REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 14th February, 2024

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

MOTION

EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY CONTAINED IN ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR

(Continuation of the motion held on Wednesday 14th February, 2024 at 9.00 a.m.)

Speaker: Hon. Members, this is a continuation of the motion that we had in the morning. The floor is open for Members to contribute. Others had already contributed in the morning. I am giving chance to those who did not have an opportunity to do so in the morning session. Members, the floor is open for Members to contribute. For those who may not have heard before, we are debating a motion on the address of H.E the Governor.

As it is in our Standing Orders, we had a maximum of four days to discuss. Today, being the first day, allow me to invite you to the floor for a continuation of the same debate. The chance is given to those who did not get time in the morning. We had various Members who contributed led by the Majority Leader Hon. John Gichuki. It was contributed and seconded to by Hon. Stephen. Hon. Gitahi, Hon. Mugweru, Hon. Kanyutu and Hon. Moile contributed in the morning.

The Members who did not have a chance, the time is yours. Hon. Stephen, do you want to say something.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I am standing here on county important issues. Hon. Speaker, today there is a committees' tenure that is going to expire and you are very much aware of that. Secondly, I was requesting if possible, we convene a House Business Committee (HBC) after the Assembly so that we can move the session of the Assembly from 2.30 p.m. to 9.00 a.m. We can discuss some issues that are very important so that we release Members to go for their weekend and resume next week.

That was my humble request, that we meet as a House Business Committee so that we can arrange those issues that are very important which are attached to this Assembly.

Speaker: Before you proceed Hon. Stephen, you are saying there be a sitting at 9.00 a.m. Is it 9.00 p.m. or 9.00 am?

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: It is not p.m. Hon. Speaker because 9.00 p.m. is injury time. During that injury time, some might be injured. Hon. Speaker, it is good to clarify that we have it at 9.00 a.m. Thank you.

Speaker: Allow me to presume the 9.00 a.m. of 15th February, 2024.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for that correction. It is tomorrow 15th February, 2024 at 9.00 a.m. Thank you.

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Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen. On a lighter note, I will have to inquire on who to give lunch. That was a bit abrupt. Members, I do not want to make a declaration. The Members have suggested. Remember we are still on the debating time for the County Address by H.E the Governor. If we would prefer that we do it by tomorrow, perhaps you will therefore allow me to give the Members to give one or two comments.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, Hon. Stephen is still on.

Speaker: Proceed Hon. Daniel.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I might not air my opinion having coming from the majority whip and also bringing the session from afternoon to morning. It is a good idea and this is the high time we should start moving with speed with the Committee on Rules and Procedures to bring the Assembly for two days. This is now the high time but for now we can agree on moving the Assembly from afternoon to morning. Immediately after that or maybe in weeks to come, we try and amend our Standing Orders to allow us to becoming on Tuesday morning and afternoon and Wednesday morning and afternoon.

This is the high time we start thinking about it because we are finding ourselves in awkward positions. I support and call the upon speeding up the standing order amendment. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mugweru. That is a good suggestion. We have been talking about it for long on how to alter and make some changes on the standing order. Since you are a member of the committee, we just need to have that thing done immediately.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Mimi nilikuwa na ombi moja na ningeomba Wajumbe wakubaliane na mimi. Kama tutakuwa na HBC ili tubadilishe masaa ya asubuhi, tulikuwa tunafaa kuwa na *procedural motion* sasa hivi. Kama Wajumbe wangekubaliana nami, tungeahirisha kidogo ndio tuweze kuwa na nafasi ya kuleta huo mswada ili tuweze kuja kesho asubuhi kwa sababu hata HBC ikikutana baada ya Bunge, hatutaweza kuja asubuhi na itatubidi tuje saa nane.

Kwa hivyo, mimi ningeomba hili Bunge kwa maana kuna sheria. Kama ninataka jambo, nahitaji kuungwa mkono ka Wajumbe na kanuni za Bunge zinasema ya kwamba ninafaa kuungwa na Wajumbe watatu au zaidi. Kwa hivyo, naomba Wajumbe katika hili Bunge waniunge mkono kwa hili ili tuweze kuahirisha kwa muda kidogo ili HBC wakutane na baadaye tuweze kuleta huo mswada. Bwana Spika, nimeungwa mkono na hawa Wajumbe kwa vile unavyoweza kuona. Bunge lote linaunga hili jambo.

