

MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 27th October 2015

The House met at 2:37 p.m.

(The Speaker Hon. Kariuki Nduati in the Chair)

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MURANGA FOR THE 16 MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 30
JUNE 2014.

(Hon. Erick Kimani was not in the Chamber)

The Speaker: Next

ANNUAL COUNTY BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR FINANCIAL
YEAR 2014/2015

Hon. Peter Mweri: That the financial year 2014/2015 Annual County Budget Implementation Report from the office of Controller of Budget be laid on the table of the Assembly today, Tuesday October 27, 2015.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

(Hon. Peter Mweri laid the paper on the table)

REPORT OF YOUTH, CULTURE AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
MURIRANJAS VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRE

Hon. Caroline Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I wish to lay on the table of the Assembly today Tuesday October 27, 2015;

The report of youth, culture and social services committee on Muriranjas vocational rehabilitation centre.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

(Hon. Caroline Njoroge laid the paper on the table)

STATEMENTS

RESPONSE TO RELOCATION OF ALCOHOLICS' REHABILITATION CENTRE
FROM IHURA STADIUM TO KAMBIRWA.

Hon. Boniface Njihia: Thank you Mr. Speaker, in response to the statement requested by hon. Njoroge of Mbiri ward, I requested the CEC to give us the response and they asked for additional time to compile the report within seven working days.

RESPONSE TO ENCROACHMENT OF ACCESS ROAD TO KARINGA VILLAGE,
KAMAHUHA LOCATION

Hon. Eliud Gitau: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I want to respond to a statement which was requested by hon. John Njoroge Gitau, MCA Kamahuha on encroachment of the access road.

Mr. Speaker we have been requesting this statement to be responded through the office of the CEC and we have written about four request letters and the response which we received was not corresponding to what was requested.

The CEC responded and the committee was not satisfied and we intended to investigate more on this even if we do not have some facilitation to visit the site because we have already exhausted our budget but we are seeking some time to get a comprehensive response maybe 14 days, if we will be facilitated to visit the site.

Hon. John Gitau: We have heard what the chairman has said and I think it is in order because I will be very happy if the committee visits. This is somewhere I took county graders after county surveyor went there but eventually an individual went and dug holes on the road and planted bananas. I agree with the chair, it is prudent for you to visit and give a response as I had requested.

RESPONSE TO BUILDING AND EQUIPPING OF IRURI DISPENSARY AND
REHABILITATION OF MARAGUA DISTRICT HOSPITAL MORTUARY

Hon. Boniface Njihia: In response to the statement that was requested by hon. Kimani Machiri, MCA Kamacharia ward about building and equipping of Iruri dispensary and rehabilitation of Maragua district mortuary, I wish to respond that the committee visited Iruri dispensary and saw the status of that hospital and we recommend that in the financial year 2015/2016, we need to be allocated Kshs. 5 million.

We also visited Maragua where we tabled a report in this Assembly, and as I speak, the CEC has not given us a response on what he has been doing with the Kshs. 5 million that we allocated to those hospitals.

The committee has written a reminder letter to the CEC, to know what has been done with the Kshs. 5 million allocated to those two different facilities.

Within 14 working days, we will report on what is happening on the ground regarding the monies that we have budgeted for those two hospitals, thank you.

Hon. Joseph Machiri: I want to be categorical that I am not satisfied with the response. First, it has taken about four months to get the response.

The other sad thing is that we budgeted Kshs. 10 million for Maragua district hospital and Iruri dispensary; each was to get Kshs. 5 million in 2014/2015.

We went there with the CEC for Health and we promised the people of Kamacharia and the people of Iruri that within six months, we are coming and the hospital will be rehabilitated. He promised that in future they are going to allocate an ambulance. My worry is what I will tell those people of Kamacharia and Maragua who are paying taxes.

We were with hon. Cecilia and hon. Jesse and we promised the people of Maragua that the mortuary will be rehabilitated using Kshs. 5 million. How are we going to tell those people that we are not liars in this Assembly? I am not satisfied.

The Speaker: You have heard the questions to answer, it has taken you four months to give the answer that you have given and the questioner has said that money was budgeted for this project, so can you tell the House what is happening

Hon. Boniface Njihia: As I have stated, we only give responses here on behalf of the CEC and it now seems that the CEC Health has taken a long time to respond on the same, but as I have stated, I only need 14 working days to be able to respond. Failure to this, I will demand from the CEC what is happening.

At the moment, as people's representatives, being asked what is happening and yet we have allocated some cash to some of the hospitals that are assisting our people. I beg the member for Kamacharia to give me more time.

The Speaker: Any rejoinder, Hon Machiri? Or you are satisfied with that.

Hon. Joseph Machiri: I partly agree with that, but there is no need of condoning laxity in this county government, whereas people are being paid salaries and doing nothing.

Let us take the necessary steps and be serious that the responses that are given in this Assembly are taken seriously. I agree to give him 14 days on condition that it will not only be about Iruri dispensary but also Maragua mortuary.

