



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Second County Assembly – Fifth Session

Thursday 16th September 2021

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Hon. Deputy Speaker (Mr Geophrey Majiwa) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Clerk, confirm whether we have the quorum.

(Clerk-at-the-Table confirmed there was quorum)

Proceed.

PAPER

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Vice Chair, Education!

Hon. Peter Wanyoike: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 191, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly today, Thursday 16th September 2021:

The report of the Sectoral Committee on Children, Early Childhood Education and Vocational Training on the workshop held from 25th to 28th February 2021 at Flamingo Beach Hotel, Mombasa County.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(The Paper was laid on the Table of the Assembly)

MOTION

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Clarence Munga!

POLICY FOR INSTALLATION OF CCTVS ON COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTY

Hon. Clarence Munga: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. THAT, aware that Article 29 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 grants every citizen a right to freedom and security; further aware that paragraph 8 of Part Two of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution provides for County planning and development, including housing as a function of the County Government; noting that recent months have witnessed a marked increase in the number of insecurity incidences across the Country, and more so in the Nairobi City County;

concerned that majority of the buildings, especially in informal settlements, do not have closed-circuit television (CCTVs) cameras, where most of the criminal activities within the County go unnoticed; acknowledging the importance of CCTVs in the modern world today where CCTV surveillance can deter potential criminals and video footages can help law enforcement to investigate and later provide evidence for prosecution in a law court; further acknowledging that CCTV used in conjunction with audio, thermal and other types of sensors can alert officials to occurrences that are out of the ordinary; noting that for the County to realize a 24 hour economy, security for business people and residents is indispensable; this Assembly urges the County Executive to formulate a policy to:

1. Compel building owners to install closed-circuit televisions in all commercial and residential buildings to aid in reducing criminal activities across the County; and
2. Install closed-circuit televisions in all public areas and county facilities in the informal settlements across the County by the County Government.

Mr. Speaker, I start by acknowledging the collaboration that was there six years ago between the National Government and the Safaricom. They came up with integrated command control and communication center at Jogoo House. The intention of this command center was to ensure that they monitor the movement of traffic and also monitor our streets in terms of safety. The project started well, but along the way it has been neglected. Bearing the cost of installation of these CCTV cameras, this has necessitated me to come up with this Motion to help the County to ensure that we do a collaboration between us and the developers so that we can ensure we secure our city.

The importance of this Motion is to ensure that we create a good working environment and secure our County. Nairobi being the hub of East and Central Africa, we need to set up a pace where investors and people residing within the county may feel secure. This will ensure that there is public safety for our people and also reduce crime rate. When criminals are aware that CCTV cameras are installed somewhere, they will avoid those places.

CCTVs will also provide evidence and gather information that can help our security officers to work swiftly. They can also help to monitor traffic. In so doing, we will generate more revenue when traffic offenders are nabbed.

Mr. Speaker, everyone in the county dreams about 24-hour economy. Without technology, it will be difficult for this County to embrace the 24-hour economy. If we install these CCTVS, it will help those who want to operate during the night because their lives and properties will be safeguarded.

Mr. Speaker, people may think that we are asking too much from our developers. But what I am requesting is that we do partnership with them because they are part of us. This will help them in their daily running of activities is. It will market Nairobi as the safest place in East and Central Africa.

I know people are in support of this. I was puzzled when I came across an article by Nairobian highlighting this Motion before moving it in the floor of this House. I think they saw it when I placed a Notice of Motion before this House. I have been receiving calls across the board from the members of the public and developers, they are willing to embrace this technology so that we can create a good working environment for our people.

Without much ado, I want to end there and call upon Hon. Jared Akama to second the Motion.

Hon. Jared Akama: Thank you very much Mr. Speaker for this opportunity as just Mheshimiwa Clarence has said I rise to second this very crucial Motion.

Hon. Speaker, just as I was arising to second I remembered one of my friends in early 2000, his name was called Mr. Ndumuli he used to lead another political called UDA, that is united Democratic. He hailed from a place called Bundalangi in Busia and whenever he rose, the first thing he used to do is to give a vote of thanks in his speeches.

