

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NAKURU

THE HANSARD

Third Assembly (Second Session)

Wednesday 1ST March, 2023

Assembly Building

The House met at 03:05 PM

[Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri) In the Chair]

PRAYERS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

DECORUM

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Honorable Members, in the Morning I said that I will be giving a detailed Communication about Decorum in as far as all Members are supposed to be dressed in this House. I am in communication with the Chairperson of the Committee on Powers and Privileges and he will be able to table a Report in the House.

Meanwhile, there was an agreement we made in a *Kamukunji* set up in a certain training in Kisumu, and for that matter the *Kamukunji* Agreement stands. We had said that in the Plenary, the gentlemen are expected to be in a suit, a shirt and a tie. For the ladies it was debatable; they said it has to be official so that decorum of the House is upheld. As such, honorable Members we will be expecting the Committee on Powers and Privileges to table that Report sometime later, but for purposes of Decorum meanwhile, the decisions and the declarations of that *Kamukunji* stand. So Members stand guided. Next order.

STATEMENTS.

FIREFIGHTING DEPARTMENT.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): There are Statements and the first Statement is from honorable Leah Wambui Ng'ang'a from Kabatini Ward.

Hon. Paul Warege: [On behalf of Hon. Leah Ng'ang'a]. Thank you Honorable Speaker. Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 47(2) (C), I rise to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Disaster Management concerning the status of the Firefighting Department.....

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): The Honorable Member for Kiamaina, where is the Order of the Statement from, the Honorable Member from Kabatini?

(Laughter)

Hon. Paul Warege: Mr. Speaker Sir, my name is Paul Waweru Warege representing the people of Kiamaina Ward. I was requested by honourable Leah to table this Statement on her behalf because she is in a function somewhere but she is late. So I beg to proceed.

Thank you; honorable Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 47(2) (c), I rise to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Committee of Disaster Management concerning the status of the Firefighting Department at the County Government of Nakuru.

Honourable Speaker, despite having a Firefighting Station within the County. Nakuru Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation measures remains wanting. In the recent past, Nakuru Boys High School was up in flames and efforts of the members of the public to get assistance from the Nakuru County firefighting Department were futile. It is worth noting that whenever major fires erupt, people die and property worth of millions of shillings is destroyed leaving an uncountable losses.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, the Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation and Management should be taken with the seriousness it deserves to ensure lives and properties are protected. Mr. Speaker This is a very sensitive matter that touches on people's lives and properties. This House should therefore task the Disaster Department to instigate proper and efficiency mitigation measures to curb future incidences.

I therefore request the Chairperson Committee on Disaster Management to issue a Statement on the following.

1. How many Firefighting Engines and other fire equipment the County has and their distribution.
2. The staff establishment in the Department on firefighting and whether they have the requisite skills and knowledge to handle disasters in case of any eventuality.
3. The status of the County Department in Disaster preparedness and mitigation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you The Honourable Member for Kaimaina; now that Statement has been requested to the Chairperson Committee on Disaster Management. And you are expected to give a comprehensive Report in this House after 14 days starting today.

The next Honourable Member to request for a Statement is Honorable Simon Kamau Karanja.

Hon. Simon Karanja: Thank you Mr. Speaker, sir. Honorable Speaker pursuant to Standing Order 41 (2) (c). I hereby request for a Statement from the Chairperson of Sectoral Committee on Environment, Energy, Water and Natural Resources concerning the smoke emission emanating from the ongoing fires at Gioto dump site in London Ward. Honourable Speaker owing to the ongoing fires ranging from Gioto dump site, the dark smoke originating from the burning garbage is posing a risk to the health of the residents of London Ward and the neighbouring Wards due to toxic emissions. It is disturbing that as a County we are not giving our residents clean and healthy environment that they deserve. All human beings depend on the environment in which we live. A

safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment is integral to the full enjoyment of a wide range of human rights, including the right to life, health, food, water and sanitation. To this end, I wish to request the Chairperson Committee on Environment, Energy, Water and Natural Resources to issue a comprehensive Statement on the following;

1. Whether the County Government is aware of the of the fire burning damage at Gioto dump site.
2. The plans the County Government is undertaking to protect the rights of the residents to a clean environment.
3. The short and long term measures the Department has put in place to curb the spread of smoke to the environment.

Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you Hon. Member for Kihingo. Hon. Majority Leader.

