



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROVINCE OF LEYTE**  
 Provincial Capitol  
 Tacloban City

-oOo-

**PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE**

Item No.: 20

Date: 21 2026 APR

Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
 Province of Leyte  
**RECEIVED**

Date: APR 15 2026  
 By: [Signature]  
 LEGAL OFFICE

**RECEIVED**

By: [Signature]  
 Date: 4-15-26 Time: 9m

**2<sup>nd</sup> INDORSEMENT**  
 March 31, 2026

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2025-015 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Carigara, Leyte.

**Issues/concerns for review/recommendation/legal opinion is/are as follows:**

- Ordinance No. 2025-015 entitled: "Arbor Day Ordinance of Carigara, Leyte"

**REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:**

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Section 447(5)(i)<sup>1</sup> of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160) in consonance RA 10176.<sup>2</sup> . Hence, we recommend the declaration of its validity.

We hope to have assisted you with this request. Please note that the opinion rendered by this Office are based on the facts available and may vary or change when additional facts and documents are presented or changed. This opinion is likewise without prejudice to the opinions rendered by higher and competent authorities and/or the courts.

**ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL**  
*Provincial Legal Officer* [Signature]

<sup>1</sup>(i) Provide for the establishment, maintenance, protection, and conservation of communal forests and watersheds, tree parks, greenbelts, mangroves, and other similar forest development projects;

<sup>2</sup> "Arbor Day Act of 2012".

Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
Palo, Leyte  
-o0o-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1<sup>ST</sup> INDORSEMENT  
31 March 2026

PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
LEGAL OFFICE  
RECEIVED  
By:   
Date: 3.31.24 Time: 4:20

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 2025-015** of the **Municipality of Carigara, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance declaring every third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Monday of January as Carigara Arbor Day, providing policies thereof, and appropriating funds therefor.**



FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
ΠΡΟΪΝΑΝΣΗ ΟΙ ΓΟΥΡΟ  
ΠΡΟΪΝΑΝΣΗ ΟΙ ΓΟΥΡΟ



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
MUNICIPALITY OF CARIGARA

-oOo-

**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**


Telephone No. (053) 530-5144 E-mail Address: [sangguniang\\_bayancarigara@gmail.com](mailto:sangguniang_bayancarigara@gmail.com)



**1<sup>ST</sup> Indorsement**  
**March 31, 2026**

Respectfully forwarded to the Honorable Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, thru the Provincial Board Secretary, Florinda Jill S. Uyvico, the herein **Municipal ORDINANCE NO. 2025-015** - *“AN ORDINANCE DECLARING EVERY THIRD (3<sup>RD</sup>) MONDAY OF JANUARY AS CARIGARA ARBOR DAY, PROVIDING POLICIES THEREOF, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”*.

For your consideration and appropriate action.

  
PAULINO T. MARQUEZ  
Legal Assistant I  
OIC-Secretary to the Sanggunian



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
MUNICIPALITY OF CARIGARA  
-oOo-

**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**


Telephone No. (053) 530-5144 E-mail Address: sangguniang bayancarigara@gmail.com



## CERTIFICATION

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY** that a public hearing was conducted last February 3, 2026 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning at the Kangara Gymnasium for the deliberation of the proposed **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2025-015** - *“AN ORDINANCE DECLARING EVERY THIRD (3<sup>RD</sup>) MONDAY OF JANUARY AS CARIGARA ARBOR DAY, PROVIDING POLICIES THEREOF, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”*.

**ISSUED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2026.**

  
**PAULINO T. MARQUEZ**  
Legal Assistant I  
OIC-Secretary to the Sanggunian

1 MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED MUNICIPAL  
2 ORDINANCE NO. 2025-015 entitled “**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING**  
3 **EVERY THIRD (3RD) MONDAY OF JANUARY AS CARIGARA**  
4 **ARBOR DAY, PROVIDING POLICIES THEREOF, AND**  
5 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

6 HELD LAST FEBRUARY 3, 2026, AT 9:00 AM AT KANGARA  
7 GYMNASIUM

8 **I. CALL TO ORDER**

9 The chairman of the Committee Hon. Fernando N. Moriel calls the meeting  
10 to order.

11 **II. ROLL CALL**

12 The Secretary of the Sanggunian disclosed that present thereat are the  
13 Chairman of the Committee on Rules the Hon. Fernando N. Moriel, Hon. Carlo  
14 Angelo B. Go, Hon. Joenlee C. Larraga, Hon. Mildred C. Modesto, Hon. Arvin N.  
15 Urmeneta, and Hon. Guillermo I. Panal.

