


'11 AUG -1 P 4:19

SENATE

S. No. **2926**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the Municipality of Mabalacat in the Province of Pampanga into a component city to be known as Mabalacat City.

Mabalacat is a first class municipality with a population of 203,307 people from 35,134 households. It has an average annual income of P 56,698,280.87 derived mostly from municipal license fees, land tax, Internal Revenue Allotment, roads and bridges fund.

Historical accounts would reveal that this erstwhile Pampanga community of Negrito tribe used to be a *barrio* of Bambang, which is now known as Bamban, Tarlac, before it became a town in the year 1712. "*Ma-balacat*" in the native *Capampangan* dialect means "full of balacat" trees and so, it was said that Mabalacat was a lush woodland of balacat trees (*Zizyphus Zonulata Balaco*) which is a gnarled and spiny variety of a fourth-class timber.

There are a lot of thriving establishments registered with the Municipality of Mabalacat most of which are engaged in sash factories, iron works, ceramics, bakeries and trading companies. There are also quite a number of educational institutions and banks while public utilities in the town include the Mabalacat Water System and the Pampanga Electric Corporation II. There are three telephone companies in Mabalacat namely, Datelcom Corporation, Smart Communications and Digital Telecommunications Philippines, Incorporated or DIGITEL and a cable television network called PRO-SAT which solely caters to Mabalacat residents.

There are currently two cities in the Province of Pampanga: Angeles City, a highly urbanized city and the City of San Fernando, which is a component city under the control of the Provincial Government. The conversion of Mabalacat into a city will further improve the delivery of basic services to the people and is expected to play a significant role in the development of the province since it covers roughly three-fifths of the land area of the Clark Freeport Zone. The town is also linked to the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway via the Dolores Interchange and the Mabiga Interchange so, investors who wish to locate in Mabalacat will find that the same is accessible through the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport and the deep-sea port of Subic Freeport which is just 30 minutes away.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator 


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'11 AUG -1 P4 :19

SENATE

S. No. **2926**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF MABALACAT IN THE PROVINCE OF
PAMPANGA INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS MABALACAT CITY

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

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Charter of Mabalacat City".

SEC. 2. Mabalacat City. - The Municipality of Mabalacat shall be converted into a component city to be known as Mabalacat City, hereinafter referred to as the City, which shall comprise the present territory of the Municipality of Mabalacat, Province of Pampanga.

The territorial jurisdiction of the City shall be within the present metes and bounds of the Municipality of Mabalacat, Province of Pampanga as follows:

"Bounded on the NE., along line 1 to 22 by Municipality of Magalang Cad. 95; on the SE., along line 22 to 31 by Municipality of Mexico Cad. 72; along line 31 to 96 by City of Angeles Cad. 94; along line 96 to 128 by Mun. of Porac Cad. 156; on the NW., along line 128 to 233 by Fort Stotsenberg Military Reservation Province of Tarlac; along line 233 to 281 by Municipality of Bamban Cad. 382; along line 281 to 288-1 Municipality of Concepcion Cad. 100. Beginning at a point marked "1" on plan being equivalent to MBM No. 30 Magalang Cadastre (PBM NO. 10, Province of Pampanga)

thence S. 18 deg. 46'W.,	369.86 m. to point 2;
thence S. 20 deg. 36'W.,	557.32 m. to point 3;
thence S. 20 deg. 42'W.,	531.55 m. to point 4;
thence S. 35 deg. 00'W.,	163.03 m. to point 5;
thence S. 16 deg. 56'E.,	152.03 m. to point 6;
thence S. 03 deg. 35'W.,	101.38 m. to point 7;
thence S. 15 deg. 33'W.,	228.20 m. to point 8;
thence S. 31 deg. 41'E.,	1017.04 m. to point 9;
thence S. 10 deg. 36'W.,	761.39 m. to point 10;
thence S. 03 deg. 07'E.,	1479.72 m. to point 11;
thence S. 03 deg. 37'E.,	749.24 m. to point 12;
thence S. 10 deg. 08'E.,	699.32 m. to point 13;
thence S. 09 deg. 48'E.,	199.83 m. to point 14;
thence S. 85 deg. 08'W.,	437.98 m. to point 15
thence S. 22 deg. 37'E.,	1310.02 m. to point 16;
thence S. 03 deg. 58'E.,	26.36 m. to point 17;
thence S. 73 deg. 36'E.,	114.55 m. to point 18;
thence S. 46 deg. 05'E.,	118.52 m. to point 19;
thence S. 62 deg. 36'E.,	96.16 m. to point 20;
thence N. 78 deg. 41'E.,	96.73 m. to point 21;
thence S. 74 deg. 11'E.,	454.39 m. to point 22;
thence S. 56 deg. 34'W.,	205.63 m. to point 23;
thence S. 77 deg. 34'W.,	191.02 m. to point 24;
thence S. 60 deg. 31'W.,	167.07 m. to point 25;
thence S. 53 deg. 40'W.,	345.83 m. to point 26;
thence N. 77 deg. 13'W.,	195.65 m. to point 27;
thence N. 79 deg. 16'W.,	186.66 m. to point 28;
thence S. 58 deg. 52'W.,	177.32 m. to point 29;
thence S. 08 deg. 19'W.,	163.17 m. to point 30;
thence S. 35 deg. 33'E.,	693.89 m. to point 31;
thence S. 26 deg. 40'W.,	354.53 m. to point 32;
thence S. 82 deg. 05'W.,	1009.99 m. to point 33;
thence N. 88 deg. 17'W.,	641.71 m. to point 34;
thence S. 02 deg. 48'W.,	51.59 m. to point 35;
thence S. 14 deg. 29'W.,	425.79 m. to point 36;
thence S. 80 deg. 22'W.,	73.77 m. to point 37;
thence N. 53 deg. 12'W.,	30.85 m. to point 38;
thence N. 78 deg. 46'W.,	70.21 m. to point 39;
thence N. 80 deg. 29'W.,	36.82 m. to point 40;
thence N. 03 deg. 33'W.,	62.02 m. to point 41;
thence N. 71 deg. 51'W.,	16.26 m. to point 42;
thence N. 34 deg. 51'W.,	37.47 m. to point 43;
thence N. 46 deg. 21'W.,	29.39 m. to point 44;
thence S. 89 deg. 51'W.,	20.14 m. to point 45;
thence N. 54 deg. 53'W.,	64.71 m. to point 46;
thence N. 00 deg. 48'W.,	280.81 m. to point 47;
thence N. 84 deg. 55'W.,	630.56 m. to point 48;
thence S. 64 deg. 08'W.,	745.18 m. to point 49;
thence S. 78 deg. 23'W.,	305.11 m. to point 50;
thence S. 78 deg. 57'W.,	663.03 m. to point 51;
thence S. 81 deg. 11'W.,	1868.15 m. to point 52;
thence N. 23 deg. 50'W.,	994.14 m. to point 53;
thence S. 81 deg. 02'W.,	267.04 m. to point 54;
thence S. 81 deg. 02'W.,	646.99 m. to point 55;
thence S. 81 deg. 02'W.,	366.74 m. to point 56;
thence S. 81 deg. 02'W.,	40.84 m. to point 57;
thence S. 81 deg. 21'W.,	172.37 m. to point 58;
thence S. 80 deg. 52'W.,	436.76 m. to point 59;

thence S. 80 deg. 43'W.,	620.23 m. to point 60;
thence S. 80 deg. 30'W.,	177.81 m. to point 61;
thence S. 08 deg. 03'E.,	7.78 m. to point 62;
thence S. 82 deg. 04'W.,	531.23 m. to point 63;
thence S. 74 deg. 37'W.,	694.12 m. to point 64;
thence N. 20 deg. 05'E.,	62.60 m. to point 65;
thence S. 64 deg. 29'W.,	111.01 m. to point 66;
thence N. 60 deg. 32'W.,	129.40 m. to point 67;
thence N. 73 deg. 21'W.,	120.71 m. to point 68;
thence N. 25 deg. 45'W.,	35.62 m. to point 69;
thence S. 88 deg. 46'W.,	90.03 m. to point 70;
thence N. 12 deg. 43'W.,	113.53 m. to point 71;
thence S. 82 deg. 20'W.,	30.88 m. to point 72
thence S. 33 deg. 08'W.,	31.28 m. to point 73;
thence S. 87 deg. 58'W.,	81.12 m. to point 74;
thence N. 52 deg. 56'W.,	23.22 m. to point 75;
thence N. 82 deg. 17'W.,	82.67 m. to point 76;
thence N. 73 deg. 05'W.,	5.15 m. to point 77;
thence S. 70 deg. 49'W.,	3.13 m. to point 78;
thence N. 84 deg. 59'W.,	66.76 m. to point 79;
thence S. 31 deg. 13'W.,	111.21 m. to point 80;
thence S. 17 deg. 06'W.,	42.23 m. to point 81;
thence N. 62 deg. 57'W.,	127.30 m. to point 82;
thence N. 26 deg. 20'W.,	74.40 m. to point 83;
thence N. 86 deg. 48'W.,	72.97 m. to point 84;
thence N. 79 deg. 58'W.,	20.71 m. to point 85;
thence N. 35 deg. 22'W.,	8.24 m. to point 86;
thence N. 44 deg. 36'W.,	43.11 m. to point 87;
thence N. 88 deg. 43'W.,	9.40 m. to point 88;
thence N. 52 deg. 15'W.,	22.59 m. to point 89;
thence S. 86 deg. 32'W.,	7.77 m. to point 90;
thence N. 44 deg. 06'W.,	21.28 m. to point 91;
thence N. 79 deg. 34'W.,	13.59 m. to point 92;
thence S. 87 deg. 32'W.,	8.83 m. to point 93;
thence S. 56 deg. 41'W.,	62.21 m. to point 94;
thence S. 81 deg. 34'W.,	45.25 m. to point 95;
thence S. 84 deg. 20'W.,	114.48 m. to point 96;
thence N. 75 deg. 18'W.,	117.29 m. to point 97;
thence N. 88 deg. 10'W.,	108.13 m. to point 98;
thence S. 59 deg. 17'W.,	94.87 m. to point 99;
thence N. 30 deg. 02'W.,	125.53 m. to point 100;
thence S. 69 deg. 16'W.,	230.75 m. to point 101;
thence S. 83 deg. 15'W.,	94.39 m. to point 102;
thence S. 79 deg. 36'W.,	77.54 m. to point 103;
thence N. 85 deg. 49'W.,	26.88 m. to point 104;
thence N. 89 deg. 36'W.,	117.50 m. to point 105;
thence N. 81 deg. 06'W.,	213.64 m. to point 106;
thence N. 42 deg. 30'W.,	118.59 m. to point 107;
thence N. 64 deg. 24'W.,	76.16 m. to point 108;
thence N. 77 deg. 10'W.,	81.81 m. to point 109;
thence S. 75 deg. 25'W.,	103.01 m. to point 110;
thence N. 83 deg. 14'W.,	102.15 m. to point 111;
thence S. 84 deg. 17'W.,	234.42 m. to point 112;
thence N. 72 deg. 15'W.,	204.09 m. to point 113;
thence S. 46 deg. 51'W.,	170.52 m. to point 114;
thence N. 73 deg. 18'W.,	81.18 m. to point 115;
thence S. 60 deg. 39'W.,	142.73 m. to point 116;
thence Due West	77.75 m. to point 117;

