

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NAKURU

THE HANSARD

Third Assembly (Second Session)

Wednesday 8th November, 2023

Assembly Building

The House Met at 03:00 PM

(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): In the Chair).

PRAYERS

QUORUM

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): We have a Statement from Hon. Geru.

Hon. Antony Kanyere: Mr. Temporary Speaker, before we proceed, let us first confirm if we have a quorum.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): Okay. Honourable Geru, take your seat. Let me call upon the Serjeant to confirm whether we have a quorum.

(Serjeant at Arms counts the Members in the House and confirms there is no quorum)

Okay. I request the Serjeant at Arms to ring the bell for 10 minutes.

(The Bell was rang for 10 minutes)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): Honourable Members, on behalf of the Whips, let me request Honorable Deputy Majority Leader, Hon. Rose to confirm whether we have achieved the quorum.

The Deputy Majority Leader (Hon. Rose Chepkoech): Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker, we now have the quorum.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): Thank you, let us proceed. We have some Statements to be made; and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders 47 (2) (c) let me request Honorable Geru to make the Statements.

STATEMENT(S)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Hon. Anthony Kanyere: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order 47(2) (c), I rise to request for a Statement from the Chairperson Committee on Lands, Housing and Physical Planning, concerning the construction of Affordable Housing Project at the selected County Estates, especially Nakuru Town East and West. Mr. Temporary Speaker, some of the County Estates were identified for demolition, to pave way for the construction of Low Cost Houses under the Affordable Housing Program by the National Government.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, while we are not opposed to the idea, it is imperative that the County Government comes up with an elaborate plan that involves all Stakeholders, detailing how such a Program will be executed.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, a few weeks ago, the tenants occupying the County Houses were served with Notices to vacate the premises, and of great concern is that the Notices did not give sufficient time to enable occupants to seek alternative accommodation. Mr. Temporary Speaker, it should be noted that Shelter is a basic human need and as such, no one should be denied such rights without lawful reason and this is provided for in our Constitution.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, as we all know, the Country is currently experiencing heavy rains. Therefore, such intended actions are likely to bring harm which would be more devastating to the affected families. Mr. Temporary Speaker, the County Government has a responsibility to protect the residents, including coming up with elaborate strategies to ensure the affected families get alternative houses. I request the Chairperson for the Committee on Lands, Housing and Physical Planning to issue a Statement and comprehensively to report on;

1. Why the County Government did not issue enough time to enable the County Estate occupants to arrange for alternative accommodation?
2. Was there sufficient Public Participation with affected Stakeholders before deciding to issue such Notices to the occupants?
3. What plans does the County Government have to assure the current occupants that they will be accorded priority when allocating the Affordable Houses upon completion?

Mr. Temporary Speaker that is my request. I beg to move.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): Thank you very much Hon. Anthony. The request is well stated and I want to request the Chairperson for the Committee on Lands, Housing and Physical Planning to give a response to this within 14 days. Chair?

Hon. Eliud Chege: On behalf of the Chair, I am the Vice Chair of the Committee and the request is well received.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): It is in order, thank you. There was also a request that was made by Hon. Rose the Member for Gilgil and Hon. Isabella, Subukia concerning the Bursary Award. Let me call upon the respondent, Hon. Peter Njoroge Maina to give the response.

STATEMENT

BURSARY ENHANCEMENT

Hon. Hellen Megek: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, I am here to give a response concerning the Statement of Bursary Enhancement for Subukia and Gilgil Wards amounting to Kshs. 1 197 000.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, the Children's Act 2001 requires the Government to undertake all the necessary steps to make available Free Basic Education to every Child. The County Government has actualised this through the award of Bursaries to needy Students to enhance access to Education and this serves a critical responsibility of making children well prepared for their future education.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, on 18th October 2023, Hon. Isabella Makori, Member of the County Assembly for Subukia Ward, and Hon. Rose Gathoni Njoroge from Gilgil Ward, sought a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Early Childhood Education and Vocational Training concerning the status of Bursary enhancement amounting to Kshs. 500 000 and Kshs. 697 000 for Gilgil and Subukia Ward respectively, which had been enhanced in Supplementary Two Budget for the Financial Year 2022-2023. Specifically, the Hon. Members wanted answers to the following queries.

- i) Status of Bursary Enhancement amounting to Kshs.500, 000 and Kshs.697 000 for Gilgil and Subukia Wards respectively.
- ii) The plans the County Government is undertaking to unlock the stalemate in the release of the above funds.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, in the response the Department observed that they were aware of Subukia and Gilgil Wards issue, concerning the enhancement of Subukia and Gilgil Wards amounting to Kshs.1 197 000. The Department also highlighted that the two Wards' monies had been processed at the Department level and that they had been submitted to Finance for onward payment. The Department also highlighted that the payment failed to be effected at the Internet Banking (IB) level due to IFMIS System challenges. Mr. Temporary Speaker, the Department also stated that they had already factored in enhancement for the two Wards in the Supplementary 1 Budget. Mr.

Temporary Speaker, concerning the plans the County Government is undertaking to unlock the stalemate in the release of the above Funds, the Department stated that they had the intention to unlock the stalemate immediately after the Supplementary Budget is approved and then initiate the payment process.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, I hope that the Honorable Members who requested the Statement have been duly answered. Thank you

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): I can see Honorable Rose; are you contented with the response?

Hon. Rose Njoroge: Yes Mr. Temporary Speaker, I am contented.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): Thank you. Is Hon. Isabella around? She is not around. Okay, thank you. Next Order.

MOTION

NASHA AND WAKULIMA MARKET

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. William Mutai): There is a Motion THAT the House adopts the Report of the Committee on Trade Tourism and Cooperatives and Planning on the Inspection Tour of Nasha and Wakulima Market in Nakuru East Sub-County. I call upon the Mover of the Motion; any Member from Trade Committee?

Honorable Members, there is no Mover and I therefore invoke Standing Order 52(3). Next Order.

ADJOURNMENT

Honourable Members, this House stands adjourned until Tuesday next week at 9.30 AM

The House rose at 3.40 PM