16  
17 Also present thereto are: Hon. Myla Ligutan Aguilar, author of the ordinance;  
18 the 49 Punong Barangays; Josefina J. Josol, MAO; EnP Daryl Daniel G. Bodo,  
19 MPDO; representatives of educational institutions; CSO representatives; SB staff;  
20 and other stakeholders.

21  
22 **III. OPENING STATEMENT:**

23 The Presiding Officer welcomed everyone and explained that the purpose of  
24 the hearing was to gather public comments and recommendations regarding the  
25 Proposed Municipal Ordinance No. 2025-015 titled “**AN ORDINANCE**  
26 **DECLARING EVERY THIRD (3RD) MONDAY OF JANUARY AS**  
27 **CARIGARA ARBOR DAY, PROVIDING POLICIES THEREOF,**  
28 **AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

1 **IV. PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE:**

2 During the public hearing, the author of the proposed Municipal Ordinance No.  
3 2025-015, entitled “*An Ordinance Declaring January 22 as Carigara Arbor Day,*  
4 *Providing Policies Therefor, and Appropriating Funds Therefor,*” presented and  
5 explained the rationale and salient provisions of the ordinance. The author  
6 emphasized the importance of strengthening and harmonizing tree-planting  
7 initiatives in the Municipality of Carigara as a sustainable and nature-based approach  
8 to addressing recurring environmental challenges. The proposal aims to promote  
9 environmental stewardship, encourage active community participation, and enhance  
10 the municipality’s climate resilience.

11 In the course of the presentation, the legal basis of the ordinance was also discussed.  
12 It was cited that Section 447(a)(5)(vi) and Section 447(a)(5)(i) of Republic Act No.  
13 7160, otherwise known as the *Local Government Code of 1991*, grants the  
14 Sangguniang Bayan the authority to enact measures for environmental protection  
15 and to establish and conserve communal forests, watersheds, tree parks, greenbelts,  
16 and other similar forest development projects. Likewise, Republic Act No. 10176,  
17 also known as the *Arbor Day Act of 2012*, authorizes Local Government Units to  
18 celebrate Arbor Day annually through tree-planting activities and to declare the day  
19 as a public working holiday.

20 **V. OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

21 The public and other stakeholders were invited to express their views and  
22 suggestions.

23 The floor was opened for comments, suggestions, and recommendations from  
24 stakeholders, barangay officials, and other attendees. The public and other  
25 stakeholders were invited to express their views and suggestions.

26 The following comments were recorded;

27 HON. FELIPE MACABANSAG, Chairman of Brgy. Balilit

1           Asked if this ordinance includes appropriation of funds for its implementation  
2 by the Executive Department? There are already several enacted ordinances, but  
3 some of them are not being properly implemented.

4 DARYL DANIEL G. BODO, MPDC

5           Suggested to include a provision establishing a Barangay counterpart to the  
6 Municipal Arbor Day Committee to ensure proper planning, coordination,  
7 implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of Arbor Day activities at the barangay  
8 level. The creation of such counterpart committees aims to strengthen community  
9 participation and ensure the effective implementation of the ordinance throughout  
10 the municipality.

11 HON. JULIUS CESAR CABALLES, Chairman Brgy. Barayong

12           Requested the Chairman of the Committee on Finance, SB Member Hon.  
13 Fernando Moriel, to verify the Annual Barangay Youth Investment Program  
14 (ABYIP) of each barangay to determine whether the funds are properly allocated  
15 and reflected therein.

16           *All suggestions were noted by the Sangguniang Bayan Committee.*

17 **V. RESPONSE FROM THE AUTHOR AND THE MEMBERS OF THE**  
18 **COMMITTEE**

19           While the author of the ordinance acknowledges the suggestions and  
20 comments from the stakeholders who attended and participated in the public hearing  
21 on the proposed ordinance. The author further clarifies that the comments and  
22 suggestions raised by the representatives from different sectors and members of the  
23 community were all noted and that inputs have provided valuable insights on the  
24 practical challenges, regulatory implications, and community impact of  
25 implementing these measures.