thence S. 56 deg. 19'W.,	112.14 m. to point 118;
thence S. 28 deg. 13'W.,	361.78 m. to point 119;
thence N. 66 deg. 22'W.,	678.94 m. to point 120;
thence S. 50 deg. 12'W.,	121.45 m. to point 121;
thence N. 61 deg. 38'W.,	441.82 m. to point 122;
thence S. 85 deg. 14'W.,	187.25 m. to point 123;
thence S. 59 deg. 02'W.,	544.04 m. to point 124;
thence S. 01 deg. 45'W.,	635.92 m. to point 125;
thence S. 53 deg. 51'W.,	500.76 m. to point 126;
thence S. 27 deg. 10'E.,	633.52 m. to point 127;
thence N. 86 deg. 03'W.,	12095.15 m. to point 128;
thence N. 60 deg. 12'E.,	1305.97 m. to point 129;
thence N. 66 deg. 03'E.,	1637.31 m. to point 130;
thence N. 59 deg. 22'E.,	1041.98 m. to point 131;
thence N. 63 deg. 24'E.,	996.64 m. to point 132;
thence N. 69 deg. 42'E.,	758.36 m. to point 133;
thence N. 74 deg. 24'E.,	843.75 m. to point 134;
thence N. 66 deg. 06'E.,	552.35 m. to point 135;
thence N. 62 deg. 41'E.,	1437.55 m. to point 136;
thence N. 59 deg. 09'E.,	1580.92 m. to point 137;
thence N. 57 deg. 46'E.,	654.93 m. to point 138;
thence N. 45 deg. 20'E.,	296.60 m. to point 139;
thence N. 53 deg. 18'E.,	386.26 m. to point 140;
thence S. 29 deg. 14'E.,	418.82 m. to point 141;
thence N. 77 deg. 01'E.,	826.98 m. to point 142;
thence S. 22 deg. 35'E.,	193.63 m. to point 143;
thence S. 38 deg. 33'E.,	269.47 m. to point 144;
thence S. 05 deg. 20'E.,	49.77 m. to point 145;
thence S. 18 deg. 54'E.,	131.29 m. to point 146;
thence S. 20 deg. 46'E.,	285.05 m. to point 147;
thence S. 33 deg. 33'E.,	263.09 m. to point 148;
thence S. 19 deg. 27'E.,	591.22 m. to point 149;
thence S. 49 deg. 00'E.,	284.91 m. to point 150;
thence S. 66 deg. 04'E.,	391.58 m. to point 151;
thence S. 79 deg. 12'E.,	250.87 m. to point 152;
thence N. 70 deg. 57'E.,	211.06 m. to point 153;
thence S. 38 deg. 04'E.,	225.09 m. to point 154;
thence N. 85 deg. 57'E.,	333.77 m. to point 155;
thence S. 70 deg. 18'E.,	325.67 m. to point 156;
thence N. 81 deg. 27'E.,	124.21 m. to point 157;
thence N. 24 deg. 04'E.,	274.70 m. to point 158;
thence N. 16 deg. 04'E.,	348.64 m. to point 159;
thence N. 67 deg. 13'E.,	333.92 m. to point 160;
thence N. 69 deg. 12'E.,	1122.51 m. to point 161;
thence N. 66 deg. 26'E.,	146.08 m. to point 162;
thence N. 72 deg. 55'E.,	151.57 m. to point 163;
thence N. 63 deg. 45'E.,	160.62 m. to point 164;
thence N. 55 deg. 04'E.,	210.54 m. to point 165;
thence N. 44 deg. 41'E.,	386.13 m. to point 166;
thence N. 55 deg. 32'E.,	458.66 m. to point 167;
thence N. 66 deg. 26'E.,	350.89 m. to point 168;
thence N. 72 deg. 37'E.,	161.24 m. to point 169;
thence N. 56 deg. 22'E.,	33.58 m. to point 170;
thence N. 40 deg. 07'E.,	192.38 m. to point 171;
thence N. 10 deg. 30'E.,	59.31 m. to point 172;
thence N. 19 deg. 07'W.,	266.67 m. to point 173;
thence N. 70 deg. 53'E.,	80.00 m. to point 174;
thence S. 19 deg. 07'E.,	325.03 m. to point 175;

thence S. 34 deg. 55'E.	32.67 m. to point 176;
thence S. 50 deg. 43'E.,	332.12 m. to point 177;
thence S. 69 deg. 43'E.,	39.08 m. to point 178;
thence N. 72 deg. 16'E.,	39.08 m. to point 179;
thence N. 53 deg. 16'E.,	181.63 m. to point 180;
thence N. 64 deg. 08'E.,	22.64 m. to point 181;
thence N. 75 deg. 01'E.,	220.35 m. to point 182;
thence S. 85 deg. 09'E.,	40.70 m. to point 183;
thence S. 65 deg. 20'E.,	13.37 m. to point 184;
thence N. 87 deg. 52'E.,	54.12 m. to point 185;
thence N. 61 deg. 03'E.,	333.25 m. to point 186;
thence N. 69 deg. 54'E.,	222.91 m. to point 187;
thence N. 58 deg. 01'E.,	24.73 m. to point 188;
thence N. 46 deg. 07'E.,	202.82 m. to point 189;
thence N. 56 deg. 48'E.,	22.24 m. to point 190;
thence N. 67 deg. 29'E.,	406.59 m. to point 191;
thence N. 75 deg. 19'E.,	16.36 m. to point 192;
thence N. 83 deg. 09'E.,	222.63 m. to point 193;
thence N. 64 deg. 07'E.,	39.15 m. to point 194;
thence N. 45 deg. 04'E.,	464.31 m. to point 195;
thence N. 54 deg. 14'E.,	19.12 m. to point 196;
thence N. 63 deg. 24'E.,	416.55 m. to point 197;
thence N. 70 deg. 19'E.,	14.45 m. to point 198;
thence N. 77 deg. 14'E.,	33.69 m. to point 199;
thence N. 66 deg. 11'E.,	98.99 m. to point 200;
thence N. 49 deg. 11'E.,	33.64 m. to point 201;
thence N. 32 deg. 54'E.,	129.07 m. to point 202;
thence N. 53 deg. 55'E.,	43.01 m. to point 203;
thence N. 74 deg. 55'E.,	12.06 m. to point 204;
thence N. 60 deg. 18'E.,	30.26 m. to point 205;
thence N. 45 deg. 42'E.,	84.94 m. to point 206;
thence N. 28 deg. 56'E.,	34.60 m. to point 207;
thence N. 12 deg. 11'E.,	46.05 m. to point 208;
thence N. 27 deg. 27'E.,	31.60 m. to point 209;
thence N. 42 deg. 43'E.,	253.15 m. to point 210;
thence N. 63 deg. 12'E.,	42.01 m. to point 211;
thence N. 83 deg. 42'E.,	44.07 m. to point 212;
thence N. 55 deg. 10'E.,	57.33 m. to point 213;
thence N. 39 deg. 03'E.,	35.59 m. to point 214;
thence N. 55 deg. 53'E.,	90.90 m. to point 215;
thence N. 48 deg. 03'E.,	105.27 m. to point 216;
thence N. 60 deg. 36'E.,	26.08 m. to point 217;
thence N. 73 deg. 09'E.,	16.22 m. to point 218;
thence N. 55 deg. 44'E.,	35.91 m. to point 219;
thence N. 38 deg. 20'E.,	97.05 m. to point 220;
thence N. 48 deg. 18'E.,	20.79 m. to point 221;
thence N. 58 deg. 17'E.,	75.53 m. to point 222;
thence N. 40 deg. 50'E.,	37.53 m. to point 223;
thence N. 22 deg. 39'E.,	37.43 m. to point 224;
thence N. 22 deg. 22'E.,	36.87 m. to point 225;
thence N. 16 deg. 37'E.,	48.12 m. to point 226;
thence N. 06 deg. 50'W.,	49.22 m. to point 227;
thence N. 30 deg. 14'W.,	173.15 m. to point 228;
thence N. 37 deg. 50'E.,	76.92 m. to point 229;
thence N. 00 deg. 14'W.,	1349.12 m. to point 230;
thence N. 24 deg. 13'E.,	817.75 m. to point 231;
thence N. 02 deg. 19'W.,	372.35 m. to point 232;
thence N. 44 deg. 20'W.,	622.12 m. to point 233;

thence N. 18 deg. 44'W.,	205.95 m. to point 234;
thence N. 85 deg. 58'E.,	339.47 m. to point 235;
thence S. 84 deg. 56'E.,	394.59 m. to point 236;
thence N. 73 deg. 53'E.,	131.88 m. to point 237;
thence S. 79 deg. 06'E.,	257.96 m. to point 238;
thence N. 61 deg. 22'E.,	234.49 m. to point 239;
thence N. 68 deg. 41'E.,	281.13 m. to point 240;
thence S. 73 deg. 18'E.,	263.82 m. to point 241;
thence N. 70 deg. 46'E.,	94.63 m. to point 242;
thence N. 60 deg. 56'E.,	161.60 m. to point 243;
thence N. 15 deg. 34'E.,	108.01 m. to point 244;
thence N. 07 deg. 12'E.,	145.56 m. to point 245;
thence N. 33 deg. 22'E.,	138.27 m. to point 246;
thence N. 53 deg. 39'E.,	158.44 m. to point 247;
thence N. 71 deg. 42'E.,	149.36 m. to point 248;
thence N. 89 deg. 18'E.,	368.33 m. to point 249;
thence N. 68 deg. 18'E.,	67.60 m. to point 250;
thence N. 47 deg. 20'E.,	50.90 m. to point 251;
thence N. 33 deg. 49'E.,	102.96 m. to point 252;
thence N. 81 deg. 59'E.,	46.41 m. to point 253;
thence S. 75 deg. 30'E.,	130.54 m. to point 254;
thence S. 48 deg. 46'E.,	128.07 m. to point 255;
thence S. 20 deg. 22'E.,	291.34 m. to point 256;
thence S. 41 deg. 30'E.,	52.91 m. to point 257;
thence S. 51 deg. 46'E.,	89.16 m. to point 258;
thence S. 66 deg. 42'E.,	68.83 m. to point 259;
thence S. 83 deg. 33'E.,	94.91 m. to point 260;
thence S. 89 deg. 44'E.,	97.62 m. to point 261;
thence N. 67 deg. 14'E.,	82.15 m. to point 262;
thence N. 50 deg. 41'E.,	96.70 m. to point 263;
thence N. 30 deg. 36'E.,	167.47 m. to point 264;
thence N. 48 deg. 55'E.,	103.40 m. to point 265;
thence N. 59 deg. 30'E.,	109.66 m. to point 266;
thence S. 58 deg. 40'E.,	28.09 m. to point 267;
thence S. 73 deg. 26'E.,	205.09 m. to point 268;
thence S. 87 deg. 26'E.,	58.46 m. to point 269;
thence N. 33 deg. 59'E.,	50.39 m. to point 270;
thence N. 76 deg. 45'E.,	671.62 m. to point 271;
thence S. 26 deg. 47'E.,	283.27 m. to point 272;
thence S. 46 deg. 33'E.,	289.19 m. to point 273;
thence S. 72 deg. 48'E.,	263.32 m. to point 274;
thence N. 83 deg. 14'E.,	125.91 m. to point 275;
thence N. 81 deg. 47'E.,	89.86 m. to point 276;
thence N. 75 deg. 09'E.,	162.75 m. to point 277;
thence N. 75 deg. 08'E.,	174.84 m. to point 278;
thence N. 79 deg. 39'E.,	115.93 m. to point 279;
thence N. 51 deg. 11'E.,	77.50 m. to point 280;
thence S. 88 deg. 06'E.,	176.43 m. to point 281;
thence N. 80 deg. 14'E.,	182.84 m. to point 282;
thence N. 83 deg. 19'E.,	103.30 m. to point 283;
thence S. 87 deg. 05'E.,	104.85 m. to point 284;
thence N. 89 deg. 38'E.,	136.30 m. to point 285;
thence S. 64 deg. 32'E.,	161.97 m. to point 286;
thence S. 55 deg. 06'E.,	62.00 m. to point 287;
thence S. 63 deg. 59'E.,	42.49 m. to point 288;
thence S. 47 deg. 12'E.,	122.65 m. to the point of

beginning; containing an area of One hundred forty six million six hundred nine thousand eight hundred forty two (146,609,842) square meters or Fourteen thousand six hundred sixty point ninety eight (14,660.98) hectares more or less.

