

NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Third County Assembly – Third Session

Tuesday 30th July 2024

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Kennedy Ng'ondi) in the Chair]

PRAYER

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, you may be seated.

QUORUM

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, the attention of the Chair has been raised for lack of quorum. I direct the Serjeant-at-Arms, under Standing Order No. 37 (2), to ring the Bell for a record of 10 minutes, as he leaves the door open.

(Quorum Bell was rung)

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

Hon. Speaker: Clerk, kindly proceed.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Fathiya Abdilahi is giving a Notice of Motion on the naming of the Sifa Spring Estate access road. Clerk, do you have any information?

(The Speaker consulted the Clerk-at-the-Table)

Let us proceed as we bypass Order No. 6 under Notices of Motion.

STATEMENTS

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING RECENT

EMPLOYMENT OF COUNTY NURSES

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Redson Onyango.

Hon. Redson Onyango: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Labor and Social Welfare regarding the recent employment of County nurses by the County Public Service Board.

Hon. Speaker, Article 41 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides for the right of every person to fair labor practices, which include fair remuneration and reasonable working conditions.

Hon. Speaker, it is saddening that the recent recruitment of nurses by the County Service Board was marred by irregularities. It is further alleged that the candidates who applied for the jobs through online were not considered for shortlisting, interviews, or consideration for appointment.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- 1. List of online applicants for the advertised jobs and their qualifications;
- 2. List of short-listed candidates and their qualifications;
- 3. List of interviewed candidates and their qualifications; and
- 4. List of employed officers and their qualifications.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. The Chairperson of the Committee on Labour, kindly give an undertaking on the period of time you want to respond to the request of the Hon. Member. Your microphone is not on.

Hon. Allan Gathuku: Hon. Speaker, give us two weeks.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Redson?

Hon. Redson Onyango: It is okay.

Hon. Speaker: Okay. I can see you have another request.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING COUNTY EXECUTIVE WORKFORCE SINCE 2022

Hon. Redson Onyango: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Labor and Social Welfare regarding the County Executive Workforce since 2022.

Hon. Speaker, Article 41 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides for the right of every person to fair labour practice, which includes fair remuneration and reasonable working conditions.

Hon. Speaker, since the commencement of the current County Executive administration, several employments have been made since some officers have left services through natural attrition since 2022.

Hon. Speaker, as the oversight body of the County, there is a need for the County Government to account for its workforce to ensure quality service delivery to the residents of the County.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- 1. The number of staff employed since September 2022 to date;
- 2. The number of staff who have retired since September 2022 to date:
- 3. Number of staff who have passed on since September 2022;
- 4. Whether the retired officers have been paid their retirement benefits in line with the law;
- 5. Whether the retired and dead officers have been removed from the County Integrated Payroll and Personal Database; and
- 6. Whether the County Executive has updated the pension remittance for all its employees.

Hon. Speaker: The Chairperson, Labour, kindly proceed and give an undertaking.

Hon. Allan Gathuku: Hon. Speaker, we require a maximum of three weeks to give a comprehensive report.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Member for Ngei Ward?

Hon. Redson Otieno: It is okay.

Hon. Speaker: Do you have any further request?

Hon. Redson Onyango: One last statement.

Hon. Speaker: Proceed.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING STALLED CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC TOILET IN NGEI WARD

Hon. Redson Onyango: Pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Water and Sanitation regarding the stalled construction of public toilet in Ngei Ward.

Hon. Speaker, Article 41 (1) (b) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides for the right of every person to reasonable standards of sanitation.

Hon. Speaker, in a bid to implement the aforementioned article, the County Government under the directorate of Water and Sanitation in 2013 commenced the construction of a public toilet in Ngei Ward which was to benefit the residents in the Ward.

Hon. Speaker, the structure of the said facility was completed, however, the drainage was not completed and thus stalled. This matter has been raised to the relevant department but to date nothing has happened. An unknown person has turned the structure into a store.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- 1. Reason for the delay in completing the public toilet to benefit the residents of Ngei; and
- 2. Measures the County Executive is taking to ensure that the public toilet in Ngei Ward is completed and in operation.

Hon. Speaker: Chairperson of the Committee on Labour.

