REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KIAMBU

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 4th July, 2018

The County Assembly met at the Assembly Chamber at 10.00 A.M

(The County Assembly Temporary Speaker (Hon. Samuel Kimani) in the Chair)

PRAYER

(Consultations)

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Hon. Members, from the look of things we can see that we do not have quorum and so I direct the quorum bell be rung for ten minutes.

(Quorum Bell Rung for Ten Minutes)

Hon. Members, we still have a quorum hitch, so I order the quorum bell to be rung for five more minutes.

(Quorum Bell rung for Five Minutes)

Hon. Members, I can now see that we are a good number and we can proceed on.

MOTION

EXPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC POLICY CONTAINED IN THE ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR SECOND ALLOTTED DAY

Hon. Members, today we are continuing with the exposition of the Governor's speech from where we left yesterday.

As you are all aware, we are going to do this for four days, and today is the second day. In the afternoon we are also going to do the same as well. So, we encourage members who have not aired their views on this to seize this moment and do so. It is now time to air your views and comments as far as the Governor's speech is concerned.

Yes, Hon. Muthondu!

Kihara MCA, (Hon. Muthondu): Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity.

From the onset, first and foremost I would like to congratulate the Governor for being elected as the Chairperson of urbanization and planning at the Council of Governors and I wish him luck in this position.

Yesterday, I heard condemnation to the department of health. But I want to say that we have seen a lot of successes in the health department although there have been hiccups here and there. We have seen the introduction of locums.

Mr. Speaker, the other day I was privileged to be a team leader of an inspection team that visited Lari and Kamae dispensaries an I was very encouraged when I asked the pharmacist whether they had drugs in the store, and the response that I found was that there was plenty of the same. Although yesterday there was dashing out of the same, it is also important to encourage the team that has been doing a very good job, and in this case I want to encourage our CEC Dr. Murega for a job well done, although as I had said earlier, hiccups are always there.

Mr. Speaker, on the issue of bursary funds, I want to mention that the department of education unfairly allocated development funds to the ECD department, and I look forward to seeing fair distribution in the future.

Mr. Speaker Sir, although much has been said on the Planning Department, if the valuation rule is introduced, it will give us more funds for development. It has taken a very long time for the process to be completed, and so we urge the CEC of that Department to hasten the process.

As you realize, in this financial year we were short of funds and indeed we require more funds to do projects for our people as they are demanded.

Mr. Speaker sir, without saying much, I want to finish by saying that we have done a good job for the last almost one year. You also realize that the budget was not ours and so we expect that in this financial year that we have prepared our budget we will be able to see more projects.

Mr. Speaker, with that humble contribution, I want to end by saying thank you.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you Hon. Muthondu!

I can see Hon...

(Silence)

I can see Hon. Solomon. You are my friend and I do not see why I am forgetting your name this morning. I do not know whether it is the cold, but welcome. The floor is yours.

Ndenderu MCA, (Hon. Solomon): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir!

For the benefit of those who do not remember my name, I am Solomon Kinuthia and I represent Ndenderu Ward in Kiambaa Sub-County.

I rise to support the Motion on the exposition of His Excellency the Governor's speech, and I want to dwell on the area of Health where we have significant challenges. As the Governor noted in his speech, our hospitals are serving more than 10,000 patients a day. 2,000 of those patients are in patient. I want this House to ponder where the 10,000 patients come from because truth be told, our facilities are among those well equipped in the region and they serve patients even from Murang'a, Machakos, parts of Nairobi, Nyandarua and Nakuru. But when it comes to funding of these institutions, we are only given a fund relative to our population size of 1.2 million adults. That translates to about 2 million residents. But the catchment area of the people we treat is upward of 10 million people. That is why on a single day we serve about 10,000 plus in our hospitals.

It does not take a specialist in medical affairs to realize that given the kind of strain our medical facilities are experiencing at the moment due to treating people outside the County, we need to seek for strategic partnerships either with non state actors or approach the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) to readjust the allocation formula to reflect this reality.

