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MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 12th July 2016 The House met at 2:38 p.m. (The Speaker Hon. Nduati Kariuki in the Chair)

PRAYERS NOTICE OF MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE ON MURANG'A COUNTY DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER 2016

Hon. Samuel Wandia: I beg to give the notice of the following motion;-

That this Assembly adopts the report of the select committee on Finance and Economic Planning, on the Murang'a County Debt Management Strategy Paper 2016, laid on the table of the Assembly today Tuesday July 12, 2016.

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF DELEGATED COUNTY LEGISLATION COMMITTEE ON REVIEW OF STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS 'THE SINGLE BUSINESS PERMIT BY-LAWS- 2007 OF THE FORMER COUNTY COUNCIL OF MURANG'A NORTH'

Hon. Charles Karina: On behalf of the chair of Delegated County Legislation committee, I beg to give notice of the following motion;-

That this Assembly adopts the report of the select committee on Delegated County Legislation on review of statutory instruments 'The Single Business Permit by-Laws- 2007 of the former County Council of Murang'a North' laid on the table of the Assembly on Tuesday July 12, 2016.

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF DELEGATED COUNTY LEGISLATION COMMITTEE ON MORTUARY/ BY-LAWS 2007

Hon. Charles Karina: Once again I stand on behalf of the chair of Delegated County Legislation committee and beg to give notice of the following motion;-

That this Assembly adopts the report of the select committee on Mortuary by laws 2007, laid on the table of the Assembly on Tuesday July 12, 2016.

MOTION

THE MURANG'A COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT BILL NO.2 OF 2016 BE READ A SECOND TIME

Hon. Samuel Wandia: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the motion;

That Murang'a County Tourism Development Bill Number 2 of 2016 be now read a second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill has come at the right moment. I know we are carrying out our mandate of legislation and looking at this Bill, it indicates so many other things. The preliminary part of it, the Bill discusses the title of the Act and also gives definition of words or terms as used in the Act and the objects of the Bill.

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The second part of the Bill establishes the County Tourism Development division; it indicates the division's composition and functions. Part three indicates the tourism areas although it has not pinpointed them. The division is supposed to open a register once a Tourism area is established. The register will have all tourist facilities, tourism areas and stipulates how there will be regulations on the usage of the Bill. Part four----

(The Speaker called for order)

The Speaker: Order! Hon. Member, you are not supposed to be teaching us how the Bill is structured and how the sectors are arranged, you are supposed to give us a summary on why the members should support this Bill.

The members have the Bill; they know how the sections have been arranged so your job here is to persuade the members to pass the Bill by telling them what is good in the Bill.

Hon. Samuel Wandia: Thank you for that correction Mr. Speaker, I was giving my final comments on the Bill

This Bill is very important. The tourism area has not been explored and we are just taking the first steps. Once we establish the tourist sites, this will be one area where the county government will generate revenue and equally create employment for our people.

Once the entrepreneurs will learn that we have a Tourism Act that protects their interests, I am sure they will come and invest in tourism and this will benefit us. The business people will also look for funds to invest. Once we establish these sites, we will promote local tourism.

I am sorry to say that there are some fellows who do not know where Mukurwe wa Nyagathanga is, by creating these attraction areas our people will start local tourism. I urge the hon members to pass this Bill so that it becomes law.

Once we do this, our people and international investors will feel protected and once we do this, our county will get a new way of raising revenue. I call upon member for Gaichanjiru to second this motion.

Hon. Bernard Kariuki: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I rise to second this very important motion; this Bill intends to functionalize the tourism sector. As the mover has said, this is a very potential area that we, as a county, can tap into. If we pass this very good proposed law, it will help to generate revenue for this County.

We have various potential areas where we can attract tourists, especially the Mukurwe-Wa-Nyagathanga which should be a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) site by now because this is where we all came from as a tribe.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very important sector and we know that tourism plays a very important role nationally in improving our Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Development of tourism is devolved and, therefore, as a county we should explore areas through which we feel that we can generate revenue.

We have so many attraction sites, including the rocky hills in Kambiti ward, the hilly areas of Kanyenya-ini and other areas in the county such as the ancestral sites and the caves where our Mau Mau people lived in. We should preserve them for purposes of generating revenue to this county.

I therefore urge members to support this Bill because we will go down in history as the first Assembly that saw the sense of developing tourism in our County. Tourism is not only for Mombasa or the Rift Valley counties; even a county like Murang'a can enhance tourism. What we need is the commitment of the Executive and the government of the day to set aside proper

budget for developing the requisite infrastructure surrounding our tourist areas because for people to access places such as Mukurwe- wa- Nyagathanga, you will require to have proper roads, and proper general infrastructure so that people can invest in those areas in terms of hotels and other amenities that can support the whole aspect of tourism. I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Peter Kihungi: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I support the Bill because we have many attraction sites. The other day, we had an opportunity to honour Chief Karuri Gakure at Tuthu, 100 years since he was buried. He is a great figure in the whole country and a man of wisdom who had even initiated collection of taxes to construct roads. It is therefore extremely important to identify tourist sites and a record is put so that our children can learn from them.

We also have the Mau Mau heroes who came here last time and we agreed to do a monument for them and gazette some of the areas. People will be coming to learn and study about them in such tourist sites. For example, the Consolata Fathers have a shrine where the first missionaries settled. If you go to Italy, you will find that Tuthu is in their records/books and it is a place they so much honour.

As a county we should take advantage of those sites and improve them so that when they come up they can be part of tourist attraction sites. I have seen a lot of people going to Nyeri county due to tourist attraction and in areas of Mount Kenya.

Murang'a county due her to proximity from Nairobi is the best site. We can develop hotels around Aberdare areas where people can be coming to relax. People go to Embu and Nyeri because as a county we have not emphasized on the support on tourism sector.

We have somebody who has developed hotel, the Aberdare Cottages where people usually visit. We as a county we should take the initiative of marketing such a person. The surrounding community benefits by selling their wares to tourists whenever they come. I support the Bill so that we can benefit from tourism generated revenue.

Hon. Samuel Wandia: Thank you Mr Speaker, silence means all the members of this Assembly have accepted the Bill.

I am very grateful on behalf of the Trade, Industrialization, Tourism and wildlife committee for the reactions I have heard from the members. I would add that in our visit to the sub-counties I will ask my chairman to incorporate the chairman of Transport, Energy and Roads so that he can see the state of roads and infrastructure we have.

If at all we will come up with all these tourists attraction sites the first element we are supposed to do is to improve on our infrastructure leading to those tourism sites. I end there hoping the Bill will see the light at the end of the day. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER PAPERS

MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT PENDING BILLS AS AT 30^{TH} JUNE 2016

Hon. Samuel Wandia: Mr. Speaker I take this opportunity to lay on the table;

The report on the status of the pending bills of Murang'a County Government as of June 30th 2016, today Tuesday 12th July 2016.

ADJOURNMNET

The Speaker: The House is adjourned until tomorrow 2:30 p.m. Thank you. *The House rose at 2:57 p.m.*