

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NAKURU

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 18TH October 2022

Assembly Building

The House met at 12: 40pm

[The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri) in the Chair].

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

MEMBERS OF COUNTY ASSEMBLY SERVICE BOARD

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): I have a Communication to make. Honorable Members, as you are aware the Majority and Minority Parties in the House are expected to nominate their representatives to the County Assembly Service Board pursuant to the provision of Section 12 (3) (C) of The County Government Act Number 17 of 2012. In this regard, I wish to direct the respective Parties to submit their nominees latest tomorrow 19th October 2022. Thank you.

PAPER

COMMITTEE ON SELECTION REPORT

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There is a Paper to be laid by the Leader of the Majority Party.

The Majority Leader (Hon. Alex Lang'at): Thank you honorable Speaker, I wish to lay before this House the Paper on the County Assembly of Nakuru Third Assembly, First Session Committee on the Selection Report, which has sat and have been able to apportion Members into the various Committees of this House. I table.

(The Paper was laid on the table)

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you, Honorable Members, we want to take responsibility that we started late today because we had some challenges in getting the Papers ready for the Report in terms of printing, we take responsibility, and we want to say that in the future, we will be more efficient.

Honorable Members as we proceed, the Paper laid will be supplied to you as the Session is ongoing and if you are not able to get then as we get out of here there will be a table where the Sergeant-at-Arms will be able to furnish you with the necessary Report. Next order.

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NOTICE OF MOTION

HOUSE ADOPTS SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT ON NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO
VARIOUS COMMITTEES

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There is a notice of Motion from the Leader of Majority Party.

Majority Leader (Hon. Alex Langat): Thank you Honorable Speaker, pursuant to provision of Standing Order No. 156, I give a Notice of Motion;

THAT this House adopts the Report of the Committee on Selection on the nomination of the Members to the Sectorial and the Select Committees, thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you, next order?

PROCEDURAL MOTION

THE HOUSE TO CONSIDER THE ASSEMBLY CALENDAR

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There is a procedural Motion by the Leader of Majority Party...

The Majority Leader (Hon. Alex Lang'at): Thank you Mr. Speaker, sir. I beg to move a Motion;

THAT, Notwithstanding the provision of the Standing Order 49, (Notice of Motion), this House resolves to consider the Assembly calendar, which is attached to the Order Paper, as proposed by the House Business Committee pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 181 (4); I submit.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you; that is a Procedural Motion. Members take note that is a Procedural Motion, and we need first of all to dispense off with it. So, we need a second Member to second the Motion. Hon. Minority Leader.

The. Minority Leader (Hon. Phillip Wanjohi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second the Procedural Motion as proposed by the Leader of Majority

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you. I know the Motion is that notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 49. The one concerned about the Notices of Motion. This House resolves to consider the Assembly Calendar attached to the Order Paper as proposed by the House Business Committee pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 181 (4), the Motion is open for debate. Hon. Stanley Karanja. Mheshimiwa Stanley Karanja.

Hon. Stanley Karanja: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And also the Leader of Majority and Minority Party. I first of all start by supporting the Motion on the calendar. Mr. Speaker also when you critically scrutinise this calendar because it is the first one in this session, I do think that if you go to second part that is the long recess that starts on 1st December Mr. Speaker runs up to 13th February 2023. It is scaring that we just came and we are leaving. But Mr. Speaker I do suggest

that having it dispensed and done with the agendas that the Majority has read on the Committees that at this particular time, we do a program so that this long vacation recess can be utilised properly. It is my request, Mr. Speaker that we do not leave Members...

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Hon. Karanja there are two Motions. The one is to shorten the time for the debate from when it is supposed to be and provide that with the Motion is tabled and discussed. And if it is adopted, then if the Procedural Motion is supported, we proceed to the Motion. So, the first business is to look at the Procedural Motion whether we reduce the time that is allowed for Notice of Motion and the time that debate is done.

Hon. Stanley Karanja: Mr. Speaker I think that is in order. I do support.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): So does it mean that we put question?

Honourable Members I Put question that notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 49. This House resolves to consider the Assembly Calendar attached to the Order Paper, as proposed by the House Business Committee, pursuant to the provisions of standing order 181 (4).