The foregoing provisions shall be without prejudice to the resolution by the appropriate agency or forum of any boundary dispute or case involving questions of territorial jurisdiction between the Mabalacat City and the adjoining local government units: *Provided, That the territorial jurisdiction of the disputed area or areas shall remain with the local government unit which has existing administrative supervision over said area or areas until the final resolution of the case.*

SEC. 3. Corporate Powers of the City. – The City constitutes a political body corporate and as such is endowed with the attributes of perpetual succession and possessed of the powers which pertain to a municipal corporation to be exercised in conformity with the provision of this Charter. The City shall have the following corporate powers:

- (a) To have a continuous succession in its corporate name;
- (b) To sue and be sued;
- (c) To have and use a corporate seal;
- (d) To acquire, hold and convey real or personal property;
- (e) To enter into any contract and/or agreement; and
- (f) To exercise such other powers, prerogatives or authority subject to the limitations provided in this Act or laws.

SEC. 4. General Powers. – The City shall have a common seal and may alter the same at pleasure: *Provided, That any change of corporate seal be registered with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).* It shall exercise the powers to levy taxes; to close and open roads, streets, alleys, parks or squares; to take, purchase, receive, hold lease, convey and dispose of real and personal property for the general interests of the City; to expropriate or condemn private property for public use; to contract and to be contracted with; to sue and be sued; to prosecute and defend to

final judgment and execution suits wherein the City is involved or interested in; and to exercise all the powers as are granted to corporations or as hereinafter conferred.

SEC. 5. *Liability for Damages.* – The City and its officials shall not be exempt from liability for death or injury to persons or damage to property.

SEC. 6. *Jurisdiction of the City.* – The jurisdiction of the City, for police purposes only, shall be coextensive with its territorial jurisdiction and, for the purpose of protecting an ensuring the purity of the water supply of the City, such police jurisdiction shall also extend over all the territory within the drainage area of such water supply, or within one hundred meters (100 m.) of any reservoir, conduit, canal, aqueduct or pumping station used in connection with the city water service.

The city court of Mabalacat City shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the city or municipal court of the adjoining municipalities or cities, to try crimes and misdemeanors committed within said drainage area or within said spaces of one hundred meters (100m.)

The court first taking cognizance of such an offense shall have jurisdiction to try cases to the exclusion of others. The police forces of several municipalities and cities concerned shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the police forces of the City for the maintenance of good order and the enforcement of ordinances throughout said zone, area or spaces. But any license that may be issued within said zone, area or spaces shall be granted by the proper authorities of the city or municipality concerned, and the fees arising therefrom shall accrue to the treasury of the said city or municipality concerned and not to the City.

ARTICLE II CITY OFFICIALS IN GENERAL

SEC. 7. *The Officials of Mabalacat City.* – (a) There shall be in Mabalacat City a City Mayor, a city vice mayor, sangguniang panlungsod members, a secretary to the sangguniang panlungsod, a city treasurer and an assistant city treasurer, a city assessor and an assistant city assessor, a city accountant, a city budget officer, a city

planning and development officer, a city engineer, a city health officer, a city civil registrar, a city administrator, a city legal officer, a city social welfare and development officers, a city veterinarian, a city general services officer, a city environment and natural resources officer, a city information officers, a city cooperatives officer and a city building official.

(b) In addition thereto, the City Mayor may appoint a city building official.

(c) There shall be established in the City, a city fire station to headed by a city fire marshal, a city jail to be headed by a city jail warden, a city schools division to be headed by a city schools division superintendent.

(d) The Mabalacat City may:

(1) Maintain existing offices not mentioned in subsections (a) and (b) hereof;

(2) Create such other offices as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the City; or

(3) Consolidate the functions of any office with those of another in the interest of efficiency and economy;

(e) Unless otherwise provided herein, heads of departments and offices shall be appointed by the City Mayor with the concurrence of the majority of all the sangguniang panlungsod members, subject to civil service law, rules and regulations. The Sangguniang Panlungsod shall act on the appointment within fifteen (15) days from the day of its submission, otherwise the same shall be deemed confirmed.

ARTICLE III THE CITY MAYOR AND CITY VICE MAYOR

SEC. 8. *The City Mayor.* – (a) The City Mayor shall be the chief executive of the City and shall be elected at large by the qualified voters of the City. No person shall be eligible for the position of City Mayor unless, at the time of the election, one is at least twenty-one (21) years of age, a resident of the City for at least one (1) year prior to

his election and a qualified voter therein. The City Mayor shall hold office for three (3) years, unless sooner removed, and shall receive a minimum monthly compensation corresponding to Salary Grade thirty (30) as prescribed under Republic Act No. 6758, otherwise known as the Salary Standardization Law, and the implementing guidelines issued pursuant thereto.

The City Mayor, as the chief executive of the city government, shall exercise such powers and perform such duties and functions as provided herein.

(b) For efficient, effective and economical governance, the purpose of which is the general welfare of the City and its inhabitants, the City Mayor shall:

(1) Exercise those powers expressly granted to him by law, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate or incidental for the efficient and effective governance of the City, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare:

(i) Determine the guideline of city policies and be responsible to the sangguniang panlungsod for the program of government;

(ii) Direct the formulation of the city development plan, with the assistance of the city development council and upon approval thereof by the sangguniang panlungsod, implement the same;

(iii) Present the program of government and propose policies and projects for the consideration of the sangguniang panlungsod at the opening of the regular session of the sangguniang panlungsod every calendar year and as often as may be deemed necessary as the general welfare of the inhabitants and the needs of the city government may require;

(iv) Initiate and propose legislative measures to the sangguniang panlungsod and, as often as may be deemed necessary, provide such information and data needed or requested by said sanggunian in the performance of its legislative functions;

(v) Appoint all officials and employees whose appointments are not otherwise provided for in this Act, as well as those the Mayor may be authorized by law to appoint;

(vi) Represent the City in all its business transactions and sign on its behalf all bonds, contracts and obligations, and such other documents upon the authority of the sangguniang panlungsod or pursuant to law or ordinance;

(vii) Carry out such emergency measures as may be necessary during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters and calamities;

(viii) Determine the time, manner and place of payment of salaries or wages of the officials and employees of the City, in accordance with law or ordinance;

(ix) Allocate and assign office space to the City and other officials and employees who, by law or ordinance, are entitled to such space in the office and other buildings owned or leased by the city government;

(x) Ensure that all executive officials and employees of the City faithfully discharge their duties and functions as provided for by law and Republic Act No. 7160 as amended otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, and cause to be instituted administrative or judicial proceedings against any official or employee of the City who may have committed an offense in the performance of his official duties;

(xi) Examine the books, records and other documents of all offices, officials, agents or employees of the City and, in aid of executive powers and authority, require all national officials and employees stationed in or assigned to the City to make available such books, records and other documents in their custody, except those classified by law as confidential;

(xii) Furnish copies of executive orders issued to the Office of the President and the Office of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior

and Local Government (DILG) within seventy-two (72) hours after their issuance;

(xiii) Visit component barangays of the City at least once every six (6) months to deepen understanding of the problems and conditions, listen and give appropriate counsel to local officials and inhabitants of general laws and ordinance which especially concern them, and otherwise conduct visits and inspections to ensure that the governance of the City will improve the quality of life of the inhabitants;

(xiv) Act on leave applications of officials and employees appointed and on the commutation of the monetary value of their leave credits in accordance with law;

(xv) Authorize official trips of city officials and employees outside of the City for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days: *Provided*, That the trips abroad or for a longer period may be authorized in accordance with the Local Government Code of 1991;

(xvi) Call upon any national official or employee stationed in or assigned to the City for advice on matters affecting the City and to make recommendations thereon; coordinate with the said officials and employees in the formulation and the implementation of plans, programs and projects; and, when appropriate, initiate an administrative or judicial action against a national government official or employee who may have committed an offense in the performance of official duties while stationed in or assigned to the City;

(xvii) Authorize payment for medical care, necessary transportation, subsistence, hospital or medical fees of city officials and employees who are injured while in the performance of their official duties and functions, subject to the availability of funds;

(xviii) Solemnize marriages, any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding;

(xix) Conduct an annual palarong panlungsod which shall feature traditional sports and disciplines included in national and international games, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd); and

(xx) Submit to the provincial governor the following reports: an annual report containing a summary of all matters pertinent to the management, administration and development of the City and all information and data relative to its political, social and economic conditions; and supplemental reports when unexpected events and situations arise at any time during the year, particularly when man-made and natural disasters or calamities affect the general welfare of the City.

(2) Enforce all laws and ordinances relative to the governance of the City and in the exercise of its appropriate corporate powers, as well as implement all approved policies, programs, projects, services and activities of the City; and, in additions, shall:

(i) Ensure that the acts of the City's component barangays and of its officials and employees are within the scope of their prescribed powers, duties and functions;

(ii) Call conventions, conferences, seminars or meetings of elective and appointive officials of the City, including national officials and employees stationed in or assigned to the City, at such time and place and on such subject as may be deemed important for the promotion of the general welfare of the local government unit and its inhabitants;

(iii) Issue such executive orders for the faithful and appropriate enforcement and execution of laws and ordinances;

(iv) Be entitled to carry the necessary firearms within the territorial jurisdiction;

(v) Act as the deputized representative of the National Police Commission, formulate the peace and order plan of the City and, upon its approval, implement the same, and as such, exercise general and operational

control and supervision over police forces in the City in accordance with Republic Act No. 6975, otherwise known as the Philippine National Police Law; and

(vi) Call upon the law enforcement agencies to suppress disorder, riot, lawless violence, rebellion, sedition, or apprehend violators of the law when public interest so requires and the city police forces are inadequate to cope with the situation or the violators.