Hon. Allan Gathuku: Hon. Speaker, we request for four weeks.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Redson, the Hon. Chair is requesting four weeks, I do not know whether that is okay with you.

Hon. Redson Onyango: Hon. Speaker, I kindly request they respond in two weeks.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Chair, the Member is requesting a record of two weeks.

Hon. Allan Gathuku: Hon. Speaker, we need conclusive information for that matter, so we need more time because he has given us a lot of work and we are handling more work. Therefore, for us to give a conclusive report, we need four weeks.

Hon. Speaker: It is okay. Can you reduce it to three weeks?

Hon. Allan Gathuku: I stand guided, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you; three weeks.

MOTION

UPGRADING OF COUNTY TVETS AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mark Thiga. Kindly put on your mic.

(Technical hitch)

I think we still have the problem caused by the Gen Z; you will have to bear with us. We are not yet fully operational. *Walitusalimia*.

Hon. Mark Thiga: THAT, aware that Article 6 (2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 recognizes that both the national and county governments are distinct and inter-dependent, and that devolution is an important principle in the current structure of governance;

FURTHER AWARE THAT Article 43 of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to education;

COGNIZANT THAT the function on village polytechnics and home craft centres is vested in the County Governments, pursuant to provisions of paragraph 9 of Part II of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT the County Government has eleven Technical, Vocational Education and Training Centres that offers various courses to youths across the County;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Technical, Vocational Education and Training is supposed to help address the skills gap by providing students with the practical, relevant skills and training they need to succeed in specific careers and offers a more practical, hands-on approach to learning that can be particularly appealing to some students;

CONCERNED THAT the County owned Technical, Vocational Education and Training Centres (TVETCs) are lagging behind in terms of infrastructure, management and technology due to challenges such as inadequate financing, manpower and modern equipment;

NOTING THAT the County Assembly is in the process of enacting a legislation to provide for establishment, promotion, registration, administration, and management of technical, vocational education and training centres and home craft centres within the County;

THIS ASSEMBLY URGES the County Executive to: -

- 1. Upgrade the dilapidated County Technical Vocational Education and Training Centres with the aim of meeting required standards and attracting more youths;
- 2. Provide modern technological equipment including free internet connections to all County Technical Vocational Education and Training Centres:
- 3. Recruit qualified technical instructors for all courses offered at the centres;
- 4. Develop advertisement and marketing strategies for courses offered at the Centres for function information awareness.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Can you call a Member to second your Motion.

Hon. Mark Thiga: I call the youthful MCA for Karen Ward to second the Motion.

Hon. Antony Maragu: Thank you so much, Hon. Speaker for the opportunity. I could not be more excited to be called by my fellow caucus mate. We do have a Youth Caucus in this Assembly, and these are some of the business we have started to undertake. I stand to second the Motion.

This Motion comes at a time when the atmosphere is calling for us leaders and servants of our people to respond to the needs of our young people. Hon. Speaker, the TVETs which are under the County have been neglected, as Hon. Mark Thiga has rightly put it. With very few equipment, if any, they are not sufficient to serve in terms of ensuring that our young people are properly equipped to take advantage of the opportunities that are being presented by the national government and the county government in far as matters housing is concerned.

Hon. Speaker, if our people are to benefit maximally for these opportunities, then we must provide proper training to them to have the skills so that they can take the opportunities that are being provided by the government, both at the national and at the county level. An opportunity to be in a TVET is an opportunity for a young person to advance his or her education. You are aware that if one goes through vocational training, chances are that they could be interested in pursuing a certificate, a diploma thereafter and eventually a degree in a particular field.

Hon. Speaker, I rise to support and urge the County, moving forward, to consider allocating finances to this and increase the number of TVETs that we have in our wards.

Yesterday, I spent time in my office trying to listen to the youth to understand what needs we have in Karen Ward. One of the needs is having a TVET or a vocational training centre within Karen. I will be pursuing this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I support this motion and hope that all the other members will support us in this quest. Thank you, Hon Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Perpetua.

Hon. Perpetua Mponjiwa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker and Hon. Mark Thiga for this Motion. This Motion is quite on time and comes in handy, given the fact that in the Education docket we are in the process of making a legislation.