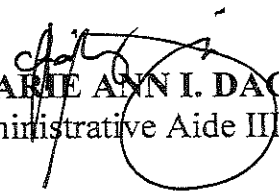
26 **VI. CLOSING REMARKS**

1 The Presiding Officer thanked the attendees for their presence and  
2 participation. Considering that no objections, comments, or recommendations were  
3 raised, the proposed ordinance shall be referred back to the Sangguniang Bayan for  
4 appropriate legislative action.

5  
6 **VII. ADJOURNMENT:**

7 There being no more issues to be discussed, the public hearing was adjourned  
8 at 9:53 o'clock in the morning on the motion of Hon. Mildred C. Modesto was  
9 seconded by all members present.

10  
11  
12 Prepared by:

13  
14   
15 **CHARIE ANN I. DACARA**  
16 Administrative Aide III

17 Certified correct:

18  
19   
20 **PAULINO T. MARQUEZ**  
21 OIC- SB Secretary

22  
23  
24 Attested:

25  
26   
27 **HON. FERNANDO N. MORIEL**  
28 Chairman-Committee on Rules  
29

Attendance Sheet:

Public Hearing

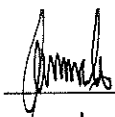
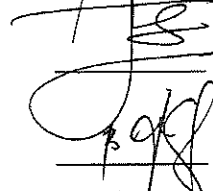
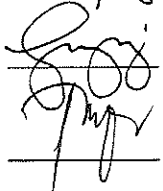
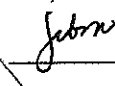
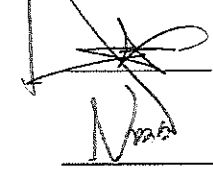
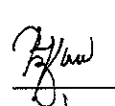
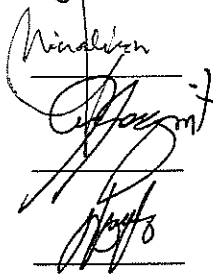

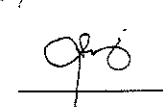
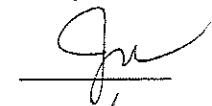

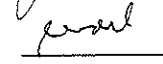
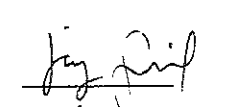
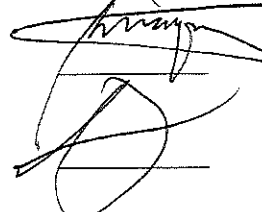

on the Proposed Municipal Ordinance No. 2025-015

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING 22 OF JANUARY AS CARIGARA ARBOR DAY, PROVIDING POLICIES THEREOF, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Date: February 3, 2026  
 Venue: Kangara Gymnasium  
 Time: 9: 00 AM