(3) Initiate and maximize the generation of resources and revenues, and apply the same to the implementation of development plans, program objectives and priorities, particularly those resources and revenues programmed for agro-industrial development and countryside growth and progress and, relative thereto, shall:

(i) Require each head of an office or department to prepare and submit an estimate of appropriations for the ensuing calendar year, in accordance with the budget preparation process enshrined under the Local Government Code of 1991;

(ii) Prepare and submit to the sanggunian for approval the executive and supplemental budgets of the City for the ensuing calendar year in the Local Government Code of 1991;

(iii) Ensure that all taxes and other revenues of the City are collected, and that city funds are applied to the payment of expenses and the settlement of obligations of the City, in accordance with law or ordinance;

(iv) Issue licenses and permits and suspend or revoke the same for any violation of the conditions upon which said licenses or permits had been issued, pursuant to law or ordinance;

(v) Issue permits, without need of approval therefore from any national agency, for the holding of activities for any charitable or welfare purpose, excluding prohibited games of chance or shows contrary to law, public policy and public morals;

(vi) Require owners of illegally constructed houses, buildings or other structures to obtain the necessary permits, subject to such fines and penalties as may be imposed by law or ordinance, or to make necessary changes in the construction of the same when said construction violates any law or ordinance, or to order the

demolition or removal of said house, building or structure within the period prescribed by law or ordinance;

(vii) Adopt adequate measures to safeguard and conserve land, mineral, marine, forest and other resources of the City;

(viii) Provide efficient and effective property and supply management in the City and protect the funds, credits, rights and other properties of the City; and

(ix) Institute or cause to be instituted administrative or judicial proceedings for violation of ordinances in the collection of taxes, fees, charges, and for the recovery of funds and property; and cause the City to be defended against all suits to ensure that its interests, resources and rights shall be adequately protected.

(4) Ensure the delivery of basic services and provision of adequate facilities and, in addition thereto shall:

(i) Ensure that the construction and repair of roads and highways funded by the national government shall be, as far as practicable, carried out in a spatially contiguous manner and in coordination with the construction and repair of the roads and bridges of the City; and

(ii) Coordinate the implementation of technical services, including public works and infrastructure programs, rendered by national offices;

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

(c) During his incumbency, the City Mayor shall hold office in the city hall.

SEC. 9. *The City Vice Mayor.* – (a) There shall be a city vice mayor who shall be elected in the same manner as the City Mayor and shall, at the time of the election, possess the same qualifications as the City Mayor. The city vice-mayor shall hold office for three (3) years, unless sooner removed, and shall receive a monthly compensation corresponding to Salary Grade twenty-six (26) as prescribed under the Salary Standardization Law and the implementing guidelines issued pursuant thereto.

(b) The city vice mayor shall:

(1) Be the presiding officer of the sangguniang panlungsod and sign all warrants drawn on the city treasury for all expenditures appropriated for the operation of the sangguniang panlungsod;

(2) Subject to civil service law, rules and regulations, appoint all officials and employees of the sangguniang panlungsod, except those whose manner of appointment is specifically provided for under existing laws;

(3) Assume the office of the City Mayor for the unexpired term of the latter in the event of permanent vacancy;

(4) Exercise the powers and perform the duties and functions of the City Mayor in case of temporary vacancy; and

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

ARTICLE IV

THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

SEC. 10. *Composition.* - (a) The sangguniang panlungsod, the legislative body of the City, shall be composed of the city vice mayor as the presiding officer, the (10) regular sangguniang members, the president of the city chapter of the liga ng mga barangay, the president of the panlungsod na pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataaan and the sectoral representatives, as members.

(b) In addition thereto, there shall be three (3) sectoral representatives: one (1) from the women sector; and, as shall be determined by the sangguniang panlungsod within ninety (90) days prior to the holding of the local elections, one (1) from the agricultural or industrial workers sector; and one (1) from the other sectors, including urban poor or disabled persons.

(c) The regular members of the sangguniang panlungsod and sectoral representatives shall be elected in the manner as may be provided by law.

SEC. 11. Powers, Duties, Functions and Compensation. – (a) The sangguniang panlungsod, as the legislative body of the City, shall enact ordinances, approved resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the City and its inhabitants pursuant to Section 16 of the Local Government Code of 1991 and in the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the City as provided for under Section 22 of the Local Government Code of 1991, and shall:

(1) Approve ordinances and pass resolutions necessary for an efficient and effective city government and, in this connections, shall:

(i) Review all ordinances approved by the sangguniang barangay and executive orders issued by the punong barangay to determine whether these are within the scope of the prescribed powers of the sangguniang barangay and of the punong barangay;

(ii) Maintain peace and order by enacting measures to prevent and suppress lawlessness, disorder, riot, violence, rebellion or sedition and impose penalties for the violation of said ordinances;

(iii) Approve ordinances imposing a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) or an imprisonment for a period not exceeding one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the court for violation of a city ordinance;

(iv) Adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the City from the harmful effects of man-made and natural disasters or calamities, and to provide relief services and assistance to victims during and in the aftermath of said disasters or calamities and in their return to productive livelihood following said events;

(v) Enact ordinances intended to prevent, suppress and impose appropriate penalties for habitual drunkenness in public places, vagrancy, mendicancy, prostitution, the establishment and maintenance of house of ill-repute, gambling and other prohibited games of chance, fraudulent devices and ways to obtain money or

property, drug addiction, maintenance of drug dens, drug pushing, juvenile delinquency, the printing, distribution or exhibition of obscene or pornographic materials or publications and such other activities inimical to the welfare and morals of the inhabitants of the City;

- (vi) Protect the environment and to this end, it may set aside at least ten percent (10%) of its development funds for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the ecological balance of the City. It may also impose appropriate penalties for acts which endanger the environment, such as smuggling of natural resources products and of endangered species of flora and fauna, slash-and-burn farming and such other activities which result in pollution, acceleration of siltation of rivers and lakes or of ecological imbalance;
- (vii) Subject to the provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991 and other pertinent laws, determine the powers and duties of officials and employees of the City;
- (viii) Determine the positions and the salaries, wages, allowances and other emoluments and benefits of officials and employees paid wholly or mainly from city funds and provide for expenditures necessary for the proper conduct of programs, projects, services and activities of the city government;
- (ix) Authorize the payment of compensation to a qualified person not in the government service who fills in a temporary vacancy or grant honoraria to any qualified official or employee designated to fill in a temporary vacancy in a concurrent capacity at the rate authorized by law;
- (x) Provide a mechanism and the appropriate funds therefore for the safety and protection of all city government properties, public documents or records such as those relating to property inventory,

land ownership, records of births, marriages, deaths, assessments, taxation, accounts, business permits and such other records and documents of public interest in the offices and department of the city government;

- (xi) When the finances of the city government allow, provide for additional allowances and other benefits to judges, prosecutors, public elementary and high school teachers, and other national government employees stationed in or assigned to the City;
- (xii) Provide legal assistance to barangay officials who, in the performance of their official duties or on the occasion thereof, have to initiate judicial proceedings or defend themselves against legal actions;
- (xiii) Provide for group insurance or additional insurance coverage for all barangay officials, including members of barangay tanod brigades and service units with public or private insurance companies when the finances of the city government allow said coverage.

(2) Generate and maximize the use of resources and revenues for the development plans, program objectives and priorities of the City with particular attention to agro-industrial development and citywide growth and progress, and relative thereto shall:

- (i) Approve the annual and supplemental budgets of the city government and appropriate funds for specific programs, projects, services and activities of the City, or for other purposes not contrary to law in order to promote the general welfare of the City and its inhabitants;
- (ii) Subject to the provisions of Book II of the Local Government Code of 1991 and applicable laws and upon the majority vote of all the members of the sangguniang panlungsod, enact ordinances levying taxes, fees and charges, prescribing the rates thereof for general

- and specific purposes and granting tax exemptions, incentives or reliefs;
- (iii) Subject to the provisions of Book II of the Local Government Code of 1991 and upon the majority vote of all the members of the sangguniang panlungsod, authorize the City Mayor to negotiate and contract loans and other forms of indebtedness;
 - (iv) Subject to the provisions of Book II of the Local Government Code of 1991 and applicable laws and upon the majority vote of all the members of the sangguniang panlungsod, enact ordinances authorizing the floating of bonds or other instruments of indebtedness, for the purpose of raising funds to finance development projects;
 - (v) Appropriate funds for the construction and maintenance or the rental of buildings for the use of the City and, upon the majority vote of all the members of the sangguniang panglungsod, authorize the City Mayor to lease to private parties such public building held in a proprietary capacity, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations;
 - (vi) Prescribe reasonable limits and restraints on the use of property within the jurisdiction of the City;
 - (vii) Adopt a comprehensive land-use plan for the City and ensure that the formulation, adoption or modification of said plan shall be in coordination with the approved provincial comprehensive land-use plan;
 - (viii) Reclassify lands within the jurisdiction of the City, subject to the pertinent provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991;
 - (ix) Enact integrated zoning ordinances in consonance with the approved comprehensive land-use plan, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations; establish fire limits or zones, particularly in populous centers; and regulate the construction, repair or

modification of buildings within said limits or zones in accordance with the provisions of the Fire Code of the Philippines;

- (x) Subject to national law, process and approve subdivision plans for residential, commercial or industrial purposes and other development purposes, and to collect processing fees and other charges, the proceeds of which shall accrue entirely to the City: *Provided, however,* That where approval of a national agency or office is required, said approval shall not be withheld for more than thirty (30) days from receipt of the application. Failure to act on the application within the period stated above shall be deemed as approval thereof;
- (xi) With the concurrence of at least two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the members of the sangguniang panlungsod, grant tax exemptions, incentives or reliefs to entities engaged in community growth-including industries, subject to provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991;
- (xii) Grant loans or provide grants to other local government units or to national, provincial and city charitable, benevolent or educational institutions; *Provided,* That said institutions are operated and maintained within the City;
- (xiii) Regulate the numbering of residential, commercial and other buildings; and
- (xiv) Regulate the inspection, weighing and measuring of articles of articles of commerce.

(3) Subject to the provisions of Book II of the Local Government Code of 1991, enact ordinances granting franchises and authorizing the issuance of permits or licenses, upon such conditions and for such purposes intended to promote the general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and, pursuant to this legislative authority, shall:

- (i) Fix and impose reasonable fees and charges for all services rendered by the city government to private persons or entities;
- (ii) Regulate or fix license fees for any business or practice of profession within the City and the conditions under which the license for said business or practice of profession may be revoked and enact ordinances levying taxes thereon;
- (iii) Provide for and set the terms and conditions under which public utilities owned by the City shall be operated by the city government and prescribe the conditions under which the same may be leased to private persons or entities, preferably cooperatives;
- (iv) Regulated the display of and fix the license fees for signs, signboards or billboards at the place or places where the profession or business advertised thereby is, in whole or in part, conducted;
- (v) Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, authorize and license the establishment, operation and maintenance of cockpits, and regulate cockfighting and commercial breeding of gamecocks: Provided, That existing rights should not prejudiced;
- (vi) Subject to the guidelines prescribed by the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), regulate the operation of tricycles and grant franchises for the operation thereof within the territorial jurisdiction of the City; and
- (vii) Upon approval by a majority vote of all the members of the sangguniang panlungsod, grant a franchise to any person, partnership, corporation or cooperative to do business within the City; establish, construct, operate and maintain ferries, wharves, markets or slaughterhouses; or undertake such other activities within the City as may be allowed by existing laws: Provided, That cooperatives shall be given preference in the grant of such franchise.

