa kapakanan ng kababaihan at kabataan. Ang kanyang pamilya ay modelo ng kababaang-loob at matuwid na pamumuhay.

Lahat ng nasa itaas ay aking inaasahan sa aking Mayor. Tungkulin ko bilang mabuting mamamayan at tunay na kristiyano na pumili ng maayos na kandidato. Hindi ko ibebenta ang aking karapatang pumili, hindi ako padadala sa taginting ng salapi, sa kinang ng ginto, sapagkat kapag ginawa ko ito ay sinsusuway ko ang batas ng Diyos at tao, isinusuko ko ang aking prinsipyo at karapatan sa ilalim ng demokratikong pamamaraan.

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