

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THE HANSARD

Thursday, 7th June 2018

The House met at 2:43p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER

REPORT OF HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE ON A PUBLIC PETITION BY
RESIDENTS OF ICHAGAKI WARD ON THE ABANDONED ICHAGAKI HEALTH
CENTRE

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): The Chairperson for Health Services? Not here?

Hon. Kibe Githuka: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am the Chairperson for Health Services and I also represent the people of Kihumbu-ini ward. I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly;

The Report of the Committee of the Health Services on the Public Petition by the Residents of Ichagaki Ward on the abandoned Ichagaki Health Centre in Ichagaki Ward, Maragua Sub-County.

(Hon. Kibe Githuka laid the paper on the Table)

Hon. Kibe Githuka: Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to briefly highlight on the following issues regarding the Petition. On 21st December 2017, the County Assembly received a public Petition from 40 community members of Ichagaki sub-location in Ichagaki Ward, Maragua constituency regarding the abandoned construction of Ichagaki health centre in Ichagaki Ward. The grounds for the Petition are outlined here:-

1. That, Ichagaki Health centre was proposed by the community and passed by Murang'a County Assembly for construction.
2. That, the said Health Centre was supposed to be completed by the end of the Financial Year (FY), 2016/2017.
3. That, the former County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Health and the former Chief Officer for Health visited the site and recommended for its construction.
4. That, the first batch of construction materials is laid on the site.
5. That, the above issue is respect of which the Petition is not pending in any court of law or legal institution.
6. That, the County Assembly issued a resolution that Ichagaki Health Centre be prioritised for construction to cater for the many residents, schools, churches and shopping centres in Ichagaki sub-location.

Mr. Speaker, on 6th March 2018, pursuant to standing order 216 (1), the Petition was laid and committed to the Health Services committee which was expected to carry its investigations and report to the House within 60 days.

Mr. Speaker sir, let me point out here that due several recesses in the last two months by the Assembly, this was not possible within the required timeline of 60 days. In carrying out the investigation, the committee first held a meeting with the Member of County Assembly (MCA) Ichagaki Ward to seek his views on the Health centre as documented in the report. Further the committee carried out the following;

1. An independent investigation through the research department of the Assembly to ascertain the status of the project on the ground
2. Due to slight differences of the local ward leaders with the provincial administration regarding the construction site, the committee opted to invite the petitioners to the Assembly on 3rd May 2018 as indicated in the report. The following are the committee findings:
 1. That the County Government through the County planning unit had done a feasibility study on the site and found it enough and suitable for construction of a Health centre;
 2. That the County Government had already developed a Bill of Quantities for construction of Ichagaki Health centre at a cost of Kshs4million;
 3. That in the financial year 2015/2016, a budgetary allocation of Kshs2 million for the construction of the Health facility was approved by the County Assembly but was later reduced to Kshs1.5million in the supplementary budget of the same year, however, the project was not implemented.
 4. That the two pieces of land where the offices of the Assistant chief and Administration Police quarters are situated is community land held in trust by the County Government for development of community utilities and facilities;
 5. That, though there are slight differences between the local provincial administration and local leaders on the construction site of the health centre, the rights of the community are supreme as access to affordable healthcare is an economic and social right as enshrined in Article 43 (1) (a) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010;

In summary, the County Executive Committee Member for Health failed to implement the project even after funds were approved in the County Budget Estimates for the Department of Health in the FY 2015/2016 and Bill of Quantities prepared and approved. Based on the findings, the committee came up with the following recommendations as contained in the report: I will not read the report:

1. That, the County Government through the department of Health immediately undertakes the construction of Ichagaki Health centre in Ichagaki ward as proposed in the Bill of Quantities submitted by the department of Transport and Infrastructure on 28th September 2016.
2. That, the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Health and Sanitation immediately includes the construction of Ichagaki Health centre as one of the Health sectoral projects in the County Integrated Development Plan(CIDP) for 2018-2022 and the Annual Development Plan(ADP) for 2018/2019;
3. That, further, the County Executive Committee Member for Health and Sanitation should immediately allocate funds for the construction of Ichagaki Health centre in the department's Budget Estimates for 2018/2019.

Lastly within 60 calendar days after tabling of this report in the Assembly the County Executive Committee Member for Health in collaboration with the Member for County Assembly Ichagaki Ward arrange a meeting with the Murang'a county commissioner, Ichagaki Ward, Implementation committee and local leaders to iron out any differences that may hinder the smooth implementation of the project.

Mr Speaker sir, I now wish to lay the report on the Table of the Assembly

STATEMENTS

RESPONSE ON CABRO INSTALLATIONS IN KIRIA-INI MARKET

Hon. Mburu Muthoni: I beg to respond, response to statement by Hon. Morris Thuku Gathoni regarding the installation of cabro blocks in Kiria-ini market in Kiru ward. The committee received the response from the County Executive Committee Member for Transport and Infrastructure development on May 15, 2018.