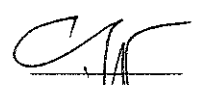
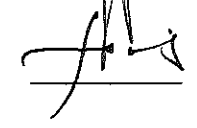
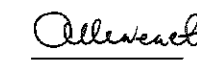
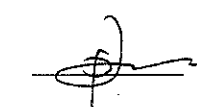
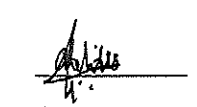
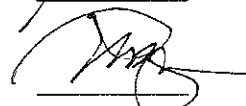
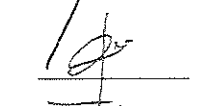
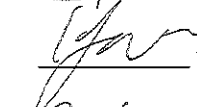
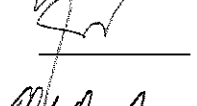
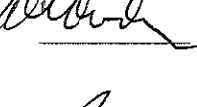
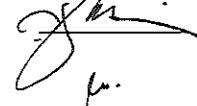
NAME	OFFICE & DESIGNATION	ARRIVAL TIME	SIGNATURE
1. <u>Melvin S. Padilla</u>	<u>HCCC1 Teacher</u>	<u>9:10</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
2. <u>Jocelyn V. Caballes</u>	<u>P. B. L-Hiraan</u>	<u>9:35</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
3. <u>DR. MARITZ T. GARIANDO NGO (CHS)</u>		<u>9:55</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
4. <u>JOYCIE DORADO ALEGRE</u>	<u>Lezte-Samar - Huntze Society, Inc</u>	<u>10:16 AM</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
5. <u>MILES CATIN</u>	<u>Silhog Cultural Association PH, Inc.</u>	<u>10:20 AM</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
6. <u>JULIO P. TOLOSA</u>	<u>CNVS - School Head</u>	<u>10: 20</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
7. <u>JUNUS CESAR CHAVEZ</u>	<u>PB - Manager</u>	<u>10: 30</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
8. <u>FELIPE D. MACABANES</u>	<u>P. B BALUBIT</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
9. <u>CRESENTE L. LLANAS</u>	<u>P.B - CAJAL</u>	<u>10:55</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
10. <u>GILBERTO T. YAP</u>	<u>P.B. CAMANGI</u>	<u>10: 35</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
11. <u>Lito S. Lantua</u>	<u>P.B Caghalo</u>	<u>10:35</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
12. <u>Ramil F. Narbona</u>	<u>P.B. Canlupa</u>	<u>10: 49</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
13. <u>Reyan Rondon</u>	<u>P.B Canjahi</u>	<u>10:50</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
14. <u>JORJAN INAUGAN</u>	<u>PM CANDIGALUM</u>	<u>10:50</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
15. <u>Constantino w. Loderite Jr</u>	<u>P.B. LI BO</u>	<u>10: 52</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
16. <u>Pedro D. Rona</u>	<u>P.B Junabon</u>	<u>10: 50</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>

17. Eduardo Combitudo P.P. Manlay 10:58
18. JOSE L. PLATA JR. P.B. L. SOGOD 11:15 AM
19. INALIKAN, BENJEMEN Y. P.B. SAN ILOILO 11:16 AM
20. ANDY C. AQUILON P.B. SAKARAN 11:16 AM
21. RENATO M. CAPRAN P.B. RIZAL 11:17 AM
22. JANET B. MENDOZA P.B. STAFF 11:21
23. SARNEY DAX TOMLETE P.B. SAWANG 11:23
24. ISMAEL N. VEGA P.B. VI-VISORLA 11:25
25. Theresa J. Azores P.B. Uyoan 11:31
26. Norma M. Inalizon P.B. Upper Segod 11:28
27. JOEL K. GACUT P.B. UPPER HIRAN 11:28
28. BERNARDIN E. ELEGANTO P.B. TIGAYO 11:35
29. SYLVIA Q. URMENETA NGO- CHS (Int. Govt. Engrs) 11:32
30. Adele ? - Hidalgo Kangana MPC 11:30
31. Megan Catalina-mafe MPDO Staff 11:43
32. JOAL M. TOMAS MORMO Staff 11:45
33. ELENORA L. WYATT UNFA PALS 11:50
34. NUNO JOY FAMILING MOTORIZED BANGKUA
35. RANIEL MARGUETZ P.B. MOTAJA
36. JOEL ORLAN MOTORIZED BANGKUA
37. MARIA EMBAL fisherman



- 59. CARLO Ceo STO MEM.
- 60. Fernando Marcel SM. MEM.
- 61. Mildred Modesto SM. MEM
- 62. Arrio Urmeneta SM. MEM
- 63. M.A. Varnieri / Natlan TOO
- 64. PAULINO ~~MANRATA~~ SB SEC STAFF
- 65. Evamac Grapani SB IMMERSION
- 66. Enick Ana Magdali SB IMMERSION
- 67. Mars T. Encabo SB IMMERSION
- 68. NADILYN D. CANETE SB IMMERSION
- 69. JENNY ABUTES SB IMMERSION
- 70. ~~CONCEPCION~~ ~~FERNANDEZ~~ SB STAFF
- 71. ROMEO RIVAN SM STAFF
- 72. Judy ann yacop SB STAFF
- 73. Juvy Morfe SM STAFF
- 74. Rogelio Platilla Jr. "
- 75. JAFALVA PHILIP "
- 76. JEAN VALDEZ JR VEG VAL
- 77. DINO OLEDAN FOR STAFF
- 78. CHARLOTTA M. MIRANDA LIBRARIAN
- 79. Mary Liny Daclitan SD immersion

  
  