(4) Regulate activities relative to the use of land, buildings and structures within the City in order to promote the general welfare and, for the said purpose, shall:

- (i) Declare, prevent or abate any nuisance;
- (ii) Require that buildings and the premises thereof and any land within the City be kept and maintained in a sanitary condition; impose penalties for any violation thereof; or upon failure to comply with the said requirement, have the work done at the expense of the owner, administrator or tenant concerned; and require the filling up of any lands or premises to a grade necessary for proper sanitation;
- (iii) Regulate the disposal of clinical and other wastes from hospitals, clinics and other similar establishments;
- (iv) Regulate the establishment, operation and maintenance of restaurants, beerhouses, hotels, motels, inns, pension houses, lodging houses and other similar establishments, including tourist guides and transports;
- (v) Regulate the sale, giving away or dispensing of any intoxicating malt, vino, mixed or fermented liquors at any retail outlets;
- (vi) Regulate the establishment and provide for the inspection of steam boilers or any heating device in buildings and the storage of inflammable and highly combustible materials within the City;
- (vii) Regulate the establishment, operation and maintenance of any entertainment or amusement facilities, including the theatrical performance, circuses, billiard halls, public dancing schools, public dance hall, sauna baths, massage parlors and other places for entertainment or amusement; regulate such other events or activities for amusement or entertainment, particularly those which tend to disturb the community or annoy the inhabitants, or require the suspension or suppression of the same; or prohibit certain

forms of amusement or entertainment in order to protect the social and moral welfare of the community;

(viii) Provide for the impounding of stray animals; regulate the keeping of animals in homes or as part of a business, and the slaughter, sale or disposition of the same; and adopt measures to prevent and penalize cruelty to animals; and

(ix) Regulate the establishment, operation and maintenance of funeral parlors and the burial or cremation of the dead, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations;

(5) Approve ordinances which shall ensure the efficient and effective delivery of the basic services and facilities as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991 and, in addition to said services and facilities, shall:

(i) Provide for the establishment, maintenance, protection and conservation of tree parks and greenbelts;

(ii) Establish markets, slaughterhouses or animal corrals and authorize the operation thereof by the city government; and regulate the construction and operation of private markets, talipapas or other similar buildings and structures;

(iii) Regulate the preparation and sale of meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, fruits, fresh dairy products and other foodstuffs for public consumption;

(iv) Regulate the use of streets, avenues, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, parks and other public places and approve the construction, improvement, repair and maintenance of the same; establish bus and vehicle stops and terminals or regulate the use of the same by privately-owned vehicles which serve the public; regulate garages and the operation of conveyances for hire; designate stands to be occupied by public vehicles when not in use; regulate the putting up of signs, signposts, awnings and awning posts on the streets;

and provide for the lighting, cleaning and sprinkling of streets and public places;

- (v) Regulate traffic on all streets and bridges, prohibit encroachment or obstacles thereon and, when necessary in the interest of public welfare, authorize the removal of encroachments and illegal construction in public places;
- (vi) Subject to existing laws, establish and provide for the maintenance, repair and operation of an efficient waterworks system to supply water for the inhabitants and to purify the source of the water supply; regulate the construction, maintenance, repair and use of hydrants, pumps, cisterns and reservoirs; protect the purity and the quantity of the water supply of the City and, for this purpose, extend the coverage of appropriate ordinances over all territory within the drainage area of said water supply within one hundred meters (100 m.) of the reservoir, canal, conduit, aqueduct, pumping station and watershed used in connection with the water service; and regulate the consumption, use or wastage of water and fix and collect charges thereof;
- (vii) Regulate the drilling and excavation of the ground for the laying of water, gas, sewer and other pipes, and the construction, repair and maintenance of public drains, sewers, cesspools, tunnels and similar structures; regulate the placing of poles and the use of crosswalks, curbs and gutters; adopt measures to ensure public safety against open canals, manholes, live wires and other similar hazards to life and property; and regulate the construction and use of private water closets, privies and other similar structures in buildings and homes;
- (viii) Regulate the placing, stringing, attaching, installing, repair and construction of all gas mains, electric telegraph and telephone

wires, conduits, meters and other apparatus; and provide for the correction, condemnation or removal of the same when found to be dangerous to the welfare of the inhabitants;

- (ix) Subject to the availability of funds and to existing laws, rules and regulations, establish and provide for the operation of vocational and technical schools and similar post-secondary institutions and, with the approval of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and subject to existing laws on tuition fees, fix and collect reasonable tuition fees and other school charges in educational institutions supported by the city government;
- (x) Establish a scholarship fund for the poor but deserving students in schools located within its jurisdiction or for students residing within the City;
- (xi) Approve measures and adopt quarantine regulations to prevent the introduction and the spread of diseases;
- (xii) Provide for an efficient and effective system of solid waste and garbage collection and disposal and prohibit littering and the placing or throwing of garbage, refuse and other filth and wastes;
- (xiii) Provide for the case of persons with disabilities (PWD), paupers, the aged, the sick, persons of unsound mind, abandoned minors, juvenile delinquents, drug dependents, abused children and the youth below eighteen (18) years of age, and subject to the availability of funds, establish and provide for the operation of centers and facilities for the said needy and disadvantaged persons;
- (xiv) Establish and provide for the maintenance and improvement of jails and detention centers, institute a sound jail management program

and appropriate funds for the subsistence of detainees and convicted prisoners in the City;

(xv) Establish a city council whose purpose is the promotion of culture and the arts, coordinate with government agencies and non-governmental the member did not participate during the deliberations, the disclosure shall be made before voting on the ordinance or resolution on second and third readings; and

(2) Disclosure shall be made when a member takes a position or makes a privilege speech on a matter that may affect the business interest, financial connection or professional relationship described herein.

ARTICLE V

PROCESS OF LEGISLATION

SEC. 12. *Internal Rules of Procedure.* – (a) On the first regular session following the election of its members and within ninety (90) days thereafter, the sangguniang panlungsod shall adopt or update its existing rules of procedure.

(b) The rules of procedure shall provide for the following:

(1) The organization of the sanggunian and the election of its officers as well as the creation of standing committees which shall include, but shall not be limited to, the committees on appropriations, revenues, engineering and public works, education and health, women and family, human rights, youth and sports development, environmental protection, peace and order and traffic, and cooperatives; the general jurisdiction of each committee; and the election of the chairperson and members of each committee;

(2) The order and calendar of business for each session;

(3) The legislative process;

(4) The parliamentary procedures which include the conduct of members during sessions;

- (5) The discipline of members for disorderly behavior and absences without justifiable cause for four (4) consecutive sessions for which they may be censured, reprimanded or excluded from the session, suspended for not more than sixty (60) days or expelled: *Provided*, That the penalty of suspension or expulsion shall require the concurrence of at least two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the sanggunian members: *Provided, further*, That the member convicted by final judgment to imprisonment of at least one (1) year for any crime involving moral turpitude shall be automatically expelled from the sanggunian; and
- (6) Such other rules as the sanggunian may adopt.

SEC. 13. Full Disclosure of Financial and Business Interests of Sangguniang Panlungsod Members. – (a) Every sangguniang panlungsod member shall, upon assumption to office, make a full disclosure of business and financial interests. They shall also disclose any business, financial, professional relationship or any relation by affinity or consanguinity within the fourth civil degree, which they may have with any person, firm or entity affected by any ordinance or resolution under consideration by the sanggunian of which one is a member, which relationship may result in conflict of interests. Such relationship shall include:

- (1) Ownership of stock or capital, or investment in the entity or firm to which the ordinance or resolution may apply; and
- (2) Contracts or agreements with any person or entity which the ordinance or resolution under consideration may affect.

In the absence of a specific constitutional or statutory provision applicable to this situation, “conflict of interest” refers, in general, to one where it may be reasonably deduced that a member of a sanggunian may not act in the public interest due to some private, pecuniary or other personal considerations that may tend to affect his judgment to the prejudice of the service or the public.

(b) The disclosure required under this Act shall be made in writing submitted to the secretary of the sanggunian or the secretary of the committee of which he is a

member. The disclosure shall, in all cases, form part of the record of the proceedings and shall be made in the following manner:

(1) Disclosure shall be made before the member participates in deliberations on the ordinance or resolution under consideration: *Provided*, That if the member did not participate during the deliberations, the disclosure shall be made before voting on the ordinance or resolution on second and third readings; and

(2) Disclosure shall be made when a member takes a position or makes a privilege speech on a matter that may affect the business interest, financial connection or professional relationship described herein.

SEC. 14. Sessions. – (a) On the first day of the session immediately following the election of its members, the sangguniang panlungsod shall, by resolution, fix the day, time and place of its sessions. The minimum number of regular sessions shall be once a week for the sangguniang panlungsod and twice a month for the sangguniang barangay.

(b) When the public interest so demands, special sessions may be called by the City Mayor or by a majority of the members of the sanggunian.

(c) All sanggunian sessions shall be open to the public unless a closed-door session is ordered by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members present, there being a quorum, in the public interest or for reasons of security, decency or morality. No two (2) sessions, regular or special, may be held in a single day.

(d) In the case of special sessions of the sanggunian, a written notice to the members shall be served personally at the members' usual place of residence at least twenty-four (24) hours before the special session is held.

Unless otherwise concurred in by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the sanggunian members present, there being a quorum, no other matters may be considered at a special session except those stated in the notice.

(e) The sangguniang panlungsod shall keep a journal and a record of its proceedings, which may be published upon resolution of the majority of its members.

SEC. 15. Quorum. – (a) A majority of all the members of the sanggunian who have been elected and qualified shall constitute a quorum to transact official business. Should a question of quorum be raised during a session, the presiding officer shall immediately proceed to call the roll of the members and thereafter announce the results.

(b) Where there is no quorum, the presiding officer may declare a recess until such time a quorum is constituted, or a majority of the members present may adjourn from day to day and may compel the immediate attendance of any member absent without justifiable cause by designating a member of the sanggunian, to be assisted by a member or members of the police force assigned in the territorial jurisdiction of Mabalacat City, to arrest the absent member and present him at the session.

(c) If there is still no quorum despite the enforcement of the immediately preceding subsection, no business shall be transacted. The presiding officer, upon proper motion duly approved by the members present, shall then declare the session adjourned for lack of quorum.

SEC. 16. Approval of Ordinances. – (a) Every ordinance enacted by the sangguniang panlungsod shall be presented to the City Mayor. If the City Mayor approves the same, the signature on each and every page thereof shall be affixed; otherwise, the ordinance shall be vetoed and returned with the statement on the objections to the sanggunian, which may proceed to reconsider the same. The sanggunian may override the veto of the City Mayor by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all its members, thereby making the ordinance or resolution effective for all legal intents and purposes.

(b) The veto shall be communicated by the City Mayor to the sanggunian within ten (10) days; otherwise, the ordinance shall be deemed approved as if it had been signed.

SEC. 17. Veto Power of the City Mayor. – (a) The City Mayor may veto any ordinance of the sangguniang panlungsod on the ground that it is *ultra vires* or prejudicial to the public welfare, stating the reasons thereof in writing.

(b) The City Mayor shall have the power to veto any particular item or items of an appropriations ordinance, an ordinance or resolution adopting a local development plan, any public investment program or an ordinance directing the payment of money or creating liability. In such case, the vetoed item or items shall not affect the item or items which are not objected to. The vetoed item or items shall not take effect unless the sangguniang panlungsod overrides the veto in the manner herein provided; otherwise, the item or items in the appropriations ordinance of the previous year corresponding to those vetoed, if any, shall be deemed enacted.

