

MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 7th July, 2015

The House met at 2:43 p.m.

(The Speaker Hon. Nduati Kariuki in the Chair)

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker: Hon. members I just want to repeat the communication I made this morning, for the benefit of the members who were not present. I wish to make the following communication; pursuant to standing order 45(2) (c) which states that a member may request for a statement from the committee chairperson relating to the matters under the mandate of the committee.

This is to inform you that although statements are requested from the chair, he responds as a spokesperson of the committee which is required to investigate and compile a comprehensive report in writing. Once the response is ready, the chairperson should alert The Hon. Speaker through the Clerk, to be allocated time on the order paper by the House business committee to respond to the statement

It is the responsibility of the chairperson and the committee, to ensure that any statement requested in the assembly is responded to comprehensively. Further, following a resolution of the House Business Committee on statements, the response to statements must be issued within 14 days from the date of request and once due, the said response will be listed on the order paper.

NOTICES OF MOTION

ADOPTION OF SPECIAL AUDIT REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND FORMER DEFUNCT LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Hon. Erick Kimani: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Public Investments and Accounts committee, I wish to give notice of the motion;

That, this Assembly adopts the Public Investment and Accounts Committee 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 laid on the table of the Assembly on, July 7, 2015.

STATEMENTS

NUMBER OF CONTRACTS AWARDED IN THE FY 2013/2014 AND 2014/2015

Hon. Joseph Kimani: Mr. Speaker, I beg to respond as follows; that the committee on Finance and Economic Planning vide a letter ref. No MCA/C/5/27/VOL II dated March 31, 2015 sought a response from the CEC Finance, IT and Planning where the said CEC was expected to avail the response on or before Tuesday April 14, 2015. However, the CEC, Finance failed to do so, and this compelled the committee to write a reminder letter ref. No. MCA/C/5/10/VOL III which is yet to be responded to.

The committee has therefore granted a grace period to the CEC Finance, IT and Planning until Friday July 10, 2015 to have availed the aforementioned response failure to which the committee will summon the said CEC and institute legal procedures against him for contravening the Constitution of Kenya 2010, and the provisions of Public Finance Management Act no. 18 of 2012.

Mr. Speaker sir, I promise the Hon. members that the committee notes with much concern the magnitude and the gist of the matter and will expedite the prosecution of the said matter.

CONSTRUCTION OF KAMACHARIA MARKET

Hon. Joseph Njoroge: The Assembly has sought response from the Trade CEC arising from a statement sought by Hon. Joseph Kimani Machiri seeking clarification on the above. In response, it has been established as follows; requisition for the construction of the market was done, lobbying for the same was also done, it could however not be accommodated in the current financial year. It has been programmed to commence construction in the first quarter of the next financial year

Mr Speaker, this statement was sought on 23rd June 2015, the previous financial year and this current year commenced on 1st July so this work will commence in the first quarter. It is also good to note that this question should not have been asked to the Trade committee but was supposed to have been directed to the Transport and Infrastructure committee, but we have given the response.

MOTIONS

FORMULATION OF A POLICY ON PROVISION OF SUBSIDIZED GOODS AND SERVICES

Hon. Jesse Mburu: I wish to move the following motion;

Aware, that Article 201 (d) and (e) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, states that public money shall be used in a prudent and responsible manner, cognizant of the fact that financial management shall be responsible and fiscal reporting shall be clear, further aware that Section 102 of the Public Finance Management Act implores on each county government to adhere to the principals of financial management and financial responsibility and also aware that the culture of offering free services and payments for the exercise of the citizen's democratic duty will not only encourage corruption but will also create a breeding ground for the culture of over-dependence on the county government; this Assembly urges the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Finance, IT and Economic Planning to formulate a policy for the provision of subsidized goods and services as opposed to free goods and services to the residents of Murang'a county.

Mr. Speaker, this motion is a result of what has been happening and I am sure the members have seen the repercussions of giving free goods. In the last two years, our people have developed a culture of overdependence on the county government, most of the time, whenever we go out there, they want free money and Murang'a people are known to be hard working people who can do things for themselves but I do not know whether it is because we feel like we have a lot of money that is being given by the national government, but that is not the purpose of giving our people free money and free services.

Even the national government does not give free services although it has got a lot of money. What happens is that they subsidise the services that they give to members of public.

We have seen on many occasions like when we want to give let say coffee seedlings, avocados and others we normally tell our members to register so that they will be given the plants to take to their farms, but what happens, the youth who do not have places to plant, they go and register early in the morning they line up and collect those seedlings and then they sell the seedlings after a short distance to people who have money. Meaning what we are doing as the government of Murang'a is to put money into the pockets of these youth to go and drink beer.

Here we are where the President ordered a crackdown on the alcoholic drinks and here is the government that is putting money in the pocket of the youth to go and drink, what a contradiction Hon. Speaker.

When we call for meetings in our wards, you always hear these people whispering and asking questions whether they will be paid because they are now used to free money, they cannot do anything in this Murang'a without being paid and as I had said earlier Murang'a people are hardworking but we are teaching them they have to be paid for the little services they offer.

Whenever we go out and I particularly was ashamed when we went for public participation on the Symbols bill, on budget which we held recently you always hear these people asking whether they will be paid and we call them because we want them to be knowledgeable but then they demand to be paid. This is why the turnout to those forums is very low.

We have also made our people very lazy because they know they will get free services from the government. I am not against the government helping people but they should own whatever they are given by the government. If it is those seedlings, let them contribute and the government subsidise they meet half way so that whoever is going to be given the free seedlings is also going to own.

Mr. Speaker, this motion is not against the services given by the Murang'a government but then we must also ask ourselves to what extent we should go to promote the wellbeing of our people. This is also by giving this kind of free services we are also creating a way for corruption because those who are given responsibility of giving these free services they also want to get money from the goods that they give to public. So it is also a way of getting money from the County Treasury.