  
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80. Marcelo Cruz Liga-admin

81. Prinzano Mison SB STAFF

82. Melissa Torreal Inchalar Staff

83. Kuneha Castro SB-STAFF

84. ANDREW JOY JAMES LIBRARY - EMERSON

85. KORAN M. CLARKE Library - Emerson

86. Lizel P. Dagala SBM STAFF

87. Evelyn T. Pilapil SBM STAFF

88. Trinidad Crisse Crisostomo SB STAFF

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
MUNICIPALITY OF CARIGARA  
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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

Telephone No. (053) 530-5144 E-mail Address: [sangguniang\\_bayancarigara@gmail.com](mailto:sangguniang_bayancarigara@gmail.com)

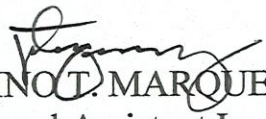


**BAGONG PILIPINAS**

## CERTIFICATION

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY** that **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2025-015** - *“AN ORDINANCE DECLARING EVERY THIRD (3<sup>RD</sup>) MONDAY OF JANUARY AS CARIGARA ARBOR DAY, PROVIDING POLICIES THEREOF, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”*, has been posted last March 30, 2026 in accordance with Sections 59 and 511, R.A. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

**ISSUED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2026.**

  
**PAULINO T. MARQUEZ**  
Legal Assistant I  
OIC-Secretary to the Sanggunian



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
MUNICIPALITY OF CARIGARA  
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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

Telephone No. (053) 530-5144 E-mail Address: sangguniang bayancarigara@gmail.com



EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES/JOURNAL OF THE 35<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF CARIGARA HELD AT THE SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, CARIGARA, LEYTE ON MARCH 2, 2026

\* \* \* \* \*

PRESENT:

Hon. Jimmy A. Camposano----- Mun. Vice Mayor-Pres. Officer  
Hon. Fernando N. Moriel ----- SB Member  
Hon. Vilma M. Domus ----- SB Member  
Hon. Mildred C. Modesto ----- SB Member  
Hon. Carlo Angelo B. Go ----- SB Member  
Hon. Ulpiano U. Arpon Jr.------ SB Member  
Hon. Myla L. Aguilar ----- SB Member  
Hon. Guillermo I. Panal ----- SB Member  
Hon. Daniel N. Ariaso, Jr.------ SB Member-SK Fed. Pres.

ABSENT:

Hon. Joenlee C. Larraga ----- SB Member - FL  
Hon. Arvin. N. Urmeneta ----- SB Member-LnB President - OT

\* \* \* \* \*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is the most vulnerable country in the world to the impacts of climate change. In the 2025 *World Risk Index*, it ranked first due to its high exposure to extreme weather events such as flooding and stronger typhoons.

In the Municipality of Carigara, frequent flooding and the damage caused by intense typhoons result in impassable roads and bridges

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and significant losses in agricultural productivity. This underscores the urgent need to adopt nature-based solutions to combat global warming and mitigate its adverse effects.

Approximately 60% of Carigara’s land area is forest. However, in 2021, it lost about 906 hectares of natural forest cover. While there are local initiatives such as tree-planting activities, these have proven largely ineffective due to the absence of proper maintenance, monitoring, and follow-up strategies.

The State recognizes the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology. It promulgated several policies in support of environmental action, including the institutionalization of Philippine Arbor Day as a key environmental initiative.

In this light, this Ordinance seeks to institutionalize a local Arbor Day Program as a sustainable, nature-based solution to address recurring environmental challenges in Carigara. It aims to harmonize and strengthen tree-planting initiatives, ensuring proper maintenance and long-term sustainability, aligned with the municipality’s commitment to environmental stewardship, community involvement, and climate resilience.

We only have one planet, and it is up to us whether we choose to care for it or suffer the consequences of neglect. It is our responsibility to protect and nurture the environment—not only for ourselves but for future generations who shall inherit what we leave behind.