I would like to support this Motion and emphasize that if the Executive is incapable of getting funds for the TVETs, which are about 11, we would like to propose more and more public-private partnerships, like what the President is trying to do in the National Government in partnering Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) with a private investor. It will help because the government can sometimes be overwhelmed. Sometimes we have private developers who are willing to support TVETs because not every student goes to university.

I normally say that if you want to learn the best skills, you learn from the TVETs and the vocational training centres. There was a time Safaricom was looking for graphic designers, and those days there was Kenya Polytechnic, they could not get them from there. The good graphic designers were from the University of Nairobi; this is in the public domain. Those days if you wanted the best graphic designers or stylists, you could get them from the Kenya Polytechnic and not from the universities. Like I said before, not every student goes to the university and going to university does not mean success. With skills you can eat. If you are a hairdresser, you are selfemployed, and if you are a plumber, you know how to craft and you can always employ yourself.

I wonder how many motions have been sent to the Executive and if they really have an impact, but this is one of the motions that the Executive needs to really look at with a keen eye. I support.

Hon. Speaker: Hon Samson Ochieng.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Thank you, Hon Speaker. I appreciate my good friend, Hon Mark Thiga for this wonderful Motion. When he was moving this Motion, I realized that in our country we have something called free compulsory primary education. You said few minutes ago that during the *maandamano* in Nairobi, these boys came here. I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that majority of them are not well schooled and not well skilled. So, they take advantage of breaking into premises, steal, and go and sell them so cheaply.

Hon. Speaker, the National and the County Governments must make these TVETs cheaper or free so that most of the youths who are running around during maandamano to steal can get an opportunity to acquire skills. I am certain that by them getting these skills, it will help create jobs and the nation will have many youths who are employed, self-employed and selfreliant.

I support this Motion as it is timely and important. If it is well planned many youths will get something to do in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, proceed.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, allow me also to put my voice on this and to congratulate my brother for bringing this important Motion that touches on the future of our children. For those who have spoken and those who are to speak next, indeed the history of our

country is pegged on the current young generation. And this generation can only be put in a place that they concentrate on doing things that are of substance to our country. I think we have laid back a bit as a County Government and we need to come and redefine this aspect again. Even in our budget lines, I don't see proper budgeting of these TVETs. We are so much concentrating on secondary issues; on bursaries. I dare say I agree with the Gen Z in one way or the other in terms of bursaries. This country needs free education for everyone from class one to university so that we collapse all these many bursaries; Governor's bursaries, MCA's bursaries, MPs bursaries Senator's bursaries etc. into a national kitty that every child has a right to go to school from class one to university.

Hon. Speaker, it will give impetus to every child after class eight join a TVET and move. It also helps county governments to redefine their roles to start investing on TVETs. I went to Teso and I saw a TVET with 3000 attendees, because the only university, Alupe University, cannot accommodate them. Unless you go to Maseno or Kaimosi. So, these TVETs must also be redefined back to Nairobi County. Look at Shauri Moyo, and Madam Chair is aware of what Shauri Moyo is capable of doing, currently it is even offering driving scholarships.

Hon. Speaker we need to redefine our country and how we do our budgeting even for the county. This country belongs to all of us. It will be an honor to those kids who passed on if this House one day dedicate time to appreciate their struggle. In the line of struggle, we must agree that there is time for everything, as it is written in the Book of Ecclesiastes; a time to pray and a time to rest, a time to build and a time to destroy, a time to be born and a time to die. But no one defines his death. That takes me to a point that we must condemn with all the strongest word possible; that particular police officer who decides who shoots a child. Everyone wants their child to grow old and be successful. Therefore, I want to condemn all the police who murdered these young people.

I want also to congratulate the President William Samoei Ruto and our Rt. Hon Raila Odinga for trying to modify a country out of ashes.

(Applause)

Some people are taking us that it's about power sharing, no, it is about modifying a country when it was almost going to ashes. I tell you if you have never gone to Rwanda, you don't know the price of war. If you have never, please come to my office I give you a trip to Rwanda. You will go to the museum and see what civil war can bring to a country. Today if you go to Rwanda and ask if he is a Hutu or Tutsi, they will tell you he is a Rwandese.

