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The Philippine Star · 11 Oct 2022 · 5

Meanwhile, Belmonte has approved the release of P10,000 bonus for each of the city hall employees, in recognition of their contributions to the city's "sound financial management."

She approved an ordinance granting cash incentives to all city hall personnel, including those under contract of service, job order and consultancy status.

Belmonte issued a memorandum circular providing the guidelines for the implementation of the ordinance, which was introduced by Councilors Dorothy Delarmente, Shaira Liban, Wencerom Benedict Lagumbay and Eric Medina. She instructed the city budget officer to release the funding for the cash incentives.

All department heads were ordered to submit the names of the employees who are entitled to receive the bonus. "This is an acknowledgment by the local government of our hardworking employees' contributions in helping the city gain recognition by the Commission on Audit (COA)," Belmonte said.

"The cash incentive will surely help employees and their families in covering their expenses, especially amid the surging cost of basic commodities," she added.

Quezon City had gained the distinction as the country's richest local government unit, with total assets of P452.333 billion based on the COA's 2020 Annual Financial Report on Local Government. – Elizabeth Marcelo