The response addressed the questions posed as follows:

1. Is the chairperson aware that market development is related to manufacturing which is one of the big four agendas of the Jubilee government? The response, yes the chairperson is aware market development is related to manufacturing which is one of the big four agenda of the Jubilee government.
2. Is he also aware that Kiria-ini market is one of the largest markets in Murang'a County which generates a lot of County to the County Government? The chairperson is not aware that Kiria-ini market is the largest market in the County but it generates revenue to the County Government just like any other market in the County.
3. Is he further aware that there are complaints from the residents and business community of Kiru ward that the project of cabro installation in Kiria-ini market has halted despite tonnes of cabro being delivered and heaped along the town? Response, the chairperson is not aware of any complaints from the residents and the business community but cabro installation is on-going but has halted due to on-going rains. Phase one meant for matatu terminal is complete and in use.
4. Is he informed that the cabros are being stolen since they have been deserted in the town for almost six months, which is a huge loss to taxpayer's money since the contractor seems to have abandoned the work? Moreover, that the heaps of cabro are a big barrier to smooth operations of hawkers and bodaboda operators as they block and occupy what was initially their space? The chairperson has not heard of any cabro theft on site and the overall responsibility lies with the contractor and there is no notification received from the contractor regarding abandoning of the site. Second to be noted, heaps of cabro on the site will be installed immediately the rains stop so that hawkers and bodaboda operators can move on with their operations smoothly in a clean environment.
5. Can he provide information to this Assembly on why the contractor halted the work before completion? The contractor stopped the works due to the ongoing rains and will resume immediately they are over.
6. If the contractor abandoned the work out of breach of contract, what measures have been taken to ensure that the work is completed? The contractor did not abandon the work out of breach of contract.

7. Finally, can the chairperson provide information on the scope of cabro installation within the market? The scope of cabro installation is part of upgrading Kiria-ini market and its environs where work is on progress.
8. In view of the aforementioned, when is the expected completion period of cabro installation at Kiria-ini market? This is an on-going programme which is running in the entire County and is dependent on availability of funds.

Committee observed the following; the committee in one of its meetings discussed the response from the CEC Member for Transport and Infrastructure and noted that there was no commitment and timelines from the CEC Member on additional funding regarding completion of cabro installation project at Kiria-ini market.

Hon. Morris Thuku: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the chair Roads and Infrastructure for his response on the matter.

May I say I do not know whether to say the response on the matter was not very kind, how he has responded, neither did the committee take time to visit the so called town out of the concern raised. These are some of the points that he said the committee was not aware of any theft of cabros in town yet there is an ongoing case of someone who was caught loading a pickup with cabros; in this case I just want to point on the depth of the research that they did.

However I took the matter with the CECM Infrastructure in addition to the effort the committee did. As he has said the work halted because of the ongoing rains and once the rains stop, the work is going to resume though the materials are going to continue being put on site. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): So you are satisfied with the situation as it is?

REQUEST ON GITURA AND KABATI DISPENSARIES

Hon. Mburu Muthoni: It is notified that, pursuant to standing order 46 (2) (c), the Speaker has approved the following request for statements on Thursday June 7, 2018. Pursuant to standing order 46 (2) (c), I hereby request for a statement from the chairperson Health Services committee on the following;

1. Is the chairperson aware that residents of Gitura in Kagundu-ini ward have been seeking laboratory services at Thika due to dismissal of laboratory technicians at Gitura dispensary by the County Executive Committee Member in-charge of Health.
2. Can the chairperson inform this House when laboratory technicians will be posted to the dispensary?
3. Is the chairperson also aware that the Clinical Officer in-charge of Gitura dispensary treats patients through the window?
4. Is he further aware that the Clinical Officer at Kabati dispensary is alleged to report to work drunk?
5. If the answer to the above is to the affirmative, what action will be taken against him and by when?

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): Thank you, chair Health?

Hon. Kibe Githuka: Thank you Mr. Speaker. According to the report which has been read by Hon. Peter Mburu Muthoni, I request I am given time so that I can search for those allegations. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): Hon. Muthoni?

Hon. Mburu Muthoni: Mr. Speaker, chair Health is a good friend of mine but I would urge him to give timelines please because people are suffering.

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): Please give timelines.

Hon. Kibe Githuka: Putting into consideration that we are going to recess, I am urging to be given one month after recess. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): Hon. Muthoni are you satisfied with that one month?

Hon. Mburu Muthoni: Mr. Speaker we are talking the issue to do with health and the chair being my chair in that particular committee, probably the first week after recess. Thank you Speaker.

Hon. Kibe Githuka: Thank you Mr. Speaker I am satisfied with one week because he is a member of that committee we are going to work together. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): We cannot raise--- they have agreed so it is alright; there are no more points on that point. Next order.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki): Honorable members, pursuant to standing order 29(3) relating to the calendar of the Assembly, the Speaker now notifies that upon the rise of the House today at the appointed regular sitting will resume on Tuesday July 3rd 2018 at 9:30a.m.. Thank you

The House rose at 3:04 p.m.