ORDINANCE NO. 770, S-2020

AN ORDINANCE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING SECTIONS 5, 6, AND 7 OF ORDINANCE NO. 697, SERIES OF 2018 AS TO FEES AND CHARGES IMPOSED, THEREBY PROVIDING FREE CREMATION AND RELATED SERVICES TO ALL BONA FIDE RESIDENTS OF MANDALUYONG CITY AND SECTION 26 AS TO ITS EFFECTIVITY AND DURATION COVERING THE PERIOD WHEREBY THE STATE OF CALAMITY IS IN EFFECT DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution provides that the promotion of the general welfare is essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, the State is mandated to protect and promote the right to health of the people;

WHEREAS, the State recognizes public health emergencies, including pandemics, as threats to public health and national security, which can undermine the social, economic, and political functions of the State;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991" states that every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare. Within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support the promotion of health and safety, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants;

WHEREAS, under the same Code, the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the city and its inhabitants pursuant to Section 16 thereof, and for an efficient and effective city government, maintain peace and order by enacting measures to prevent and suppress lawlessness and disorder, and adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the city from the harmful effects of man-made or natural disasters and calamities;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlungsod also has the power to approve ordinances which shall ensure the efficient and effective delivery of the basic services, approve measures, and adopt quarantine regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, due to the widespread cases and increased risk of spread of COVID-19 throughout the globe, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, under Ordinance No. 759, S-2020, the Sangguniang Panlungsod placed Mandaluyong City under a state of calamity;
WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the President declared an Enhanced Community Quarantine over the entire Luzon island, including Metro Manila;

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Executive Order No. 9 was signed outlining the protocols of the City of Mandaluyong for the handling, transport, and disposal of cadavers during the Enhanced Community Quarantine due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the increasing number of deaths due to COVID-19 in the City and around the country pose a great danger to the people;

WHEREAS, due to the uncertainty as to whether or not the cause of death is COVID-19 related and as to whether or not the dead was inflicted with COVID-19, it is highly encouraged to perform cremation as the primary form of disposal of the cadavers during the period of Enhanced Community Quarantine, and regardless of the cause of death;

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 697, Series of 2018, prescribes the schedule of fees and charges for cremation services, among others, undertaken by the Garden of Life Park;

WHEREAS, due to the hardship being experienced by the people of Mandaluyong, the added financial burden of paying for urgent cremation services must be dispensed with to hasten the disposal of the remains of the deceased and to further protect the people of Mandaluyong City from COVID-19 and other deadly diseases.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Mandaluyong, in session assembled, hereby TEMPORARILY SUSPENDS the fees and charges imposed under Ordinance No. 697, Series of 2018 for cremation and related services, of the Garden of Life Park for all bona fide residents of the City of Mandaluyong during the period of the STATE OF CALAMITY due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to wit:

Section 5: Categories are disregarded and waived, thereby allowing only bona fide residents, long time residents and indigents and underprivileged of Mandaluyong City to avail of cremation/burial services of the Garden of Life Park free of charge. Further, disallowing special rates and services of private funeral parlors to avail of the said services of the City Garden of Life Park.

Section 6: is hereby suspended, thereby, cancelling the exemptions and discounts on funeral/burial and cremation services as such is given free for those qualified under the preceding section.

Section 7: GLP fees and services are temporarily suspended as the Ordinance mandates to give the services for free for bona fide residents, long time residents, indigents and underprivileged citizens of Mandaluyong City.
Section 26: EFFECTIVITY AND DURATION: The suspension shall be in effect until such time that the pandemic has been cleared/lifted by the World Health Organization and concurred by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID).

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED on this 16th day of April, 2020, in the City of Mandaluyong.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED AND APPROVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF MANDALUYONG IN A SPECIAL SESSION HELD ON THE DATE AND PLACE FIRST ABOVE GIVEN.

MA TEREZA S. MIRANDA
Sanggunian Secretary

ATTESTED BY:                  APPROVED:

ANTONIO DLS SUVA                CARMELITA A. ABALOS
Vice Mayor &                  City Mayor
Presiding Officer

Date: APR 16 2020
Ordinance No. 770, S–2020
AN ORDINANCE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING SECTIONS 5, 6, AND 7 OF ORDINANCE NO. 667, SERIES OF 2018 AS TO FEES AND CHARGES IMPOSED, THEREBY PROVIDING FREE CREMATION AND RELATED SERVICES TO ALL BONA FIDE RESIDENTS OF MANDALUYONG CITY AND SECTION 26 AS TO ITS EFFECTIVITY AND DURATION COVERING THE PERIOD WHEREBY THE STATE OF CALAMITY IS IN EFFECT DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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DISTRICT I

CHARJISE MARIE ABALOS–VARGAS
Councilor

ANJELo ELTON P. YAP
Councilor

DANilo L. DE GUZMAN
Councilor

ABSENT
GRACE MARIE V. ANTONIO
Councilor

RODOLFO M. POSADAS
Councilor

ESTANISLAD V. ALIM III
Councilor

DISTRICT II

BENJAMIN A. ABALOS III
Councilor

CHERRY LYNN PABLO–SANTOS
Councilor

ROEHL B. BACAR
Councilor

JESUS C. CRUZ
Councilor

FERNANDO S. OCAMPO
Councilor

MICHAEL ERIC S. CUBIÑA
Councilor

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LnB President

AEROL SEDRICK J. MANGALIG
SK Federation President