Therefore, Hon. Speaker, I want to go in that direction by thanking Hon. Clarence Munga for coming up with this very crucial Motion but you know we could not be talking about CCTVs in this era without one brilliant young man from Germany in 1942 his name was called Walter Brunchu, who was the founder of CCTV. I do not know whether Hon. Clarence knows this, but it is important to always appreciate great minds. His concept was to maybe monitoring a rocket, which was going to space in his comfort room when it was being launched but he never knew that this thing would end up being a source of security components.

Hon. Speaker, when supporting the Motion, I want to remember during the times we were growing up and our parents would comfortably release us to school where we did not need to be escorted to school. This is because our parents were guaranteed children of their security, and at the same time the children were guaranteed that they would, come back home and they were confident. However, with the modern society, things are changing and they are changing towards the negatives in the sense that parents have to wake up early and prepare their children and escort them to school. This is because they do not have the guarantee of the security of their children.

Therefore, we want to believe that any component that brings security to our neighbourhood, should be supported with passion. This is one of the reasons why to second as well as to support this crucial Motion that we want parents to be in the comfort zone and be guaranteed that as the children walk to school they will return home safely that are the children of this City.

Hon. Speaker, I equally support this Motion because you know security guarantees peace, and give us the basis of that peaceful environment and neighborhood. Therefore, by installing and compelling the County to install these CCTVs in our neighborhood I think we will be guaranteeing security and hence peace in our society. We want to encourage a 24-hour economy in the sense that when our businessmen are doing their business even at night they do not need to worry because they are guaranteed of security. Hence, that will be the basis of promoting our economy and even creating jobs because if we encourage a 24-hour economy in one way or the other we are also ensuring that we are creating more jobs.

Therefore, Hon. Speaker, the crimes rate will go down and this will be very important because any city, which is developing it, can only attract investors and development partners if that city is guaranteed security. Therefore, we want to be a secure city and we shall attract investors and developers so that this city of ours can progress and therefore it is very important.

Again, nothing of this nature will come without some critics and therefore that is something to look into because there are people who will argue that us having CCTVs in our neighbourhood, they are not

guaranteed their privacy and all that. However, I want to believe that Mheshimiwa Munga will come up with modalities maybe on how best we will be guaranteeing people's privacy.

There are people who will misuse these CCTVs and start sharing footage and therefore, Mr. Speaker, I want to believe that Mheshimiwa Munga will look and advise us on how best we are going to guarantee the privacy of our people and neighbours so that they need not to worry.

Therefore, this is to guarantee security and enhancing security in our neighbourhood. Hon. Speaker, with those few remarks I second thank you very much.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, I was just telling my brother Clarence Munga that it is important for me to add my voice to this very important Motion. In the history of the world currently, we are in the 21st century and you are aware that in this 21st century the digitalization and digital age is the way to go.

Hon. Speaker, I think we are doing injustice to our generation especially those who are before us who are in the Ministry of ICT in the national level and the Ministry of ICT in the County level. This is because I cannot imagine a situation where we envisioned in the Jubilee manifesto (which has now changed to UDA) that every school will have a laptop yet without infrastructure.

It is time that we take it seriously from the basics and this is what Hon. Munga has brought into play. The work of the police for instance as far as I am concerned is not to curb crime but is to avert crime. In most incidences and I must congratulate the Inspector General for removing roadblocks

Police are using road blocks to trap crime rather than avert it and that is more or less what we are doing when we install CCTVs on our residential areas. Very few buildings within the CBD have CCTVs and that is why we lock the doors when going to the bathrooms because we are scared that someone might get into your office and get out with a laptop.

I used to have an office in uptown where some people used to access the offices through windows and steal laptops from offices. In essence, Mr. Speaker, the County Government has to adopt this policy so that before one is given approval for a particular building, then they must provide a licensed installation company that is going to install CCTV within the house or that particular building.