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**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE 2025-015  
SERIES OF 2025**

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING EVERY THIRD (3RD) MONDAY OF  
JANUARY AS CARIGARA ARBOR DAY, PROVIDING POLICIES  
THEREOF, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**AUTHOR: HON. MYLA B. LIGUTAN AGUILAR**

**CO-SPONSORS: HON. FERNANDO N. MORIEL  
HON. JOENLEE C. LARRAGA  
HON. MILDRED C. MODESTO  
HON. DANIEL N. ARIASO, JR  
HON. GUILLERMO I. PANAL**

**WHEREAS**, Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that it is the policy of the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

**WHEREAS**, Section 3-A of Republic Act No. 5752, as amended, provides that every municipality or city shall exert efforts to establish, develop and maintain a permanent forest, tree parks or watershed within public land owned by such municipality or city with an aggregate size equivalent to at least two per cent of its entire area within two years from the approval of this Act: Provided, That the forest, park, or watershed may be located in one or more places within

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the municipality;

**WHEREAS**, Section 17 of the Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates the Local Government Unit to conserve mangroves ([b] [2] [i]) and the establishment of tree parks, greenbelts, and similar forest development projects (b) [2] [ii]);

**WHEREAS**, Section 447 of the same Republic Act grants the Sangguniang Bayan the authority to protect the environment ([a] [1] [vi]) and provides for the establishment, maintenance, protection, and conservation of communal forests and watersheds, tree parks, greenbelts, mangroves, and other similar forest development projects ([a] [5] [i]);

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation No. 396, enacted on 2 June 2003, declares the Philippine Arbor Day and enjoins the active participation of all government agencies, including Government Owned or Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), the Private Sector, Schools, Civil Societies, and the Citizenry in Tree-Planting Activity;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 26 Series of 2011 declared the implementation of a National Greening Program (NGP) as a government priority, and aims to reduce poverty, ensure food security, environmental stability, conserve biodiversity, mitigate climate change, and adapt to climate change;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 10176, otherwise known as the Arbor

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Day Act of 2012, authorizes Local Government Units to assume the responsibility of celebrating Arbor Day as an annual event.

**WHEREAS**, the advancement of green ecology through the planting and proper maintenance of trees serves to reduce the carbon footprint, enhance biodiversity, strengthen climate resilience, and secure a lasting environmental legacy for future generations.”

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on motion of Honorable Vilma M. Domus, duly seconded by Honorable Carlo Angelo B. Go and Honorable Guillermo I. Panal,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN of CARIGARA, LEYTE, THAT:**

**SECTION 1. Title:** This Ordinance shall be known as the “**ARBOR DAY ORDINANCE OF CARIGARA, LEYTE**”.

**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy:** It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of Carigara to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Recognizing the vital role of trees in maintaining ecological stability, mitigating the adverse effects of climate change, and providing valuable resources and benefits to the community, the Municipality shall promote collaborative efforts between the local government and the citizenry to combat the loss of natural resources and rejuvenate the environment. This shall be

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undertaken through municipal tree planting and maintenance activities, supported by effective measures to ensure their sustainability and maximize their environmental and social contributions.

**SECTION 3. Declaration of Arbor Day:** Every third Monday of January of every year is hereby declared as **“CARIGARA ARBOR DAY”**.

Pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10176, or the Arbor Day Act of 2012, Rule 4 Section 1, the designated Arbor Day is declared as a public working holiday to ensure the participation of the different sectors of society.

**SECTION 4. Creation of the Arbor Day Committee (ADC):** There is hereby created an Arbor Day Celebration Committee in the Municipality, and it shall be composed:

CHAIRPERSON	Municipal Mayor
VICE - CHAIRPERSON	SB Chairperson, Committee on Environmental Protection and Climate Change Adaptation
Members	SB Chairperson and Members, Committee on Agriculture and Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management



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	Liga ng mga Barangay President
	Sangguniang Kabataan Federation President
	Municipal Agriculture Officer or designated representative
	Municipal Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Officer or designated representative
	Municipal Planning and Development Officer or designated representative
	Municipal Assessor or designated representative
	Municipal Budget Officer
	Municipal Local Government Operations Officer (MLGOO) or designated representative
	Representative, PNP Carigara
	Representative, Bureau of Fire Protection Carigara



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	Representatives from the Department of Education (Elementary and Secondary)
	Representative from Higher Education Institutions (SUCs and Private)
	Representative, DENR
	Three (3) Representatives from Accredited NGOs/POs
SECRETARIAT	Municipal Planning and Development Office