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

THE HOUSE APPROVES THE ASSEMBLY CALENDAR FOR THE FIRST SECTION OF 2022

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There is a Motion by the Leader of Majority Party.

Hon. Alex Lang'at: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I beg to move the Motion;

THAT, Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 31 and 181, this House approves the Assembly calendar for the First Section of the year 2022 as contained in the scheduled attached in the Order Paper. I submit.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): A Member to second the Motion.

Hon. Peter Maina: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I do second the Motion.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): The Motion is that pursuant to the provision of standing order 181, this House approves the Assembly calendar for the regular sessions for the first session for the year 2022 as contained in the schedule attached in the Order Paper. The Motion is open for debate.

Hon. Philip Wanjohi: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I rise to support the Motion that has been moved by the Leader of Majority that we approve the calendar that has been presented to us. In every organization, there is always a break. Although like one of the Member said before is that the members are not sure what they are supposed to do with this break because they have just

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come. However, there is always a program that is provided for and I wish to thank the House Business Committee for coming up with this program which will guide us until next year. However, the gaps that are here, it is important that we know what we can fill this gap with training. Most of us do not know the difference between a Motion and a procedural Motion that came up last week.

Therefore, if time allows, these gaps that are here that something be provided where Members will go for an induction so that they are aware of their roles in the House; they are also able to bond because even as we speak, probably we do not know one another well. There are also terms that are used here; short recess, sitting days, long holiday and long recess. Those are the kind of terminologies that we should be inducted on so that when we come back, we are well furnished with the information and the terminologies that are used in this House. I support that the Motion by the Leader of Majority that we approve the Assembly calendar. I support.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): The Leader of Minority has just supported.

Mheshimiwa Karanja

Hon. Stanley Karanja: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I do echo what the Minority Leader has said that we fill the skeleton with meat. It has been very tiring for some of us who went to Wanjiku to look for votes and yet we will be forced to go back there. If you check that one; the long recess from December to January and you know how the calendar has been. It has been the clapping of the Nyayo era, *funga fungua*. Can we do something on here so that the Members can at least have pocket compliance. With your wisdom, I will urge you do something. All said and done, it is a good program and I think it is good we adopt it. I do support.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Mheshimiwa Peter.

Hon. Peter Maina: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. Allow me to commend the House Business for the job well done. I want to believe that this was their first sitting and they have already proved that they are up to task because they have already brought a very substantial schedule that is well thought out and well scheduled. I want to refer to the second part, part b, with regard to the long recess. It is my humble prayer that now that Committees will already be formed, we could use the long recess for training so that different Members in different Committees can be trained on their mandate in different Committees. Thank you ...

The Speaker (Hon Joel Karuri): Honorable Peter Palang'a.

Hon Peter Palang'a: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to contribute to this particular Motion by agreeing with the Honorable Members that indeed the calendar is what gives us a schedule, a time frame and a plan on what we want to do when and where and it also guides us.

For the new Members I think it is important to note that we will be adopting the calendar from time to time in terms of giving us a schedule on how we move. I want to draw my attention to the

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very areas my predecessors have mentioned about. We are scheduled to go for our long recess from 1st December and I am of the suggestion that we have just formed the Committees and these Committees as they are going to be operational, they are going to take over some of the issues that were handled by the previous Committees in the previous Assembly.

It is true that there is a backlog of some duties and work to be undertaken. In this regard I am looking at the long recess starting from 1st December running all the way to February, I am of the opinion and if Members can agree because this something we can domesticate and approve within ourselves, that we reduce this time frame. We reduce the time we are proceeding for this long recess and at the same time we look at the time within which we have to resume back to the Assembly. Given that we have already wasted quite some time from the time we were elected, up to now and from the time we are commissioning operations in our respective Committees.

Considering what is ahead of us Mr. Speaker, even the kind of work we have to undertake, the budgetary allocation and all these kind of stuff. My suggestion, if Members will agree is we push the dates we are to start our long recess to around 8th or 9th December before Jamhuri day. Then also reduce the time frame we are supposed to come back to between January 20th and 3rd February So that we can catch up with the work that is ahead of us. We do not want to just be in office on papers but we want to be in office and at the same time on the ground performing what is expected of us.

