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**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**THE HANSARD**

Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

The Assembly met at 2:42 p.m.

*[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu) in the Chair]*

**PRAYER**

**PETITION**

**DILAPIDATED STATE OF IGIKIRO SHOPPING CENTRE - GIKUNGU SHOP –  
KABOGORO ROAD IN KAMUHUHA WARD.**

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu):** honourable members, pursuant to Standing Order 214(2) (b), I wish to report that on April 24, 2023, the County Assembly received a public Petition submitted by the residents of Kamahuha Ward. The petitioners draws the attention of the Assembly to the matters; that we are residents of the above mentioned area which is a high agricultural potential zone with a population of around 500 people along the one kilometre stretch. Number two, that Igikiro shopping centre- Gikungu shop- Kabogoro road is in a dire state that is impassable especially so in the rainy season. Number 3, that despite many promises from the previous dispensation to grade and gravel the road and ensure that it is passable in all seasons. Number four that we have been forced to undertake repairs in some sections of the road from our own resources. Number 5, that we have made the best efforts to have the matter addressed by the relevant authorities of which have failed to give a satisfactory response. I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by 24 petitioners. The petitioners affirm that the issues in respect of which the Petition is made are not pending before any Court of Law. The petitioners' prayer is that, one, the Budget and Appropriations Committee to address this matter and allocate funds to gravel the road. Pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 216 (1), the Petition is hereby committed to Public Works, Roads and Transport Committee. Further, pursuant to Standing Order 216 (2), the Committee shall in not more than 60 calendar days from today, respond to the petitioners by way of a Report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the Table of the Assembly.

## MOTION

### ADOPTION OF REPORT ON AMMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY STANDING ORDERS.

**Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion; -

That; this Assembly adopts the Report of the House Business and Rules Committee on proposed amendments of the County Assembly Standing Orders relating to the reduction of plenary sittings laid on the Table of the Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, the mandate of the House Business Committee to amend Standing Orders is derived from Standing Order 165, which states that the Committee shall consider the Report on all matters relating to the Standing Orders. Standing Order 165 and Standing Order 244 further states that the House Business and Rules Committee may at any time propose amendments to the Standing Orders and any such amendments shall upon approval by the Assembly take effect as time appoints by the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference of these proposed amendments to the Standing Orders was given by the following objectives: -

1. To reduce the number of plenary sittings from four to three sittings per week.
2. To alter the calendar of the Assembly in line with the proposed amendments on number of plenary sittings.
3. To highlight the implications of the proposed amendments to the Committee sitting schedule
4. To make recommendations for the adoption of the proposed amendments.

Mr. Speaker, as members should be aware, the reasons for these amendments were guided by the following: -

1. Members and I want to say that through your permission Mr. Speaker, required sufficient time for field site visits by Committees in execution of their oversight mandate.
2. To allow Committees more time to encourage petitioners owing to numerous public Petitions received in the Assembly.
3. Mr. Speaker, Members also realised that this will allow members ample time for engagements with their electorate at their various wards. As you are aware, the electorate need to see their representatives so that they can be giving their views on how the wards are being run.

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So, the provisions for amendments will somehow or automatically affect the running of the Assembly. So Mr. Speaker, specifically the House Business and Rules Committee seeks to amend the following provisions of the Standing Orders in relation to the proposal by reduction of the plenary sittings from four to three sittings. The following Standing orders will be affected: -

1. Standing Order number 29 relating to the regular sessions of the Assembly.
2. Also Standing Order number 31 will be affected relating to specific sittings of the Assembly.
3. This will also affect Standing Order number 32 relating to hours of Meetings
4. The same will affect Standing Order number 46 relating to statement hours.

Mr. Speaker, as I continue to give my contribution to these amendments or alterations will affect this Assembly in some areas. Alterations of the Calendar will affect the following areas; pursuant to Standing Order 30, the House Business and Rules Committee determines the Calendar of the Assembly and may also propose alterations to it. As you are aware, when this happens, the House Business must sit and make sure that they do some alterations so that the same can be taken to the Liaison Committee for review or for adoption. Mr. Speaker, this will also affect the sittings of Committees. With the adoption of the proposed amendments, the schedule of weekly Committees sittings within the precincts of the Assembly will be reviewed to accommodate the plenary sitting scheduled every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, I want to urge Members to read the Report because there is a table that provides on how the sittings will change. From that table you can see we have the usual two sittings on Tuesday that is 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. We also have another sitting that will be on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, when we adopt this Report, we will also have to consider the recommendations the Committee gave because the House Business Committee gave the following recommendations. Having considered the proposed amendments to the Standing Orders relating to reduction of plenary sittings from four to three sittings per week, the House Business and Rules Committee hereby recommends; this is what the House Business recommended; -

1. That, pursuant to Standing Order 244 and 245 (5), the Assembly adopts the Committee Report on proposed amendments to the Standing Orders relating to reduction of plenary sittings.