(c) The City Mayor may veto an ordinance or resolution only once. The sanggunian may override the veto of the City Mayor by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all its members, thereby making the ordinance effective even without the approval of the City Mayor.

SEC. 18. *Review of City Ordinances by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.*

(a) Within three (3) days after approval, the secretary to the sangguniang panlungsod shall forward to the sangguniang panlalawigan for review, copies of approved ordinances and the resolutions approving the local development plans and the public investment programs formulated by the local development councils.

(b) Within thirty (30) days after receipt of copies of such ordinances and resolutions, the sangguniang panlalawigan shall examine the documents or transmit them to the provincial attorney or the provincial prosecutor for prompt examination. The provincial attorney or the provincial prosecutor shall, within a period of ten (10) days from receipt of the documents, inform the sangguniang panlalawigan in writing of comments or recommendations, which may be considered by the sangguniang panlalawigan in making its decision.

(c) If the sangguniang panlalawigan finds that such an ordinance or resolution is beyond the power conferred upon the sangguniang panlungsod concerned, it shall declare such ordinance or resolution invalid in whole or in part. The sangguniang panlalawigan shall enter its action in the minutes and shall advise the corresponding city authorities of the action it has taken.

(d) If no action has been taken by the sangguniang panlalawigan within thirty (30) days after submission of such an ordinance or resolution, the same shall be presumed to be consistent with law and therefore valid.

SEC. 19. Review of Barangay Ordinances by the Sangguniang Panlungsod. – (a) Within ten (10) days after its enactment, the sangguniang barangay shall furnish copies of all barangay ordinances to the sangguniang panlungsod for review as to whether the ordinances are consistent with law or city ordinances.

(b) If the sangguniang panlungsod fails to take action on barangay ordinances within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof, the same shall be deemed approved.

(c) If the sangguniang panlungsod finds the barangay ordinances inconsistent with law or city ordinances, the sangguniang panlungsod shall, within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof, return the same with its comments and recommendations to the sangguniang barangay concerned for adjustment, amendment or modifications; in which case, the effectivity of the barangay ordinance is suspended until such time as the revision called for its affected.

SEC. 20. Enforcement of Disapproved Ordinances or Resolutions. – Any attempt to enforce any ordinance or any resolution approving the local development plan and the public investment program after disapproval thereof, shall be sufficient ground for the suspension or dismissal of the official or employee concerned.

SEC. 21. Effectivity of Ordinances or Resolutions. – (a) Unless otherwise stated in the ordinance or the resolution approving the local development plan and the public investment program, the same shall take effect after ten (10) days from the date a copy thereof is posted in a bulletin board at the entrance of Mabalacat City Hall and in at least two (2) other conspicuous places in Mabalacat City not later than five (5) days after approval thereof.

(b) The secretary of the sangguniang panlungsod shall cause the posting of an ordinance or resolution in the bulletin board at the entrance of the city hall and in at least two (2) conspicuous places in Mabalacat City not later than five (5) days after approval thereof. The text of the ordinance or resolution shall be disseminated and

posted in Filipino or English and the secretary of the sangguniang panlungsod shall record such fact in a book kept for the purpose, stating the dates of approval and posting.

(c) The main features of the ordinance or the resolution duly enacted or adopted shall, in addition to being posted, be published once in a local newspaper of general circulation within the City: *Provided*, That in the absence thereof, the ordinance or the resolution shall be published in any newspaper of general circulation: *Provided*, further, That the gist of all ordinances with penal sanctions shall also be published in a newspaper of general circulation.

ARTICLE VI

DISQUALIFICATION AND SUCCESSION OF ELECTIVE CITY OFFICIALS

SEC. 22. *Disqualification of Elective Public City Officials.* – The following persons are disqualified from running for any elective position in the City:

(a) Those sentenced by final judgment for an offense involving moral turpitude or an offense punishable by one (1) year or more of imprisonment within two (2) years after serving sentence;

(b) Those removed from office as a result of an administrative case;

(c) Those convicted by final judgment for violating the oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines;

(d) Those with dual citizenship;

(e) Fugitives from justice in criminal or nonpolitical cases here and abroad;

(f) Permanent residents in a foreign country or those who have acquired the right to reside abroad and continue to avail of the same right after the effectivity of the Local Government Code of 1991; and

(g) The insane or feeble-minded.

SEC. 23. *Permanent Vacancy in the Offices of the City Mayor and the City Vice Mayor.* – (a) If a permanent vacancy occurs in the office of the City Mayor, the City vice mayor concerned shall become the City Mayor. If a permanent vacancy occurs in

the office of the city vice mayor, the highest ranking sangguniang panlungsod member or, in case of permanent incapacity, the second highest ranking sangguniang panlungsod member becomes the City Mayor or the city vice mayor, as the case may be. Subsequent vacancies in the said offices shall be filled automatically by the other sanggunian members according to their ranking as defined herein.

(b) A tie between or among the highest ranking sangguniang panlungsod members shall be resolved by drawing of lots;

(c) The successors as defined herein shall serve only the unexpired terms of their predecessors;

(d) For purposes of this Act, a permanent vacancy arises when an elective local official fills in a higher vacant office, refuses to assume office, fails to qualify, dies, is removed from office, voluntarily resigns or is otherwise permanently incapacitated to discharge the functions of office; and

(e) For purposes of succession as provided for in this Act, ranking in the sanggunian shall be determined on the bases of the proportion of votes obtained by each winning candidate to the total number of registered voters in the City in the immediately preceding local election.

SEC. 24. *Permanent Vacancies in the Sangguniang Panlungsod.* - Permanent vacancies in the sangguniang panglungsod where automatic succession as provided above does not apply shall be filled in by appointments in the following manner:

(a) The provincial governor shall make the aforesaid appointments;

(b) Only the nominee of the political party under which the sangguniang member concerned had been elected shall be appointed in the manner herein provided. The appointee shall come from the same political party as that of the sangguniang member who caused the vacancy and shall serve the unexpired term of the vacant office;

In the appointment herein mentioned, a nomination and a certificate of membership of the appointee from the highest official of the political party concerned are conditions *sine qua non*, and any appointment without such nomination and

certification shall be null and *void ab initio* and shall be a ground for administrative action against the official responsible therefor;

(c) In case the permanent vacancy is caused by a sangguniang member who does not belong to any political party, the City Mayor shall, upon the recommendation of the sangguniang panglungsod, appoint a qualified person to fill in the vacancy; and

(d) In the case vacancy in the representation of the youth and the baranggay in the sangguniang panglungsod, said vacancy shall be filled in automatically by the official next-in-rank of the organization concerned.

SEC. 25. *Temporary Vacancy in the Office of the City Mayor.*- (a) When the City Mayor is temporarily incapacitated to perform for physical or legal reason such as, but not limited to, leave of absence, travel abroad and suspension from office, the city vice mayor or the sangguniang panglungsod member shall automatically exercise the powers and perform the duties and functions of the City mayor, except the power to appoint, suspend or dismiss employees which can be only be exercised if the period of temporary incapacity exceeds thirty (30) working days.

(b) Said temporary incapacity shall terminate upon submission to the sangguniang panglungsod of a written declaration by the City Mayor of having reported back to office. In case where the temporary incapacity is due to legal cause, the City Mayor shall also submit necessary documents showing that the said legal cause no longer exists.

(c) When the City Mayor is travelling within the country but outside the territorial jurisdiction for a period not exceeding three (3) consecutive days, the officer-in-charge of the office may be designated in writing. Such authorization shall specify the powers and functions that the local official concerned shall exercise in the absence of the City Mayor, except the power to appoint, suspend or dismiss employees.

(d) In the event, however, that the City Mayor fails or refuses to issue such authorization, the city vice mayor or the highest ranking sangguniang panglungsod member, as the case may be, shall have the right to assume the powers, duties and

functions of the said office on the fourth (4th) day of absence of the City Mayor, subject to the limitations provide for in the subsection (c) hereof.

(e) Except as provided above, the City Mayor shall, in no case, authorize any local official to assume the powers, duties and functions of the office other than the city vice mayor for the highest ranking member of the sangguniang panlungsod, as the case may be.

ARTICLE VIII

THE APPOINTIVE OFFICIAL OF THE CITY

SEC. 26. *The Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod.*- (a) There shall be a secretary to the sangguniang panglungsod who shall be a career official with the rank and salary equal to a head of a department or office.

(b) No person shall be appointed secretary to the sangguniang panlungod unless one is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in law, commerce or public administration from a recognized college or university and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent.

(c) The secretary to the sangguniang panlungsod shall take charge of the office of the sangguniang panlungsod, and shall:

(1) Attend meetings of the sangguniang panlungsod and keep a journal of its proceedings;

(2) Keep the seal of the City and affix the same with one's signature top all ordinances, resolutions and other acts of the sangguniang panlungsod, and present the same to the presiding officer for his signature;

(3) Forward to the City Mayor for approval, copies of ordinance enacted by the sangguniang panlungsod, duly certified by the presiding officer;

(4) Forward to the department of Budget and Management (DBM) copies of the appropriations ordinances passed by the sangguniang panlungsod as provided for under Section 326, Book II of the Local Government Code of 1991;

(5) Forward to the sangguniang panlalawigan copies of duly approved ordinances in the manner as provided for in Sections 56 and 57 of the Local Government Code of 1991;

(6) Furnish , upon the request of any interested party, certified copies of records of public character in his custody, upon payment to the city treasurer of such fees as may be prescribed by ordinance;

(7) Record in a book kept for the purpose of all ordinances and resolutions enacted or adopted by the sangguniang panlungsod, with the dates of passage and publication thereof;

(8) Keep the office and all non confidential records therein open to the public during usual business hours;

(9) Translate into the dialect used by the majority of the inhabitants, ordinances and resolutions immediately after their approval, and cause the publication of the same together with the original version in the manner provided under the Local Government Code of 1991;

(10) Take custody of the local archives and, where applicable, the local library and annually account for the same; and

(11) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC.27. The City Treasurer. - (a) The city treasurer shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF) from a list of at least three (3) ranking eligible recommendees of the City Mayor, subject to civil service law, rules and regulations.

(b) The city treasurer shall be under the administrative supervision of the City Mayor, to whom one shall report regularly on the tax collection efforts of the City.

(c) No person shall be appointed city treasurer unless one is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in commerce, public administration or law from a recognized college

or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have acquired experience in treasury or accounting service for at least five (5) years.

(d) The city treasurer shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(e) The city treasurer shall take charge of the city finance department, and shall:

(1) Advise the City Mayor, the sangguniang panlungsod and other local government and national officials concerned regarding disposition of local government funds and on such matters relative to public finance;

(2) Take custody and exercise proper management of the funds of the City;

(3) Take charge of the disbursement of all funds of the City and such other funds, the custody of which has been entrusted by law or other competent authority;

(4) Inspect private commercial and industrial establishments within the jurisdiction of the City in relation to the implementation of tax ordinances, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991;

(5) Maintain and update the tax information system of the City; and

(6) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC.28. The Assistant City Treasurer. - (a) the assistant city treasurer may be appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Finance from a list of at least three (3) ranking eligible recommendees of the City Mayor, subject to civil service law, rules and regulations.

(b) No person shall be appointed assistant city treasurer unless one is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in commerce, public administration or law from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have acquired at least four (4) years of experience in treasury or accounting.