The reality is the same for Nairobi County; there is a lot of strain on the medical facilities. The reality is the same in Mombasa, Kisumu, Nakuru and Uasin Gishu. Some of these challenges are being experienced because we have devolution problems in that some of these Counties were the provincial headquarters of the former provinces. So, they tend to have more advanced health facilities, and in turn, tend to attract more people but the staffing levels are the same. Nationally, you tend to have the same number of doctors in places like Kapenguria and West Pokot as the same number of doctors in Kiambu regardless of the number of people we are serving.

The same amount of money from the equitable share is given to Kiambu in terms of conditional grants and other national government disbursements, the same way a County like West Pokot, Kwale and Taita Taveta is given. This House as a complimentary agency of the Executive arm of the Government should point this out.

I am happy to note that tomorrow we are having a *Kamkunji* with the CEC Health Services and other stakeholders in the health sector. We should challenge them to actually come up with a policy prescription to this challenge which we will then lobby with the Governor so that this is addressed.

Other than that, we also need to remain vigilant where there are cases of negligence. Like the other week, there was a case of negligence; either it was not intended or it was criminal negligence because we are living in political times and we will not know what our political nemesis might be planning. So we need to be vigilant and point out these issues and they should be addressed in a clinical manner so that they do not recur.

With those few remarks, I rise to support the Governor's Speech and I beg to sit down.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you very much Hon. Member for Ndenderu.

Yes Hon. Julius Taki from Witeithie!

Witeithie MCA, (Hon. Taki): Thank you Hon. Speaker!

Mine will be very brief and short. First is to congratulate this good speech from our able Governor and also to give my input on the same.

The Hon. Members have focused on health and a lot needs to be done on health. Either we are failing, or our PR is down. Every day we hear things from the Health Department. No matter how much good food you cook, without the appreciation f those who take it, no one will enjoy. Each day, even tomorrow or the day after, we can predict that anything we will hear about will be from Health. I think it is high time we put a stop on the same. We want to know what the problem is.

As we are speaking, in my Ward, the dispensary there has no medicine, has no light, is not fenced and the compound is bushy. You wonder, because it is only last week when I and the Community agreed to build a small drainage from inside there. But every time we hear about the health docket, it is said to be the best and we have the best facilities. We are not talking about the facilities; we are talking about accessibility.

There was a time we were training the Community health volunteers and I remember very well they were called for a meeting and smart phones were given out with promises like, we are going to use them to enroll for NHIF. How far is that program today?

Witeithie MCA, (Hon. Taki): and smart phone was given out and the good things we are going to enroll them with NHIF. How far is that programme even at this point? How many Hon. Members from 60 and 92 have had their CWVs saying that this week or month we have managed to enroll this number of people? Or those phone another gimmick to cross or sugar coat something or what was it?

We also talked about the service delivery and there was a time we talked about the revolving fund in the hospital. We have ideas in our heads but until we transfer those ideas into the paper they will only be exuberating. So what shall we walk the talk on this health docket?

If you go back to the infrastructure we are doing our best and if there is something that we are not failing people in in education and infrastructure. Infrastructure we are doing our best .If there is something we are not failing people is education and infrastructure, we have tried. Every member here can attest in his or her own Ward there are some improvements in the infrastructure because we are being involved directly but now many of us are not even involved in the hospitals. There was a time I heard we bring the list of Members who will be sitting on those hospital boards. I do not know what went wrong, what happened even to this point. To make the long story short if you go to ECDS and I will talk about Witeithie, all primary schools in Witeithie, we are doing partitioning for one class for one class.

I hear there is Nursery 1 and 2, nursery 1 faces this side while Nursery 2 faces the other. So we ask ourselves until when and we are in Kiambu which is is the richest and County number one? Are we going to experience that thing? Let us not sugar coat the things that we are facing, let us speak so that

we can get the solutions. Let us say this financial year we are targeting to build 100 ECDs, ten polytechnics and from there we back date the progress and the projects but if there is something that needs to be done and worked on is our deliverables. Our deliverables is still wanting in health there is a lot in it, thank you and I support.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you Hon. Member and I also hope you are going to raise the same may be even raise a statement in regard to your facilities that are wanting as far as these developments are concerned. Thank you very much for your contributions, yes Hon. Wanjiku?

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Kariuki): Thank you Mr. Speaker sir for the opportunity and to deliberate on few things on the Governor's speech which was so elaborate. First I will start with the achievement of the universal health through encouraging our people to acquire NHIF.