Hon. Speaker, I want to say categorically this country has changed, it will never be business again as usual. For those who are used to use others with a lot of arrogance, that is dead in Kenya. We must know we are servants of the people, and the Gen Z taught us that we are their servants and not their bosses. The millennials told us we are their servants and not their bosses.

Hon. Speaker, as we pass this Motion, let us put in our heads even as we sit in this House it is not business as usual. Today I have been told the Gen Z and the millennials in a certain ward

have gone to supervise a construction of a project to ensure is it timely. That should be encouraged. We would not have a situation whereby an MCA has a project in the ward, that project takes two years and the MCA is blamed for it. No. A particular CEC, chief officer, engineer, or treasury must be responsible. Let us remain with our job of oversight, legislation and representation. We would wish to know all the projects that were commenced, the status and when is the end point.

Hon. Speaker, we must change this country. Moreover, a country cannot change before Nairobi changes. Nairobi has to have the best Technical Vocational Training Institutions before Makueni has. Nairobi has to have best Primary School before Kajiado has. I am celebrating Murang'a County for raising Kshs. 1 billion in revenue. That is a revenue collected through issuing of health certificates for shops and kiosks by Nairobi County. Now, Murang'a County people are putting up a party to celebrate the collection of Kshs. 1 billion. We must change how things are done.

Personally, I want to congratulate the Right Hon. Prime Minister and the President for moulding the country again that all of us will be proud of.

(Applause)

Moreover, I know five or ten years from today, Kenya will never be the same. In addition, I still plead with my younger brothers and sisters whom some of them are age mates of my first-born daughter; please we have a country to shape. We have heard you. Some of us have been leaders long time ago, we became leaders at a younger age, please give time for a conversation for a country. This one will help us more and build our relations.

Hon. Speaker, that is what I wanted to say, and thank you for your time.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Hellen?

Hon. Hellen Okello: Asante sana, Bwana Speaker kwa nafasi hii ambayo umenipatia ili niweze kujadili na kuunga mkono Mswada huu ambao umeletwa na Mheshimiwa Mark Thiga.

Bwana Spika, kwanza uniruhusu nimpongeze Mheshimiwa Mark maana amekumbuka watoto wetu. Mara nyingi watoto hawatoshani na wana vipawa tofauti tofauti, ndio maana nimesimama niunge mkono Hoja hii.

Bwana Spika, tuko na watoto wengi ambao hawatoshelei TVETs. Ushirikiano wa TVETs na serikali utakuwa ni jambo la maana sana kwa watoto wetu. TVETs mingi ziko mbali na mahali watu wanaishi. Itakuwa ni jambo la busara sana kama serikali itashirikiana na TVETs. Itasaidia wazazi kwa sababu hawatalipa nauli nyingi ikilinganishwa na wanayolipa sasa. Pia kutakuwa na usalama kwa maana wazazi hawatakuwa na wasiwasi kuwa watoto wao wanaenda mbali na nyumbani na kukutana na kujiingiza kwenye vikundi vibaya. Naunga mkono asante.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. My screen is clear, an indication that there are no further contributions toward the Motion. I request the mover of the Motion to reply.

Hon. Mark Thiga: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance. I would like to thank my colleagues for their input. Starting with the Leader of Majority, he has gone into depth

in terms of how impactful the Vocational Training Centres can be. I would also like to congratulate our able Education Chair, Hon. Perpetua for giving her insights on the same. Hon. Ochieng' Jera, I would like to thank you for your input on the same, Hon. Maragu, and Hon. Hellen. Mr. Speaker, I beg to reply.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Just for noting for the mover of the Motion, you have actually acknowledged those Members who have contributed towards your Motion but you have failed to recognize that the Speaker is just about to put the Question, which will determine the direction the Motion is taking. Therefore, you would have had the opportunity to plead with the Assembly to make a positive reply when the Question is put.

Hon. Mark Thiga: Thank you for the guidance, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank each and every Member maybe who could not make remarks on the same. I would like to call upon all of you to support my Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. You know the Motion could die when the Question is put.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members the Assembly stands adjourned to tomorrow, Wednesday 31st July 2024 at 2.30 p.m.

Meanwhile, I direct the House Business Committee to sit at the rise of the Assembly. Thank you and have a blessed evening.

The House rose at 3. 32 p.m.