

## MURANGA COUNTY ASSEMBLY THE HANSARD

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015

*The House met at 2:54 p.m.*

*(Deputy Speaker Hon. Gachui Mungai in the Chair)*

### PRAYERS

### NOTICES OF MOTION

UNBUNDLING OF PROCUREMENT AND ENGAGEMENT OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH KNOWLEDGE IN LABOUR BASED WORKS IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION WITH AN AIM OF REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG THE YOUTH IN MURANG'A COUNTY

**Hon. James Kagoni:** I beg to give a notice of motion;-

Aware that the issue of youth unemployment has been on the increase in our county, cognizant of the fact that the county government spends a lot of money in procuring services or road construction, further aware that in the road construction sector there are classified and non-classified roads, and there are categories of roads that could be reserved for the youth to be categorized as labour-based work, which includes activities such as setting out of roads, crumbling, stripping, ditching, building of scour checks, gabions, check dams, installation of culverts, bush clearing, tree uprooting, road camber formation, spreading of materials among others, this House urges the executive to follow the national government circular on unbundling of procurement and engages the young people with knowledge in labour based works in road construction with an aim of reducing unemployment among the youth in Murang'a County.

Thank you Mr. Speaker

### MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE SPECIAL AUDIT REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND FORMER DEFUNCT LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2013

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Chairman, Public Investments

*(Hon. Erick Kimani was not in the Chamber)*

The next order if the member is not there

### BILLS

MURANG'A COUNTY WATER BILL, 2014- SECOND READING

**Hon Mary Waithira:** I would like to move a motion;-

That, the Murang'a County Water Bill, 2014, be now read a second time.

Mr. Speaker sir, the Murang'a Water Bill is almost through and that is why we are reading it for the second time. We have gone for public participation, and many of the people who were interested with the issues to do with water have given their input and what they want amended. We have already taken care of that

This Bill is coming at a time when we have already looked at Northern Collector Tunnel (NCT) and most of the issues we came across are some of the things that we have

incorporated in the Water Bill, it is during that time that we were able to see the need for Murang'a County coming up with a bulk water company so that we can be able to regulate our waters and ensure the people we have in lower and upper sides equally benefit with water.

If at all we have excess of this water, we can also make an income out of it. The Bill came at the right time when we are prepared with this. I call upon Hon. Mburu to second the same.

**Hon. Danson Mburu:** I second

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon Members it's not necessarily to second a Bill in the second reading, but I think it is in order

*(Question Proposed)*

**Hon. Kago Njoroge:** This is one of the best things that have ever been brought in this county bearing in mind that there are so many small companies which are not economical to our people and are not even able to supply water in their catchment areas

If you go to Kahuti Water and Sanitation Company, Gatamathi and Gatanga they are very small and not economical. In my case I usually get water once every month.

The spirit of the Bill of having one bulk water company which will think of how each and every member will get water and which will think of irrigation water in this county and the same company will think of how we can export water, I think it will be very good.

If the Bill can be followed to the letter within two years our people will have drinking and irrigation water and none of us will be complaining about it. If you look at the situation now and you see how the county looks, you will realize we do not have water yet we are giving water to Nairobi free of charge, leaving the Murang'a people thirsty and their land not irrigated.

We request that this Bill passes next week and the Governor should be able to come up with that board very fast that is going to regulate water and look into the water catchment areas and ensure water sources are well reserved.

We are approaching 1<sup>st</sup> May which in Kenya we plant trees and we only get our leaders going to the markets and plant trees. I hope this board will come with a policy of not only planting trees in the towns, we can also go to those catchment areas so that our water can be maintained.

The Bill has come at the right time, and with these kind of the Bills the first county Assembly of Murang'a will stand counted for coming up with Bills that are helpful to our people. I thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Peter Kariuki:** Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I do support this Bill and it would have been brought yesterday. This Bill will really help our people with disability as they are not able to go to the rivers.

I would also request this Bill should be considerate to disabled and lower water levies for them. It will not be fair to charge a uniform amount to all people, I request the board once appointed to consider have the people living with disability paying half the money charged. I fully support the Bill.

**Hon. Samuel Wandia:** I support the Bill since water is an essential commodity to human nature and everything else. Once this board is formed it is high time we start thinking of increasing the water intake and every home will have clean piped water.

As of now each and every MCA is looking for pipes to increase the penetration of water in the wards and I would pray that once the board takes over, the first priority should be to increase the water intake because the population is increasing and the ones that we have like in Kigumo, we have only two water intakes and I am not ashamed to say the people in Maragua including part of Kamahuha ward are relying on those two water intakes.

If the water intake is increased Kigumo can afford to give water to the whole of Kamahuha, Nginda and Ichagaki. So, I urge and indeed pray that the Water committee approaches the Executive once this Bill is passed with the aim of asking them to give the water as fast as possible. I hope they will incorporate me to remind them. The Budget committee should also make a provision of increasing the budget so that the water intake can be enhanced. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** I will now call upon the mover to respond.

**Hon. Mary Waithira:** Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I want to commend the Hon. Members who have supported the Bill and who have commented on the same. This Water Bill is really looking at so many issues that have been a problem to the provision of water for our people bearing in mind the many water providers that we have had. Like one Hon. Member has said, some of those companies mentioned have been giving very poor services to our people yet they have been demanding the bills to be settled.

So, among many of those, the issues would be rested at that. The issue will also look at how the water will be monitored, and how the information on the same together with how equitably the water will be shared to all the people that we have in the County will be looked at. It is true that there are some of our areas where the provision of water is very poor, especially in the dry areas, in the lower side of our County. If at all we will have this Bill, it will address all this and it means that the people on the lower side will have a chance to have the water provided to them. When we talk of this Bill looking at the provision of water, we are talking about water for taking and will also address the issue of irrigation.

There will be licenses for the people who will be interested with the water. It is talking of how the licenses will be given. It is also addressing how rates will be set for those who will be given water, like the County of Nairobi or any other area, and also how the money that will be collected from the same will benefit to enhance the water services and how to rehabilitate and take care of the water catchment areas in our County.

So, we hope that when the same will come for discussion, we will also support it fairly and by the end of it all, we shall give our people a better deal as far as the Bill will be concerned. Thank you Mr. Speaker sir.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

*(Applause)*

Hon. Members, we are at standing order number 125 where a Bill having being read for a second time stands committed to the Committee of the Whole Assembly. Next Order.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The House stands adjourned until tomorrow 2:30 p.m.

*The House rose at 3:11 p.m.*