I think this will go a long way into assisting our people access health facilities not only in our hospitals but also in private sector in the private hospitals so I think this will assist our people especially women to access health from almost everywhere within the County from public and private health centres.

On the issue of purchasing milk from farmers, I think this is a great achievement if we are going to follow to the end because currently farmers are suffering for lack of market for milk so I believe that if we are going to put our efforts on what we have put in on paper. I think our farmers will greatly benefit from this initiative but I will task the elected Members to ensure that all wards have at least a cooler so0 that the farmers can have somewhere to deliver their milk and again if you do not establish a milk processing centre I do not think we are going to achieve much because if we do not have a way of having the milk processed before it is given to the children it will not be wise to give the little ones unprocessed milk for health issues that we are all aware of. Otherwise it is a good route if we are going again to give our children milk we are now running away from porridge which is good but milk is healthier and it is going to give our children very strong foundation.

In the Governor's speech he talked of the establishment of enhancing the already established manufacturing sector so I think if we go that route we will be on the right route of creating jobs for the young people. It is also important to look into the area of Jua Kali sector. So if you are going to ensure that our young ones can rely on to feed their families it is also we good we look into JuaKali we give them support in terms of finances and as well create a good market for their products. I think that will be very important.

Having said that the governor has given a very good speech but without having a good route over revenue collection, we may not be able to achieve this. As you all know the last financial year, we were not able to achieve what had been set simply because we are not able to collect enough revenue for us to meet what had been set.

The sectoral Committee on Finance Budget and Appropriation need to look or even work together with the finance office so that at least we have enough finances for us to meet the objective set in the speech otherwise it will be effortless.

The sectoral committees we need to up our game on how we are going to execute the mandate that is bestowed on us because what is on this paper if it is not achieved on the ground I think we will have done so much yet achieve very little.

He talked on environment issues where he touched on sewer system. This is a very important area especially in urban areas. Where I come from our people are more than ready to pay for the sewer services. So if we achieve the sewer system within the County we are going to have a very ground of us raising our revenue because if the public is ready to pay we only need to provide the services close to them for us to have a rich revenue basket which will help us achieve what has been set in the governor's speech. Otherwise I fully support what has been put in this paper and I believe if we put our efforts together we shall at the end of five years thank you.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you very much Hon. Wanjiku and now we go to the other side and we start with Hon. Karichu

Lari Kirenga MCA, (Hon. Karichu): Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Motion today on exposition of the Governor's address which is one of the best in this Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I would like to touch as hon. Wanjiku has said on the issue of revenue collection.

Mr. Speaker we are having a problem as a County in this issue of revenue collection. Remember two years back Kiambu County was number two in all 47 Counties from Nairobi Kiambu was the best on revenue collection. If we do not deal with this issue of revenue collection Mr. Speaker Sir, it will come a time may be in the next two or three years to come where we have accumulation of more pending bills, it will also be a disadvantage to us as elected members. I will suggest that this House through the Majority leader and Speaker we need an urgent meeting with the governor with this issue of revenue collection.

A good example Mr. Speaker, my neighbour where I stay he has constructed a house of more than ten rows; he has not paid any license, no planning nothing. In the next two months the House will be full of tenants and to us as a county that is a great loss. We are having a problem and I'm on record in this House; we passed a Motion here the other day and I stood on this alcoholic Bill. It is on record that the Motion is good we are okay, what we are doing as a County Government and executive is good but the issue is where is the revenue?

Today we have Wines and Spirits shops, we have bars that they are selling even today and we need as Hon. Members we just walk one day here from the Assembly to Kiambu town we see how many wines and spirits shops are operating without the licenses, are we gaining or are we losing? We need to ask ourselves that question and at the end of it Mr. Speaker we shall be judged with what we have done particularly on development. Forget any other politics that will come but on the issue of development we will be challenged on that issue. We need to rise on this issue of revenue collection. Those shops will need to be closed completely or they pay high amount of money if they are operating. We need to rise as the Assembly and to come to reality of what is happening on the ground.