2. That, once adopted, the House Business and Rules Committee should review the County Assembly Calendar for the second session pursuant to Standing Order 30 (2) and (4).
3. That, in view of the adopted amendments, the Liaison Committee should review the weekly schedules of Committee sittings within and outside the precincts of the Assembly, pursuant to Standing Order 205 (2) (c).

Mr. Speaker, I want to urge Members and because I can see this Report as a Member of the House Business, we had considered all areas, that if we do these amendments, that will be affected. Therefore, I urge my colleagues and because I have heard you and I have heard you in other--- outside the House discussions and I believe all Members agree with that. Therefore, I want to request Members to support this Motion and also to take into consideration that this Motion will give you time to be visiting your electorates because if we continue like the schedule was, sometimes I have seen Members, actually I have seen Member for Kambiti here telling me that because of Thursday morning sitting, sometimes he was not able to visit his Ward, so this will give you more time, so, I urge the Members to support it. I now call Hon. Ndunda to second the Motion. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Ndunda Makau:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I stand to support and to second this Motion and let me take this opportunity to first congratulate House Business and Rules Committee for their good work; for coming up with these good amendments.

I must say that these amendments have been long due because even in other Assemblies, they have adjusted their plenary sittings and let me say that all these amendments have been guided by our role as those who are concerned with oversight and a lot of work is required. We as Honourable Members most of the time you find that we are needed in our wards, we are needed outside, for these we call site visits. We also have increased Petitions which require us to sit for long and we also need time to be with our electorates. So by coming up with these amendments I must say it was a good idea and it is going to help us at least execute our mandates because it is oversight because it will create more time for us other than spending the whole week here in this House because we also have something outside this House.

So, Mr. Speaker as I sit, I must say that this is a good idea and I would urge all the Members to support it because it is only some few adjustments that have been done. We are not going to

interrupt the plenary sessions; it is only that we have done adjustments such that there is no free time in between the sessions. At least we want to utilize the two days that we have to the maximum

I support this Motion and I urge my fellow Members to do the same. Thank you.

*(Question proposed)*

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu):** Yes, Hon. Hillary.

**Hon. Hillary Muigai:** Thank you Hon. Speaker and I rise to support the Motion, I will first take my time to congratulate my team, the House Business Committee because this has been our Prayer as Honourable Members since we have been lacking time to do our oversight. It has been so hard for us to do site visits, the role of oversight needs us to do fact finding in whatever we pass in this Assembly and now we are grateful that we will be able to follow up on the work outside this Assembly that is being executed by the executive so I am grateful and it is also a relief for Honourable Members since we have been coming to this House almost the whole week without a break, now we will be able to have more time to do other activities on the ground. Mr. Speaker, I support. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu):** Yes, Hon. Mark.

**Hon. Mark Wainaina:** Thank you Mr. Speaker for this chance. I stand here to support these amendments I wish to echo the sentiments of my colleagues Hon. Kamwaga, Hon. Ndunda and Hon. Hillary, that as an Assembly, as elected and as nominated members, we need more time to visit the wards, visit the various areas to be able to play and act on issues that come up. So, these amendments have been long time coming. I wish to congratulate the team that sat down and decided to reduce the sittings to two because it will really help this House to achieve more for the period that we will be here. I stand here to support and I hope other Members support it. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu):** I now call the mover to respond.

**Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am happy to see my colleagues supporting because I can confirm I am the one who came up with the initial amendments where I had requested the House Business Committee and automatically the Committee adopted it and therefore it has come from the House Business Committee. I am proud to say that I was part of the initiators. So, Members, I am very happy I want to thank Hon. Ndunda, Hon. Hillary, and Hon.

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Mark. As they have said, it is true sometimes some members could move from the furthest corner of the Assembly whereby they will come for the Thursday afternoon session or the Wednesday afternoon session. So having three sessions being Tuesday, Wednesday that will help members. Thank you members and I beg you to support the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu):** Honourable Members, there being no further Business this House now stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

*The Assembly rose at 3:04 p.m.*