Speaker: Hon. Members, you may be seated. I can see that Hon. Stephen Ndiritu and the Majority have moved a suggestion that since the House had not been provided with a procedural motion, we are not going to adjourn the House but we are going to suspend it for one hour so that the HBC can meet. The House now stands suspended for only 30 minutes. Let us meet at our usual place.

(The House was suspended for 30 minutes)

(House resumed after 30 minutes)

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, can you confirm whether we have got quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

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Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell be rang for ten minutes.

(The quorum bell was rung for five minutes).

Deputy Speaker: Mr. Speaker, I want to confirm that we have got the quorum.

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we do have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed the achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members. Welcome back from the suspension of some few minutes. We are still in our afternoon meeting. I want to remind the Members that we have been ongoing on motion number 8, address by the Governor. Therefore, I would like to give the Members an opportunity to continue contributing before we move to the next order. Just to remind the House that some Members had already contributed.

So, for those who have not contributed to take the first priority. Those who have contributed are Hon. John Gichuki, Hon. Stephen Ndiritu, Hon Gitahi, Hon. Mugweru, Hon. Kanyutu and the Hon. Eunice. I therefore open the floor for those Members who have not been able to receive a chance now.

Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to contribute towards the speech that the Hon. Governor gave in this House. Notably I want to point out on some few points that were articulated in the speech. Particularly, I want to congratulate the bursary thing that happened one week ago. As a county, we are happy for the way the bursary was channelled this time. Even the distribution method was good.

We are also happy that we increased the bursary amount from Kshs.15 million to Kshs.75 million. I would wish to urge the Education Committee to increase the amount in this financial year to a Kshs.100 million since some of the areas have got very needy students.

Something else that was notable in the speech of the Governor was about the enterprise fund. I have a feeling that the amount should also be increased whereby we can also be giving the *bodaboda* groups in the whole county. The following year we can target the women groups who do table banking so that we may empower our people economically.

The other thing that was mentioned was about our healthcare system. I am happy that the County Government is coming up with a system whereby in every ward, we have got some dispensaries that are being uplifted whereby they will be having an ambulance, a full doctor or a surgeon and other dispensaries can refer their patients. For example, in my ward, I only have one health centre, the Salama Health Centre. All others are dispensaries which need to be improved. Therefore, I was happy to hear of the health system and maybe next time, I would wish that we zero in the area of infrastructure.

Without building roads, Members who are seated in this House, the electorates will not feel us in the ground. I wish we start the New Year with more zeal and vigour as we plan and do development in our respective wards. I also want to wish the Hon. Members a happy new year and now become more serious in expertizing our duties. Thank you.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

CHANGE HOUSE OF SITTING

Speaker: Thank you Members. I will give the chance to Hon. Gichuki but just to let you know that when the House had a suspension for few minutes, there were a few changes in

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the Order Paper. This allowed the inclusion which allowed the Order of a Procedural Motion. It has been authorised by the HBC. The floor is yours the Hon. Gichuki.

Hon. John Gichuki: Honourable Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly approves the application of Standing Order No. 31(3) to allow it change it's sitting for Thursday 15th February, 2024 from 2:30 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, I request Hon. Leila to second me on this.

Hon. Leila Hussein: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Catherine Nyokabi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support this motion. It was a very wise idea to change the Assembly time from 2.30 to 9.00 a.m. so that Members can come early and prosecute the business and mandate they have been given by the electorates.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Nasimama kushukuru Kiongozi wa Chama cha Walio Wengi Bungeni juu tuko na majukumu mengi sana pale mashinani. Asante sana.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support and wish if it's possible not only tomorrow, but we be doing this every morning of Thursday. As one Member had suggested in the morning, we can also adjust the days and we be coming for only two days. We need to be closer to our families. If possible, I support and we make it continue as we organize on changing the Standing Orders.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Member. In the morning, Hon. Mugweru had mentioned the same and alluded the Committee concerned had already done preparations only awaiting tabling. Thank you for supporting the motion. I welcome the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. John Gichuki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank Members for supporting me on this. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until tomorrow Thursday, 15th February, 2024 at 9.00 am.

The House rose at 3.43 p.m.

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