The Speaker: Hon. chair you have heard, 14 days, you have to be tougher with the CEC.

RESPONSE ON ENCROACHMENT OF ACCESS ROAD FROM KAMUNE ACROSS NDURUMO RIVER TO RIAKIBERU COFFEE FACTORY IN MATHIOYA SUB- COUNTY

Hon. Eliud Gitau: Before I respond, I will request your guidance because the said office of the CEC is still giving unsatisfactory responses, and we have written two letters requesting for the response and if you can remember in the morning session we had a similar request and there was no response. I have already informed him that we require these statement requests because time has already elapsed.

Mr. Speaker, this is something that will be taken seriously from the advice you will give us. We cannot continue day in day out as chairmen, coming here to request for more time when the said CEC's are being paid by the county but they are not responding to these statements.

The statement requested by hon. MCA from Kamacharia concerning the access road from Kamune to Ndurumo river and Riakiberu, the CEC wrote a very shallow response and we agreed that we are not going to respond the way it is. We will need to visit the site and as I have said earlier, we have no budget and therefore we cannot move out of this Assembly to add more input, so Mr. Speaker I request for your advice.

The Speaker: Hon. members, giving proper and adequate responses to questions by the CEC's is not a favour but mandatory. The hon. chair has asked me what to do; I think what to do is well stated in the Constitution, County Governments Act and the standing orders

(Applause)

The question is not what The Speaker will say; it is what the committee is saying about it using the powers given by the Constitution, County Governments Act and the standing orders. That is my answer.

We said that once a member asks a question, it becomes the property of the House and, therefore, anybody can comment on the answer. Let it not be understood that it is only the questioner who will be interested in the answer given.

Hon. Joseph Machiri: I want to add some spice to that because the coffee season is on and the people of Kamacharia are being treated as if they are in the days of slavery. They are walking for about ten kilometres to get to the factory, yet there is a shortcut that can take them 1½ kilometres. This is an emergency case and they can use the emergency fund.

All in all, there is a song in the Bible by the Songs of Solomon that says that, “All powers are given unto thee.” We are given powers.

The same County Executive Committee (CEC) member is also answerable to the committee on Water that I chair. I remember very well that we have so far requested for his attendance and submission of itemised budgets six times. I agree and concur with the chair when he says that we give him the seventh time.

It is very sad and disgusting to hear that we share the same CEC with the Transport committee. It seems as if he is on a go-slow because there is no response or submission of anything, including reports, from him. He does not even attend committees when requested to do so.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot ask you what to do because we know what this Assembly is supposed to do. Woe onto the CEC for Transport because the chairman for Transport has a motion to impeach him. I do not know why he is hiding the names, we signed it and we should do the necessary.

(Applause)

Thank you very much Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Next.

MEMBERS GENERAL STATEMENT

Hon. Duncan Njuguna: Thank you Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding standing order no.32; I stand under standing order no.44. With your leave, I will make a personal statement as the order states.

Pursuant to standing order no.44 (1), I wish to make a statement on a certain matter regarding threats to my security and life.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, 18th October 2015, at around 9:00 a.m., I received three threatening text messages through my mobile phone from a mobile number 0790335982 and the sender was unknown to me. I know I am not supposed to use two languages, but with your leave, I will quote the text that was written in Kiswahili language. The content was as follows, “*Wewe, wewe, jihadhari hio mdomo yako sana tena zaidi.*”

Cognizant of the current volatile political environment in our county, I reported the matter to the Murang'a Criminal Investigation Department (CID) where a statement was recorded in the Occurrences Book (OB) no. 17. I wish to state categorically that I have done

nothing wrong to warrant these kind of threats, neither have I violated the Constitution of Kenya nor any other law or abused my mandate of legislation, oversight, and representation.

Mr. Speaker, with your leave, I will make some few comments on this; on the Wednesday of the week before 18th, we attended a live show at Inooro FM from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. I guessed that was the reason I was maybe told to shut up.

Therefore, be aware that all is not well. I decided to give this statement because I see that all is not well bearing in mind the happenings that are going on in the county.

Last week, one of us suffered quite a damage when his business premises were burnt, albeit slightly. They also tried to burn the Assembly; hence I do not take it lightly.

I decided to state it so that if anything happens to me, my family, the people of Murang'a county will know that it is not as a result of my wrong doing but rather from people who are after my life.

Something must be done regarding the security of the hon. members because we have also been abused through the social media and we have been called all sorts of names. We are also called through our phones and abused simply because we are doing what the people of Murang'a, including those of Gitugi, elected us to do.

We cannot take it lightly but we will not be cowed by those threats. We are going to do what we are supposed to do as mandated by the Constitution. Since the same standing order 44(3) states that I should not take more than three minutes, I will rest my case but let it be known that our lives are in danger.

We are using different routes when going home, to the extent of hiring taxis to transport us home to avoid being waylaid on our way home. I therefore thank you for allowing me to state my case.

The Speaker: Next.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: Hon. members, the House is adjourned until tomorrow 2:30 p.m. Thank you.

The House rose at 3:03 p.m.