**SECTION 5. Functions of the ADC:**

- a. Formulate plans, programs, and activities necessary to achieve the intent of this Ordinance;
  - b. Craft and implement the Municipal Greening Program;
  - c. Approve the area where tree planting activities are to be conducted, including the establishment of the Carigara Forest Park and Mangrove Park;
  - d. Consult, specify, and approve planting material to be used in identified areas;
  - e. Harmonize and coordinate all tree planting initiatives to ensure
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alignment with the municipality’s greening goals and sustainable management of resources;

- f. Prepare an annual work and financial plan to support the budget allocation and to ensure the sustainability of the program;
- g. Monitor and maintain records of annual activities;
- h. Adopt and promote the use of tree guards and other protective mechanisms to ensure the survival and protection of newly planted trees;
- i. Establish and develop a monitoring and evaluation system based on measurable indicators to assess the sustainability, survival rate, and overall condition of planted trees, and recommend necessary interventions to strengthen long-term outcomes of the Municipality’s tree-planting initiatives.
- j. Recognize and award individuals, organizations, or sectors that have consistently and positively contributed to the realization of the Municipality’s Greening Program. The Committee shall develop and adopt official guidelines for the selection of awardee/s.

**SECTION 6: *Participation and Activities:*** The Municipality of Carigara, all Barangay Elected and Appointed Officials, Accredited NGOs/POs, Public and Private Schools, National Government Agencies, Business and Private Sector are encouraged to participate in Arbor Day activities.

Only endemic, native, or indigenous species shall be used in the observance of Arbor Day and in all tree-planting activities within the

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Municipality.

Activities may include:

- Tree Planting Ceremonies in designated areas
- Distribution of seedlings to participants, residents, and organizations.
- Educational campaigns and workshops on tree care and environmental stewardship.

**SECTION 7. Carigara Forest Park and Mangrove Park:** The ADC shall designate an area for the establishment of the Carigara Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park. These areas shall be included in the long-term developmental plans of the Local Government Unit of Carigara, Leyte.

The Carigara Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park shall be maintained by the Municipality through the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO), in cooperation with the Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO), and in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

*Provided* that it shall serve as a nursery for future tree-planting activities and support the production of lumber for the construction of traditional family dwellings and the maintenance of heritage structures identified by the Municipality.

*Provided, further,* that it shall be allowed only for a limited and necessary number of lumbers and with a prior permit secured from

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the Municipality.

**SECTION 8. Harmonization of Tree Planting Initiatives:** All tree-planting initiatives conducted within the Municipality, outside of the Arbor Day Celebrations, shall be harmonized and carried out only in the Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park, or barangay-identified greening areas.

**SECTION 9. Supply and Distribution of Seedlings:** The Municipal Agricultural Officer, in coordination with the DENR, shall be responsible for the supply and distribution of seedlings for the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 10. Funding:** Funds necessary for the effective implementation and sustainability of Arbor Day shall be sourced from the 20% Development Fund and shall be included in the subsequent annual or supplemental budget of the Municipality.

**SECTION 11. Environmental Stewardship:** The MAO, in coordination with the DENR, the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), and other relevant agencies, shall conduct trainings and seminars at least once a year, preferably a week before the scheduled tree planting activity, to equip the participants with knowledge on proper tree planting and maintenance.

*Provided,* that the Local Fire Station, in cooperation with the Bureau of Fire Protection and Fire Volunteers, shall conduct fire protection

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training as part of the maintenance of the planting site.

*Provided, further,* that it shall be mandated that all participants must attend an environmental stewardship lecture before conducting any tree-planting initiative within Carigara, Leyte.

**SECTION 12. *Barangay Participation:*** All 49 Barangays of the Municipality, with their respective Sangguniang Kabataan, shall be mandated to initiate their own Greening Program with five percent (5%) budget allocation in their Annual Barangay Youth Investment Plan (ABYIP) and establish their own designated green areas in any of the following areas within their territorial jurisdiction:

- Identified/Declared Watershed Areas
- Identified/Declared Communal Forest/Mangrove Forest
- Vacant Public or Private Grounds
- Public Parks, Private Parks, and Lands, with the consent of the owner
- Streams, Riverbanks, and Coastal Areas

**SECTION 13. *Barangay Arbor Day Committee:*** There is hereby created a Barangay Arbor Day Celebration Committee (BADaC) in the 49 Barangays of the Municipality of Carigara, which shall serve as the barangay counterparts to the Municipal ADC. The BADaC shall exercise the applicable functions enumerated in Section 5 and coordinate with the Arbor Day Committee (ADC) to ensure alignment with the Municipality’s overall greening objectives.