Therefore, the Ministry of Public works must also develop another certificate on top of NCA5, NCA6 and NCA that looks into CCTVs. High-rise buildings are coming up on daily basis and people are also being robbed. We are going to reduce the rate of crime by introducing CCTVs. Hon. Munga has brought a very important Motion and I am looking forward to it. We should also look into the ICT Act by introducing an amendment that envisions your Motion.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to support my brother and congratulations for moving the Motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mary

Hon. Mary Ariviza: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir for this opportunity for me to stand and support the Motion on CCTVs. This is the in-thing world over because we are facing crimes that are more complicated and the CCTVs help catch the culprits.

I remember watching a tape of a young man in New York City mugging an elderly woman and thanks to the CCTV the young man was traced to where he was. Therefore, they are very important

especially in these times where children are being molested, killed or being left for dead through rituals and raped. We have seen CCTV footages of house helps who are mentally disturbed being left with children. It is important that parents know the kind of people they are leaving their children with by having CCTV placed in the homes.

The streets are becoming quite dangerous and it is important that we install them and once people know that then the crime rates will reduce. For instance, you cannot just walk on Tom Mboya Street with a phone at hand because it will be snatched from you. We have also heard of death cases that have puzzled the city and if we had good CCTV footages then we would know who killed who through watching the footages.

Schools have also introduced CCTVs so that they can monitor the children and get to know when criminal activities are happening such as burning down of schools. We need to encourage people to put up CCTVs in their establishment so that we avoid these issues. We will also be able to trace people who lead double lives because they are more dangerous and some even become serial killers. I support this Motion and note that it is timely and good for this great city of ours. Thank you Mr. Speaker

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Majority Leader

Hon. Peter Wanyoike: Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity, I rise to support this Motion; it is a very good Motion. When he was moving the Motion, I remembered that during the last general election the candidates who were vying for Nairobi's gubernatorial seat came up with their different manifestos. For example, that they would make Nairobi a 24-hour economy.

Mr. Speaker, this Motion is like a road map to make this county realize a 24-hour economy. Security is paramount and without it our people cannot work safely during the day or night. If this county can implement this Motion, we can change Nairobi and create more jobs to our people. I want also to urge our ICT Committee to make sure that CCTV cameras are installed to all the City County facilities in all the 17 sub-counties for security purposes.

With that Mr. Speaker, I beg to support.

Hon. Jeremiah Themendu: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance. I rise to support the Motion from my colleague Hon. Clarence Munga. I would like to say that is a very important Motion because if the County Executive implement this policy and install CCTVs, this will scare criminals like muggers.

I think that when the policy is put in place it is going to help Nairobians and visitors who come to visit our country as tourists. An example is that of Lang'ata where some foreigners were mugged, robbed or even killed. This will also help the police during their investigations for them to know what happened. I can give an example in my area recently where a young man had been killed and it was alleged that he had been killed by police officers. At the scene of the crime we tried to look for CCTVs but there were none despite the tall buildings in the area.

Hon. Speaker, I do not think it is costly to install CCTVs in those tall buildings which. The county can even help in installing those CCTVs in informal settlements which I don't think is expensive. For that reason, I beg to support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Mover!

Hon. Clarence Munga: Let me take this opportunity to thank Hon. Members who have overwhelmingly supported this Motion; Mheshimiwa Akama, thank you for seconding this Motion, my able Minority Whip Mheshimiwa Imwatok, who has given me a very crucial task of ensuring that we come up with issues to do with ICT Act, Mheshimiwa Mary Ariviza thanks for your support, my best friend Mheshimiwa Deputy Majority, thank you, Mheshimiwa Themendu, thanks very much for supporting this Motion. I know other members like Msheshimiwa Obuya had called me in support; Mheshimiwa Jagero, we are together in this.

Mr. Speaker, a country like Rwanda has embraced this technology. Kenya being the economic hub of East and Central Africa, we need to lead in this technology. I thank Members for supporting this Motion and I beg to reply. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: There being no other business, the assembly is adjourned till Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 9.30 a.m.

The House rose at 3.34 p.m.