My concern is the culture that we are promoting in Murang'a which is not in other counties. I have asked around and other counties what they do, they subsidize but they do not give free. By doing so we promote people who are going to tell lies, they say that they have got farms and then what they do is to sell whatever we give. So I feel and I know that the members of this House will take it kind that the motion is trying to promote our people but it is not against them.

And I would urge the members of the Assembly to see to it that this culture has come to an end so that Murang'a people will be the way they are hardworking people and they can do things by themselves.

With this I urge the hon. members to support this motion so that the government shall also see things in our way. With that I will ask Hon. Mwicigi to second this motion. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: I thank you Mr. Speaker, I stand to second this motion. People do not give a lot of value to free things and if our county has that habit of giving free things, very few people will be accommodated at the end of our five year session. When we take stock we shall see not everybody has been pleased by the free things that the county government is giving.

I support that a policy for the provision of subsidized goods and services be formulated by the CEC as requested by the mover of the motion because if we take example of coffee seedling, a coffee seedling if you go to the research station it costs Kshs. 30. If our farmers are required to pay one third of that is Kshs.10 and I am sure the farmer will take care of that seedling because he has paid something for it.

But if it is free he will not take care of it, he will wait for the next season so that he can get another one because I do not think there is a list kept for the people who were given this year that they cannot get in the next season.

Even when the government of Kenya says the health facilities are free. Like yesterday I took somebody I met on the way to Kenyatta National Hospital and I paid Kshs. 400 for a card. Whether the services are free there is something you pay so that somebody else can be treated and especially if someone does not have anything at all.

But free things are not the best and I saw in the media that all the seeds that we had given in the last season they were not paid for. The invoice was circulated in the media that we owe them over eight million. But if a farmer was asked to pay at least a third of what was supplied to them I am sure that debt would not have accumulated up to eight million, and it is an embarrassment to the government of Murang'a. Let the CEC come up with a policy where there is only subsidy but not free things. I second the motion.

(Question proposed)

The Speaker: The motion is on the floor.

Hon. Martin Mwangi: Ahsante sana Mheshimiwa Spika, nimesimama kuunga mkono mjadala huu maanake ni mjadala unaoleta mwelekeo. Tunapotazama miaka miwili iliyopita na matumizi ya serikali ya Murang'a, kumekuwa na vitu vingi vya bure. Kama inavyosemekana, wachana na nyumba ambayo hulipii kodi.

Kama mjadala unavyoelezea, mali ya bure imeleta ulegevu mwingi katika wananchi wetu wa Murang'a. Kihistoria, Murang'a inajulikana kwa kazi, bidii na kujitolea. Wito wetu ni kilimo Msingi wa Kaunti yetu ni kilimo na watu wetu ni watu ambao wana bidii kuu.

Kwa hivyo, wakati ambao tunapoeleza hivi vitu vya bure, si vibaya kupeana bure kwa sababu kupeana pia kuna baraka zake, lakini hata vinavyopeanwa, havipeanwi kwa njia inayofaa kwa sababu hakujawekwa mikakati sawa ambayo itaeleza kinagaubaga jinsi tutakavyopeleka mali hii, vile itafaidi watu na vile serikali ya Murang'a itakavyofaidika. Hii imekuwa ni kazi inayofanywa tu ni kama kutupa ngumi hewani.

Kwa hivyo, mjadala huu utaleta utaratibu ili kama kuna vitu vya bure ambavyo vitapeanwa, kwa vile hatuwezi tukasema havitakuwepo kamwe, kwa mfano madawa, mahitaji ya mambo ya dharura kama vile ajali, hatuwezi kusema kuwa hakutakuwa na misaada au vitu vya bure. Ile tunaweka mkazo ni kwamba kama kuna yale mambo lazima kuwe na mikakati. Sio mikakati ambayo imelazwa katika kichwa kimoja, vichwa viwili au vitatu ni mikakati ambayo itakuwa imeandikwa vizuri. Maandishi yanaonekana vizuri na iwe imewekwa katika maktaba zetu za Kaunti ili hayo mambo yatakapokuwa yakiendelea, hayatasambaratika.

Ningetaka kumshukuru mheshimiwa ambaye ameuleta mswada huu kwa sababu wakati hili jambo linapofanyika kule mashinani, wengi wanawalaumu wajumbe wa bunge hili. Tunapojaribu kulalamika wanatuuliza, "Je, kama nyinyi viongozi wetu mnalia, na sisi mnaotuongoza tutasema nini?"

Wanatarajia hili jumba la heshima litoe mikakati sawa ambayo itakuwa inafuatiliwa ili haya maneno yatakapokuwa yakifanyika, yatafanyika na itailetea faida Kaunti yetu. Kwa hivyo, ninaunga mkono kwamba kama kutakuwa na chochote, iwe ni msaada hata ya dharura, wacha tuwe na mikakati ambayo itaeleza vizuri vile hayo mambo yatakuwa yakiendeshwa na ili hayo mambo yawe na faida kila upande. Ahsante sana Mheshimiwa Spika.

The Speaker: I ask the mover to respond.

Hon. Jesse Mburu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am thankful. There is something that the members know about the motion before the House. We have discussed this issue outside there and that is how we came up with the idea of this motion and that could be the reason why they are not very enthusiastic to support but I know that deep in their hearts, they know what this motion means and what good it will do to this county. I thank the members and

urge you to support this motion so that those who have been doing what is being done can stop and join the wishes of this Assembly, thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you. I will now put the question.

(Question put and agreed to)
(Applause)

Next

ADJOURNMENT

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

The House rose at 3:22 p.m.