*[Signature]*



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**SECTION 14. Maintenance of Trees:** The barangay officials and deputized non-governmental organizations shall be responsible for the maintenance of trees planted within their respective jurisdictions.

**SECTION 15. Nursery:** Every barangay shall establish and maintain a community seedling nursery and coordinate with other agencies (DENR, PCA, BPI, and other relevant agencies) for the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 16. Prohibited Acts:**

The following acts are declared prohibited:

- Cutting down or harvesting any tree without a permit from the DENR;
- Dumping of any waste products in the Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park or Barangay-identified greening areas;
- Use of any motorized equipment to cut a tree without a permit from the Municipality;
- Squatting and mineral locating activities within the Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park or Barangay-identified greening areas ;
- Constructing or maintaining any kind of structure, fence, or enclosure, and conducting any business enterprise without a permit within the Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park or barangay-identified greening areas;
- Altering, removing, destroying, or defacing boundary marks or signs;
- Burning or setting a fire to any part of the Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park or barangay-identified greening areas as a mode

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of clearing or otherwise;

- No person shall, by an act of omission, let loose their farm and/or domesticated animals within the Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park or barangay-identified greening areas.

**SECTION 17. Permit to Cut:** No person shall cut or harvest any tree planted within the Forest Park and/or Mangrove Park or barangay-identified greening areas without prior authorization from the ADC and a DENR-issued permit.

**SECTION 18. Penalties:** Any person found in violation of this Ordinance under the prohibited acts in Section 15 shall be meted out the following:

**1st Offense** - Fine of Two Thousand Pesos (Php 2,000.00) or an imprisonment of One (1) month, but not more than Three (3) months, or both at the discretion of the court, plus confiscation of any equipment used in the cutting, the cut tree, and/or lumber, and planting of trees equal to the number cut.

**2nd Offense and Subsequent Offenses** - Fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 2,500.00) or an imprisonment of One (1) month, but not more than Six (6) months, or both at the discretion of the court, plus confiscation of any equipment used in the cutting, the cut tree, and/or lumber, and planting of trees equal to the number cut.

**SECTION 19. Separability Clause:** Should any portion of this

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Ordinance be found unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by a court of proper jurisdiction, all remaining provisions shall remain in effect and shall not be affected by the ruling on the invalid section.

**SECTION 20. Repealing Clause:** All ordinances, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 21. Effectivity Clause:** This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in a newspaper of general circulation or posting in at least three conspicuous places in the Municipality of Carigara, Leyte.

**APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY** this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2026 at the Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall, Carigara, Leyte

\* \* \* \* \*

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that this is a true and accurate copy of the ordinance duly enacted by the Sanggunian on 2 March 2026.

  
**PAULINO T. MARQUEZ**  
Legal Assistant I

OIC-Secretary to the Sanggunian

Attested:

  
**JIMMY A. CAMPOSANO**  
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer




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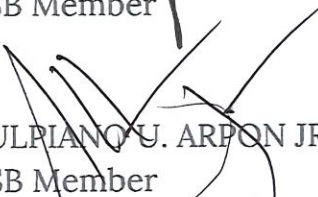
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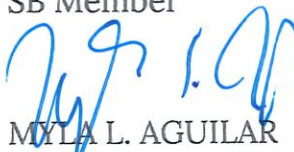
  
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SB Member


  
VILMA M. DOMUS  
SB Member

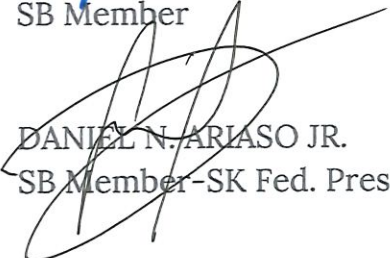
  
CARLO ANGELO B. GO  
SB Member

  
MILDRED C. MODESTO  
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ULPIANO U. ARPON JR.  
SB Member

  
MYLA L. AGUILAR  
SB Member

  
GUILLERMO I. PANAL  
SB Member

  
DANIEL N. ARIASO JR.  
SB Member-SK Fed. Pres.

Approved:

  
EDUARDO T. ONG, JR.  
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved:

03/02/2026