Hon. Alex Lang'at: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I rise on Standing Order 79. I know our House is still learning and this is not to discourage the Members but to help us as we continue learning and demystifying the issues of Standing Order. Standing Order 79 talks of no Member shall read a speech but a Member may read short extracts from written or printed paper in support of an argument and may need to refresh the memories. I was looking at our two colleagues as far much as we continue learning and for the sake of trying to demystify this Standing Order which makes us afraid standing on this floor. I know Standing Order 79 (2) gives authority for Members to be able to read the speeches. I was just rising to ask if the two Members are in order after presenting a written speech in pursuant to what they were presenting for the sake of learning of the House. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Hon. Majority Leader, thank you for that observation. This being that they are seeking for Statements, a Statement has to be very clear in a way that was requested and in a manner that the Hon. Member requesting for it has to be clear so that as the Chairperson would be responding, it would be very clear and they are going to confine themselves within the areas that the Hon. Member requesting had indicated in the Statement. Where the written speech is not allowed, it is when now the Members who would be debating about specific issues and even when the Chairperson will be responding to the Report, the Speaker will allow two or three Members to comment on the said response. In such a situation no Honorable Member is allowed to read his or her submission, address, views and perspective to the Honorable House but for the sake of a Statement it could be allowed so that the Chairperson is able to get the content. Thank you for that observation. The Hon. Chairperson for Environment.

Hon. Rose Chepkoech: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. Hon. Member Majority Leader we do not understand what you are talking about.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you the Honorable Chair. Request number two by the Hon. Member for Kihingo is committed to your Committee. Take note of that. You are expected to bring a Report to this honorable House after fourteen days starting today. The third request for Statement comes from Hon. Joseph Muraya. Member for Viwandani.

Hon. Joseph Muraya: Thank you Mr. Speaker for protecting us from the intimidation from our Majority Leader.

The Speaker (Hon Joel Karuri): Order! Order! Hon. Muraya. That is a serious allegation before this Honorable House. Are there any intimidations in the House? Maybe the Speaker does not see. I have not seen that. Kindly substantiate.

Hon. Joseph Muraya: Hon. Speaker, when the Hon. Majority Leader stood on a point of order, he had not sought advice from the Clerk's office whether the Statement must be escorted with some argument. He was the one who was out of order trying to tell us that we must do what we are not supposed to do. Well requesting for Statements was a kind of intimidation to the Members in one way or the other but since you have protected us, noted that as a concern and elaborated further, I rest my case.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Hon. Muraya proceed with the Statements but the Hon. Majority Leader will have his time to say whether he is intimidating Members.

Hon. Joseph Muraya: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order 47(2) (c), I rise to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Culture Sports and Community Services concerning the impact of Sports Fund among the youth. This House appropriates Kshs 500 every Financial Year per Wards towards Sports Fund. It is important to note that the aim of this fund is to nurture sports talents among the youth and to build a cohesive County, devoid of divisions of whatever nature. Hon. Speaker, while we appreciate this noble idea, it is important that we review the program with an intention to establishing whether it is serving its intended meaning.

We are aware Nakuru County Youth are immensely talented in various sporting fields. In fact the County Government has not fully created an enabling environment to afford the youth an opportunity to realise their full potential in terms of their talent. I therefore request the Chairperson, to issue a comprehensive Statement on the impact of the sports among youth, in terms of nurturing talents and supporting the youth to earn a living from sports. Thank you Hon. Speaker

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you the Hon. Member from Viwandani Ward. The Chairperson Committee on Culture, Sports and Community Services take note and you are expected to give a comprehensive Report to be tabled 14 days starting today. The hon. Majority Leader

Hon. Alex Lang'at: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I want to thank my good friend Hon. Muraya I think we are becoming more good friends because we must mention each other in this House but in very good faith. I think when I stood, I actually made my intentions known that it is actually for learning process which is a continuous process. Some of us, like me I am a slow learner but when I learn something and more so when it is done practically it helps me and sticks more to more types of debate. Therefore Mr. Speaker sir and my friend, I have no reason to intimidate this great House that I lead but I have very good intentions to let this House learn so that when you hear of Standing Order, and Hon. Muraya is a victim because yesterday while we had a Temporary Speaker the

Hon. Member stood on a point of order, when asked which order, he could not substantiate. He only said it is on the order of wearing clothes.

(Laughter)

And yet there is no such order. Therefore what we are doing here today, is just but a learning process and to help him also be able to understand the Standing Orders. This is just where I am also keen and keep on to understand them. So there is no intimidation; but it is just a learning process and to keep the House lively so that we keep on learning. Thank you Mr. Speaker sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Joel Karuri): Thank you the Hon. Majority Leader. Next Order

ADJOURNMENT

Honourable Members This Honorable House stands adjourned until Tuesday next week at 9.30am

The House rose at 3.30pm