(c) The assistant city treasurer shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(d) The assistant city treasurer shall assist the city treasurer in performing such other duties as may be assigned to him and shall have authority to administer oaths concerning notices and notifications to those delinquent in the payment of the real property tax and concerning official matters relating to the accounts of the city treasurer or otherwise arising from the offices of the city treasurers and the city assessor.

SEC. 29. The City Assessor. - (a) The city assessor must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in civil or mechanical engineering, commerce or any other related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have an experience in real property assessment work or in any related field for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city assessor shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city assessor shall take charge of the city assessor's department, and shall:

(1) Ensure that all laws and policies governing the appraisal and assessment of real properties for taxation purpose are properly executed;

(2) Initiate, review and recommend changes in policies and objectives, plans and programs, techniques, procedures and practices in the evaluation and assessment of real properties for taxation purposes;

(3) Establish a systematic method of real property assessment;

(4) Install and maintain real property identification and accounting systems;

(5) Prepare, install and maintain a system of tax mapping, showing graphically all properties subject to assessment and gather all data concerning the same;

(6) Conduct regular physical surveys to verify and determine whether all real properties within the City are properly listed in the assessment rolls;

(7) Exercise the functions of appraisal and assessment primarily for taxation purposes of all real properties in the City;

(8) Prepare a schedule of the fair market value of the different classes of real properties in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991;

(9) issue, upon request of any interested party, certified copies of assessment record of real properties and all other records relative to its assessment, upon payment of a service charge or fee to the city treasurer;

(10) Submit every semester a report of all assessments, as well as cancellations and modifications of assessments to the City Mayor and the sangguniang panlungsod; and

(11) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other power as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 30. *The Assistant City Assessor.*- (a) The assistant city assessor must be a citizen of the Philippines, resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in civil or mechanical engineering, commerce, or any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The Assistant City Assessor must have acquired experience in assessment or in any related field for at least three (3) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The assistant city assessor shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowance as may be determined by law.

(c) The assistant city assessor shall assist the city assessor perform such other duties as may be assigned to him and shall have authority to administer oaths on all declarations of real properties for purposes of assessments.

SEC. 31. *The City Accountant.* - (a) The city accountant must be a citizen of the Philippines, resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a certified public accountant and must have acquired experience in the treasury or accounting service for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city accountant shall take charge of both the office of the accounting and internal audit services; and shall

- (1) Install and maintain an internal audit system in the City
- (2) Prepare and submit financial statements to the City Mayor and to the sangguniang panlungsod;
- (3) Apprise the sangguniang panlungsod and other officials on the financial condition and operations of the City;
- (4) Certify to the availability of budgetary allotment from which expenditures and obligations may be properly charged;
- (5) Review supporting documents before the preparation of vouchers to determine completeness of requirements;
- (6) Prepare statement of cash advances, liquidations, salaries, allowances, reimbursements and remittances pertaining to the City;
- (7) Prepare statements of journal vouchers and liquidations of the same and other adjustments related thereto;
- (8) Post individual disbursements to subsidiary ledgers and index cards;
- (9) maintain individual ledgers for officials and employees of the City pertaining to payrolls and deduction;
- (10) Record and post in index cards details of purchased furniture, fixtures and equipment, including disposal thereof, if any;
- (11) Account for all issued requests for obligations and maintain and keep all records and reports related thereto; and
- (12) Prepare journals and the analysis of obligations and maintain and keep all records and reports related thereto; and
- (13) perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers are provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 32 The City Budget Officer.- (a) The city budget officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, holder of a college degree preferably in accounting, economics, public administration or any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service

eligible or its equivalent. The city budget officer must have acquired experience in government budgeting or in any related field for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city budget officer shall take charge of the city budget department, and shall:

(1) Prepare forms, orders and circulars embodying instructions on budgetary and appropriation matters for the signature of the City Mayor;

(2) Review and consolidate the budget proposals of the different departments and offices of the city;

(3) Assist the city mayor in the preparation of the budget, and during and after, the budget hearings;

(4) Study and evaluate budgetary implication of proposed legislation and submit comments and recommendation thereon;

(5) Submit periodic budgetary reports to the DBM;

(6) Coordinate with the city treasurer, the city accountant and the city planning and development officer for the purpose budgeting;

(7) Assist the sangguniang panlungsod in reviewing the approved budgets of the component barangays;

(8) Coordinate with the city planning and development office in the formulation of the development plan of the City; and

(9) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 33. *The City Planning and Development Officer.* - (a) The city planning and development officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, holder of a college degree preferably in urban planning, development studies, economics, public administration or in any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent.

One must acquire experience in development planning or in any related field for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city planning and development officer shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city planning development officer shall take charge of the city planning and development coordinating office; and shall:

(1) Formulate integrated economic, social, physical and other development plans and policies for the consideration of the City;

(2) Conduct continuing studies, researches and training programs necessary to evolve plans and programs for implementation;

(3) Integrate and coordinate all sectoral plans and studies undertaken by the different functional groups or agencies;

(4) Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the different development programs, projects and activities in the City in accordance with the approved development plan;

(5) Prepare comprehensive plans and other development planning documents for the consideration of the local development council;

(6) Analyze the income and expenditure patterns, and formulate and recommend fiscal plans and policies for the consideration of the finance committee of the sangguniang panlungsod;

(7) promote people's participation in development planning within the City;

(8) Exercise supervision and control over the secretariat of the local development council; and

(9) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 34. *The City Engineer.* - (a) The city engineer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, and a licensed civil

engineer. One must acquire experience in the profession for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city engineer shall receive such compensation, emolument and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city engineer shall take charge of the city engineering office, and shall:

(1) Initiate, review and recommend changes in policies and objectives, plans and programs, techniques, procedures and practices in infrastructure development and public works in general of the city;

(2) Advise the City Mayor on infrastructure, public works and other engineering matters;

(3) Administer, coordinates, supervise and control the construction, maintenance, improvement and repair of roads, bridges, other engineering and public works projects of the City;

(4) Provide engineering services to the City, including investigations and surveys, engineering designs , feasibility studies and projects management; and

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 35. The City Health Officer. - (a) The city health officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character and a licensed medical practitioner. One must have acquired experience in the practice of profession for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city health officer shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city health officer shall take charge of the office of the city health services, and shall:

(1) Supervise the personnel and staff of the said office, formulate program implementation guidelines and rules and regulations for the operation of the office for the approval of the City Mayor in order to assist in the efficient, effective and

economical implementation of health service program geared to implement health-related projects and activities;

(2) Formulate measures for the consideration of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide technical assistance and support to the City Mayor in carrying out activities to ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities relative to health services as provided for under Section 17 of the Local Government Code of 1991;

(3) Develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the city mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with health programs and projects which the City Mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered for under the Local Government Code of 1991;

(4) In addition to the foregoing duties and functions, the city health officers shall;

(i) Formulate and implement policies, plans and projects to promote the health of the people in the City;

(ii) Advise the City mayor and the sangguniang panlungsod on matters pertaining to health;

(iii) Execute and enforce all laws, ordinances and regulations relating to public health;

(iv) Recommend to the sangguniang panlungsod through the local health board, the passage of such ordinance as he may deem necessary for the preservation of public health;

(v) Recommend the prosecution of any violation of sanitary laws, ordinances or regulations;

(vi) Direct the sanitary inspection of all business establishments, Stores selling food items or providing accommodations such as hotels, motels, local houses, pension houses and the knife , in accordance with the Sanitation Code of the Philippines.

(vii) Conduct health information campaigns and render health intelligence services;

(viii) Coordinate with other government agencies and nongovernment organizations involved in the promotion and delivery of health services; and

(ix) Be in the frontline of the delivery of health services, particularly during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities;

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 36. *The City Civil Registrar.* - (a) The city civil registrar must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must acquire experience in civil registry work for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The civil registrar shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city civil registrar shall be responsible for the civil registration program in Mabalacat city, pursuant to the Civil Registry law, the Omnibus Election Code and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations issued to implement them.

(d) The city civil registrar shall take charge of the office of the city civil registry, and shall:

(1) Develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the City Mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with the management and administration-related programs and projects which the City Mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide for under the Local Government Code of 1991; and

(2) In addition to the foregoing duties and functions, the city civil registrar shall:

(i) Accept all registrable documents and judicial decrees affecting the civil status of persons;

(ii) File, keep and preserve in a secure place the books required by law;

(iii) Transcribe and enter immediately upon receipt all registrable documents and judicial decrees affecting the civil status of persons in the appropriate civil registry books;

(iv) Transmit to the office of the civil registrar, within the prescribed period duplicate copies of registered documents required by law;

(v) Issue certified transcripts or copies of any certificate or registered documents upon payment of the required fees to the city treasurer.

(vi) Receive application for the issuance of a marriage license and, after determining that the requirements and supporting certificates and publication thereof for the prescribed period have been complied with, issue the license upon payment of the authorized fee to the city treasurer; and

(vii) Coordinate with the National Statistics Office (NSO) in conducting educational campaigns for vital registration and assist in the preparation of demographic and other statistics for the City of Mabalacat; and

(3) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other power as provided for the under the Local Government Code of 1991. And those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 37. The City Administrator.- (a) The city administrator must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in public administration or in any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have acquired experience in management and administrative work for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The term of the city administrator is co-terminous with that of his appointing authority.

(c) The city administrator shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(d) The city administrator shall take charge of the City Administrator's Office, and shall:

(1) Develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the City Mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with the management and administration-related programs and projects which the City Mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide for under the Local Government Code of 1991;

(2) Be in the frontline of the delivery of administrative support services, particularly those related to the situations during and in the aftermath of manmade and natural disasters or calamities;

(3) recommend to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City Mayor on all matters relative to the management and administration of the City; and

(4) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC.38. The City Legal Officer. - (a) The city legal officer must be a citizen of the Philippine, a resident of Mabalacat City, good moral character and member of the Philippine Bar. One must have practiced the profession for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city legal officer shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city legal officer, the chief legal counsel of the City, shall take charge of the office of the city legal service, and shall:

(1) Formulate measures for the consideration of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide legal assistance and support to the City Mayor in carrying out the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities;

(2) develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the City Mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with the programs and projects related to legal services which the City mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide;

(3) Recommend measures to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City mayor on all matters related to upholding the rule of law;

(4) Be in the frontline of protecting human rights and prosecuting any violation thereof, particularly those which occur during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities; and

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC.39 *The City Social Welfare and Development Officer.* - (a) The city social welfare and development officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a licensed social worker or a holder of a college degree preferably in social work or in any other related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must acquired experience in the practice of social work for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city social welfare and development officer shall receive such as compensation, emolument and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city social; welfare and development officer shall take charge of the office of the social welfare and development, and shall;

(1) Formulate measures for the approval of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide technical assistance and support to the City Mayor in carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities relative to social welfare and development services;

(2) Develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the City Mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with social welfare programs

and projects which the City mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide;

(3) Be in the frontline of the delivery of services particularly those which have to do with the immediate relief and assistance during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities;

(4) Recommend to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City Mayor on all other matters related to social welfare and development services which will improve the livelihood and the living conditions of the inhabitants; and

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise s such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 40. The City Veterinarian.- (a) The city veterinarian must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character and a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine. One must have practiced the profession for at least three (3) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city veterinarian shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city veterinarian shall take charge of the office of the veterinary services, and shall;

(1) Formulate measures for the consideration of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide technical assistance and support to the City Mayor in carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of basics services and the provision of adequate facilities;

(2) Develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof the City Mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with veterinary related activities which the City Mayor is empowered and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide;

(3) Be in the frontline of the veterinary-related activities, such as the outbreak of highly contagious and deadly diseases, and in situations resulting in the depletion of

animals for work for human consumptions, particularly those arising from and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities;

(4) Recommend to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City Mayor on all other matters relative to the veterinary services which will increase the number and improve the quality of livestock, poultry and other domestic animals used for work or for human consumption, and;

(5) perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC.41 The City General Services Officer.- (a) The city general services officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree in public administration, business administration or management from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have acquired experience in general services, including the management of supply, property, solid waste disposal and general sanitation for at least three (3) years immediately preceding the date of appointment.