May be the Governor is not having a clear information about the people but we need to te; Il him and that is the reason why I'm saying as the County Assembly of Kiambu here we need to meet him very urgently on this issue.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, we have people who have invested their money on projects as contractors, remember we have pending Bills of more than Ksh.1.8Billion from the other regime. Today, I think each and every Member here we have more than sixty, we have investors who have invested their money again having in mind after investing may be someone has taken a loan after doing the project you get paid. Mr. Speaker are we coming to reality or what is happening? They have done it we have closed the year and this new financial year we have started are they ready to come and invest more and yet they do not get paid? We need to ask ourselves that question.

How many kinds of accumulation of pending Bills are we going to handle as the County of Kiambu? It is close to more than Ksh.800 Million and may be the chairperson finance can tell us we have passed more than three supplementary budgets in this House. Are we passing these supplementary budgets just to cater for the recurrent expenditure? What about the development? Are we going to be charged on the recurrent expenditure or development? We need to ask ourselves that question. Let us forget about the exchequer money that is close to Ksh. 10Billion close to 80% is going to the recurrent and development. Remember we have a lot to do on issues to do with roads, water, health and other departments. Do we need to start projects that will not get finished and finally become elephant projects? Let us come to this reality and this reality will hit this House and we shall remember. There is this issue of Agenda Four

(Interruption)

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): As you wind up, yes please

Lari Kirenga MCA, (Hon. Karichu): The issue of agenda Four, we talk of agriculture health, infrastructure and industrialization. The collaboration of the national and county governments, yes it is a good idea. Agriculture is something that we need to pump more money on that department. For investors to come and invest in Kiambu we need to deal with infrastructure, like green energy, street lighting, drainage and all those issues. We need to pump more money on those departments.

On the issue of marginalization, I take Lari to be a marginalized area. Remember Lari covers more than 450 Kilometers Mr. Speaker Sir. We are talking about the whole of Kabete. The roads there are pathetic.

As the County of Kiambu, we need to look at those marginalized areas for us to reach where Ruiru, Kiambu town, Juja and Thika are. We need to come up with a strategy and a good policy that will cater for such kind of areas for our people top experience development, for our people to get empowered.

A good example is Bungoma County; through the exchequer, they got close to Kshs. 400 million because of only one area that is called Mt. Elgon. It is on record that they got an addition Kshs. 400 million just to cater to that area. In the County of Kiambu, I will stand to fight for Lari; let us cater for n area like Lari which is marginalized so that we may experience development and our people to get to enjoy our leadership.

Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to support the Motion!

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you very much for that very informative and well constructed contribution. I can assure you for sure that I have noted, especially the request to have a sitting with the Governor to discuss these matters and I am going to share even with the other senior leaders to see that being done as soon as possible.

Yes Hon. Member for Ri8abai!

Riabai MCA, (Hon. Hezron): Thank you Hon. Speaker as I take this chance to give my contribution to the Governor's speech.

Mr. Speaker, the speech was so encouraging since it has so many positive developments for our County. To comment on the health docket, we have much that we are doing for this department, and according to the figures we have from this speech, we attend about 10,000 patients daily in our facilities. That shows Kiambu is performing. But it is also good to note that many of these patients come from the neighboring Counties. In Kiambu, we serve many patients from Nairobi, in Thika, we serve patients from Machakos and Murang'a Counties.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time that our seniors address this issue, whereby we ought to benefit more because we are assisting people who come from other Counties. That is why we will get our drugs being consumed before time. In our health centers and dispensaries we don't charge anything, so patients from other Counties consume our drugs. This is a matter that ought to be addressed.

Mr. Speaker, the other thing we ought to be serious on is about the service providers in these facilities. We have been having complaints on and off through social media and in fact, our residents have been complaining about services offered by our doctors and nurses. So, we as the Committee of Health and the Executive need to take a lot of caution on this because it is only a week ago that we had a doctor declaring a child dead, the funeral arrangements were made, but the child was not dead. We need to take caution on our doctors and nurses.

Mr. Speaker, the other thing I feel we will improve is about planning and urbanization department whereby right now we are constructing 40 units in Thika on housing projects, and we endeavour to construct 13,000 units in the next two and a half years. This will be a millage to our County whereby our staff and our squatters will find shelter for their families.

Mr. Speaker, the good thing that we ought to do; because we have been passing so many Bills and Motions, we need to see these things implemented. I also remember that in the health docket we passed the NHIF Bill, but from the time we passed it, we have not had it being implemented. So, in my

contribution, I feel we need to take caution on this because we might be doing things, only to have our 5 year term end and these things won't be implemented.