I suggest that we adopt this Motion with amendments in terms of the dates within which we have to proceed for long recess and also reduce the time frame within which we have to end our long recess. That is my humble submission if Members can look at it critically in terms of what we have to undertake. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon Joel Karuri): There is an important Communication to make in regards to the foregoing that the Committee sittings will go on and then the calendar that we are approving is only for plenary sittings and of course you know what is happening as far as the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) circular is concerned about the plenary. I think all the concerns will be addressed when all the Committees are formed in terms of Committee meetings.

The other Communication to make is that the Office of the Speaker and the management will look into how to utilise the long recess. The Committees have to be trained, inducted and capacity built. So it is not lost on us and we have ways because this is a very creative Assembly and I know with the creation of the Committee on liaison that should not be something difficult. I want to assure you and assure the House that all those concerns will be addressed when all the Committees are properly constituted.

I propose the question that

(Pursuant to the provisions of the Standing order 31 and 181, this House approves the Assembly Calendar for the First Session in 2022 as contained in the schedule attached to the order paper).

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(Question put and agreed to)

Hon Stanley Karanja: Mr. Speaker I stand on Standing Order no. 1, Having done Standing Orders 19 through 21 and having a new chambers the one we are in, I do request that the sitting arrangement for the Leadership be considered... If you look at the way it is, the Minority Leader is displaced here, the Majority Leader is somewhere there.

Mr. Speaker we need to have order so that we are able to face the Leadership and identify them easily. Now if you ask who is the Minority Whip, we cannot trace them easily and therefore we need to have the desks labeled so that we know when the Majority Leader is absent or when the Whip has absconded duty and therefore other than Hon. PM sitting anywhere even where he is not supposed to be, I really urge the House through your management to have the sitting arrangements tagged so that we know the Majority Leader's sitting position and any other House Leadership team. As of the current position, I cannot identify them and thus they should sit where we are able to see and identify them...right now you can only see something looking white..

(Laughter)

When he is there, I am able to identify him or her. You know there is something called facial expression and the eye contact. You can be able to know when that Leader is depressed and you can also know when the situation dictates that things are good. When you see Leaders smiling, you know even Members pockets are smiling and thus we need to see their facial expressions.

Can the leadership sit somewhere where we will be able to see them so when we do not have money we can visit them? Not coming and intermingling with us and we cannot identify them. Therefore can they be located in a strategic place? Otherwise that is my request. I can see Hon. Wanjohi is depressed

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Hon Wanjohi would you want to confirm whether you are depressed or not:

(Laughter)

The Minority Leader (Hon. Philip Wanjohi): No Mr. Speaker I am not depressed I am okay. Thank you

(Laughter)

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Hon. Njuguna.

Hon. Njuguna Mwaura: Thank you Mr. Speaker, if you view the other chamber, you realise that the other chamber is also labelled and we can request that this chamber be also labelled. On that issue, I would wish to request that whoever will be the Chairperson of the Welfare, Mr. Speaker we are squeezed in this chamber.

In fact standing right now is a crisis, we have been requesting that our normal duties should be conducted from the other chamber, but whenever we have the visitors we can be coming to this chamber. It is very uncomfortable here and sometimes sitting for some of the tall Members and I sympathize with them because they are squeezing their feet and even actually clapping as our tradition on this House is impossible.

Therefore Mr. Speaker what we are requesting is that let the chamber be labeled and then thereafter we can go to the other chamber. I am making that request because to some extent it is unhealthy to be in this chamber for long and therefore I wish and I believe that you are going to take cognizant of that so that we can be feeling comfortable when we are discussing matters concerning Wanjiku in this chambers.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you, that is noted.

COMMUNICATION

MEMBERS SECURITY

Something I need to communicate about security. That whereas the Assembly assures Members of their security, we request that Members take care of their belongings including their handbags, laptops and their phones because the Assembly is able to take care of an Hon. Member when you are within the Assembly precincts.

However the Hon. Member is supposed to take care of his or her belongings so that we can enhance your security totally.

ADJOURNMENT

The House stands adjourned until today 2.30pm.

(The House rose at 03.15pm)