(b) The city general services officer shall receive such compensation, emoluments, and allowances as may be determined by law.

(c) The city general services officer shall take charge of the office of the general services, and shall;

(1) Formulate measures for the consideration of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide technical assistance and support to the City mayor in carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities which require general service expertise in technical support services;

(2) Develop plans and strategies and, upon thereof by the City mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with the general services supportive of the welfare of the inhabitants of the City which the City Mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide;

(3) Take custody of and be accountable for all properties, real or personal, owned by the City and those granted to it in the form of donation, reparation, assistance and counterpart of joint projects;

(4) Be in the frontline of general services-related activities, such as the possible and imminent destruction or damage to records, supplies, properties and structure materials or debris, particularly during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities;

(5) Recommend to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City mayor on all matters relative to general services; and

(6) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 42. The City Environment and Natural Resources Officer. - (a) The city environment and natural resources officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in environment, forestry, agriculture or in any other related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have acquired experience in environment and natural resources management, conservation and utilization work for at least (5) years immediately preceding the appointment.

(b) The city environment and natural resources officer shall receive such compensation, emolument and allowances as may be determined by the law.

(c) The city environment and natural resource officer shall take charge of the city environment service department, and shall;

(1) Formulate measures for the considerations of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide assistance and support to the City mayor in the carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities relative to environment and natural resources service provided for under Section 17 of the Local Government Code of 1991;

(2) develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the City Mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with the environment and natural resources programs and projects which the city mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide;

(3) Be in the frontline of the delivery of services concerning the environment and natural resources, particularly in the renewal and rehabilitation of the environment during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities;

(4) Recommend measures to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City mayor on all matters relative to the protection, conservation, maximum utilization, application of appropriate technology and other matters related to the environment and natural resources ; and

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed law or ordinance.

SEC. 43. *The City Information Officer.* - (a) The city information officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in journalism, mass communication or in any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have experience in writing articles and research papers, or writing for print, television or broadcast media for at least (5) years immediately preceding the date of appointment.

(b) The city information officer shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowances as may be determined by law or ordinance.

SEC. 44.- *The City Cooperatives Officer.* - The city cooperatives officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of god moral character , a holder of a college degree preferably in business administration with special training on cooperatives or in any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must have experience in writing for

print, television, or broadcast media for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city cooperatives officer shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowance as may be determined by law or ordinance.

(c) The city cooperatives officer shall take charge of the city information and community relations department, and shall;

(1) Formulate measures for the consideration of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide technical assistance and support to the City mayor in providing the information and research data required for the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities so that the public becomes aware of said services may fully avail of the same;

(2) Develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the City mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with public information and research data to support programs and projects which the city mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide;

(3) Be in frontline of cooperatives organization, rehabilitation or viability enhancement, particularly during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities, to aid in their survival and, if necessary, subsequent rehabilitation;

(4) Recommend to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City Mayor on all other matters relative to cooperative development and viability enhancement which will improve the livelihood and the quality of life of the inhabitants; and

(5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC.45. The City Agriculturist.- The city agriculturist must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of a good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in agriculture or in any related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. One must

have practiced the profession in agriculture or acquired the experienced in a related field for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

(b) The city agriculturist shall take charge of the office of the agricultural services, and shall;

(1) Formulate measures for the approval of the sangguniang panlungsod and provide technical assistance and support to the City Mayor in carrying out measures to ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities relative to agricultural services;

(2) Develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the City mayor, implement the same, particularly those which have to do with agricultural programs and projects which the city mayor is empowered to implement and which the sangguniang panlungsod is empowered to provide;

(3) In addition to the foregoing duties and functions, the city agriculturist shall:

(i) Ensure the maximum assistance and access to the resources in the production, processing and marketing of agricultural and aqua cultural and marine products are extended to farmers, fishermen and local entrepreneurs;

(ii) Conduct or cause to be conducted location-specific agricultural researches and assist in making available the appropriate technology arising out of and disseminating information on basic research on crops , prevention and control of plant disease and pests, and other agricultural matters which will maximize productivity.

(iii) Assist the City Mayor in the establishment and extension services of demonstration farms on aqua cultural and marine products;

(iv) Enforce rules and regulations relating to agriculture and aqua culture;

(v) Coordinate with the government agencies and non-governmental and organizations, which promote agricultural productivity through applied technology compatible with environmental integrity;

(4) Be in the frontline of delivery of basic agricultural services, particularly those needed for survival of the inhabitants during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities;

(5) Recommended to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City mayor
On all other matters related to agriculture and aqua culture which will improve the livelihood and the living conditions of the inhabitants; and

(6) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

SEC. 46. *The City Building Official.* - (a) The city building official must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of Mabalacat City, of a good moral character, a licensed engineer or a licensed architect. One must have acquired experience in the practice of the profession for at least five (5) years.

(b) The city building official shall receive such compensation, emoluments and allowance as may be determined by law or ordinance.

(c) The city building official shall take charge of the city building official, and shall:

(i) Process and take appropriate action on applications for building permits;

(ii) Oversee and ensure the proper implementation of the National Building Code and city ordinances pertaining to buildings and similar structures;

(iii) Recommend to the sangguniang panlungsod and advise the City Mayor on matters involving buildings and similar structures; and

(iv) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

ARTICLE VIII

THE CITY FIRE STATION SERVICE, THE CITY JAIL SERVICE, THE CITY SCHOOLS DIVISION AND THE CITY PROSECUTION SERVICE

SEC.47. *The City Fire Station Service.* - (a) There shall be established in the City at least one (1) fire station with adequate personnel , fire fighting facilities and equipment , subject to the standards, rules and regulations that may be promulgated by

the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). The City shall provide the necessary land or site of the situation.

(b) The city fire station shall be headed by a city fire marshal whose qualifications shall be as those provided for under Republic Act. No. 9263 as amended, otherwise known as" the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology Professionalization Act. Of 2004";

(c) The fire station shall be responsible for providing emergency services such as the rescue and evacuation of injured people related to incidents and, in general, all fire prevention and suppression measures to secure the safety of life and property of the citizenry.

SEC. 48. The City Jail Service. - (a) There shall be established and maintained in the City a secured, clean, adequately equipped and sanitary jail for the custody and investigation or trial and/or violent mentally ill person who endangers oneself or the safety of others, duly certified as such by the proper medical health officer , pending the transfer to a mental institution.

(b) The city jail service shall be headed by a city jail warden whose qualifications shall be as those provided for under Republic Act. No. 9263 as amended, otherwise known as the " Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology Professionalization Act of 2004". One shall in the immediate rehabilitation of individuals or detention of prisoners. Great care must be exercised so that human rights of these prisoners are respected and protected, and their spiritual and physical well-being are properly and promptly attended to.

SEC. 49. The City Schools Division. - (a) There shall be established and maintained Department of Education (DepEd) a city school division of Mabalacat City whose area of jurisdiction will cover all the school district within the city.

(b) The city schools division shall be headed by a city school division superintendent who must possess the necessary qualifications required by the DepEd.

SEC. 50. *The City Prosecution Service.* - (a) There shall be established in the City, a city prosecution service to be headed by a city prosecutor and such number of assistant city prosecutors, as may be necessary, who shall be organizationally part of the Department of Justice (DOJ), under the supervision and control of the Secretary of Justice and whose qualifications, manner of appointment, rank, salary and benefits shall be governed by existing laws covering prosecutors in the DOJ.

(b) The city prosecutor shall handle the criminal prosecution in the municipal trial courts in the City as well as in the regional trial courts for criminal cases originating in the territory of the City, and shall render to or for the City such services as are required by law, ordinance or regulation of the DOJ.

The Secretary of Justice shall always ensure the adequacy and the quality of prosecution service in the City and, for this purpose, shall, in the absence or lack or insufficiency in number of assistant city prosecutors as provided hereinabove, designate from among the assistant provincial prosecutors a sufficient number to perform and discharge the functions of the city prosecution service as provided hereinabove.

ARTICLE IX

TRANSITORY AND FINAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 51. *Municipal Ordinances Existing at the Time of the Approval of this Act.* - All municipal ordinances of the Municipality of Mabalacat existing at the time of the approval of this Act shall continue to be in force within Mabalacat City until the sangguniang panlungsod shall declare otherwise.

SEC. 52. *Plebiscite.* - The Mabalacat City shall acquire corporate existence upon the ratification of its creation by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters in a plebiscite to be conducted in the present Municipality of Mabalacat within thirty (30) Days from the approval of this Act.

The Commission on elections shall conduct and supervise such plebiscite.

The expenses for such plebiscite shall be borne by the Municipality of Mabalacat.

SEC. 53. Officials of Mabalacat City.- The present elective officials of the Municipality of Mabalacat shall continue to exercise their powers and functions until such time that a new election is held and the duly-elected officials shall have already qualified and assumed their offices. Appointive officials and employees of the municipality shall likewise continue exercising their functions and duties and they shall be automatically absorbed by the city government of Mabalacat City.

SEC. 54. Succession Clause.- The Mabalacat City shall succeed to all assets, properties, liabilities and obligations of the Municipality of Mabalacat.

SEC. 55. Election of Provincial Governor and Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members of the Province of Pampanga. - The qualified voters of Mabalacat City shall be qualified to vote and run for any elective position for provincial governor, provincial vice governor, sangguniang panlalawigan members and other elective positions for the Province of Pampanga.

SEC. 56. Jurisdiction of the Province of Pampanga.- The Mabalacat City shall, unless otherwise provided by law, continue to be under the jurisdiction of the Province of Pampanga.

SEC. 57. Suspension of Increase in Rates of Local Taxes.- No increase in the rates of local taxes shall be imposed by the City within the period of five (5) years from its acquisition of corporate existence.

SEC. 58. Representative District. - Unless otherwise provided by law, Mabalacat City shall continue to be a part of the First legislative district of the Province of Pampanga.

SEC. 59. Applicability of Laws.- The provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991, and other laws pertaining to the Province of Pampanga and such laws as are applicable shall govern Mabalacat City insofar as these are not inconsistent with the provision of this act.

SEC. 60 Separability Clause.- if, for any reason or reasons, any partial provisions of this Charter shall be held unconstitutional, invalid or inconsistent with the

Local Government Code of 1991, other parts or provision hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 61. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall taken fifteen (15) days after complete publication in any newspaper of general and local circulation.

Approved,