Mr. Speaker, the contentious issue is that of revenue collection where we came up with a code, 419, through which we collect revenue directly to the Cooperative Bank. But at this point, I do not know how much revenue we have collected using the same code. I concur with my colleague who has contributed a few minutes ago; we need to take caution on this to know whether we are performing or not performing. We might be passing these things, but we are not performing, and by the end of the financial year, we will find difficulties in meeting our targets in paying the pending bills to our contractors.

Mr. Speaker, I also agree and second my colleagues who have contributed before me that we need an urgent meeting with the Executive to know whether we are performing or not. As a County we have been having so many goodies and some we have told our residents in the media, like this issue of having free artificial insemination services to farmers. We need to take things seriously and we need to see things working.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, there is the issue of Alcoholic Bill. I think when we passed this Bill three months ago, only to learn that we have not given licences to the bar owners. We also need to take a lot of caution on this because we find people doing business in our County whereas they are not paying revenue, whereas this is where we want to get money to do development.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time for these things to be effected because we have done the theory part of it, but practically, we have done nothing. It is high time we effect this and get things going. Otherwise, if we can achieve what the Governor presented, we can be the County no. 1 we have been calling ourselves. But if we fail to implement and effect what we have passed in this House, we will stand to be blamed, and *Wanjiku* is not the *Wanjiku* who were told to *fuata Nyayo*. It is *Wanjiku* who is more enlightened on performance issues.

Mr. Speaker, It is high time we the Assembly and the Executive do the practical. As the saying goes, actions speak louder than word.

Thank you Mr. Speaker!

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you very much Hon. Member for Riabai; thank you for your contribution.

I have noted down and as we continue saying we need to meet with the Executive, we are going to make sure that one is going to be done as soon as possible.

Hon. Stanley!

Ngewa MCA, (Hon. Mwaura): Thank you Mr. Speaker!

I too rise to congratulate the Governor for such a precise articulated speech. Bearing in mind that he mentioned the parameters of economic growth and development, one of them being infrastructure, urbanization and also the social conditions like the health issues.

Mr. Speaker, in a nutshell, I believe if we can walk the talk and do as we claim, because I believe we have what it takes, we are good to go.

So, I support!

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you very much Hon. Member for your contribution.

I can see that so many of us have contributed, but we do not want to close the opportunity for anyone who may have something to say in regards to the Governor's speech.

So, is there any other member who would like to speak?

Yes. Hon. Kalpesh!

Juja MCA, (Hon. Kalpesh): Thank you Mr. Speaker!

The Governor's speech was good, but we need to balance the development that is to come to all Wards. I have seen a lot of development ongoing, but it is unfortunate that I am not so lucky in my Ward. On my maiden speech, I brought out a whole text on what needs to be done in my Ward. Hopefully, all the CEC's should balance out the development that is needed within the County.

Comparatively, there is a lot of development going on in Wards that are smaller than the other Wards; where a whole Constituency is smaller than other Wards. There is a lot of development going on in that Constituency than in Wards that are bigger.

Mine was to bring that to the limelight, so that we can get a well balanced and well developed County. Not only patches where there is a lot of development while others are still lagging behind.

Still in Juja, I only have one tarmac road which was build recently. I am lucky enough that at the moment there is work ongoing for the market which is still in progress. It has just started up and luckily enough there is the NAMSIP sewage which is also taking place. But at the same time the contractors are leaving the conditions on the road very bad. At the moment, they have made the roads impassable. There is a lot of cry from *Wanjiku*.

At the same time, I would like to support the speech, but we have to get the development coming in. Hopefully when they finish, they will bring it up to date.

I think that is all I can contribute at the moment.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Thank you very much Hon. Kalpesh.

Any other Member who wishes to contribute?

(Silence)

Thank you very much Hon. Members for your contribution and patience. I kindly request you to also avail yourselves in the afternoon Session because we need to have quorum to transact the Business.

I am also reminded that after this, there was that announcement about the fellowship immediately after this Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Kimani): Hon. Members, there being no other Business, this Assembly stands adjourned until Wednesday, 4th July, 2018 at 2.30 P.M.

Thank you!

The House rose at 11.18 A.M