REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 20th June, 2023

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm whether we have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: I direct that the quorum bell be rung for 10 minutes.

(The bell was rung for 8 minutes)

Speaker: Clerk, confirm whether we have quorum.

(Quorum confirmed)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

APPOINTMENT OF NANYUKI MUNICIPALITY BOARD MEMBERS

Speaker: Hon. Members, Section 14 of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 provides for the nomination and appointment of members to municipality boards by the Governor with the approval of the County Assembly. Pursuant to the above provisions and the provisions of the Public Appointments County Assemblies Approval Act, 2017, I wish to inform this House that the Governor has forwarded to the County Assembly through the Office of the Clerk the names of the nominees to the Nanyuki Municipality Board through a letter dated 6th June, 2023 and received on 7th June, 2023 for consideration by this House.

The names of the nominees and their respective clusters as forwarded by the Governor are as follows:

1. Michael Muriithi Kinguku – Governor's Appointee
2. David Macharia Kanyoi – Informal Sector
3. Cecilia Muthoni Gichohi – Professional Associations
4. Lucy Muthoni Bolton – Governor's Appointee
5. Linet Wairimu Ndungu – Governor's Appointee
6. Abdi Sora Guyo – Registered Neighbourhood Associations

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

7. Peter Wahome Gathigia – Private Sector

Hon. Members, pursuant to Standing Order No. 191 (5) (f) and the First Schedule of the Standing Orders, the aforementioned nominees shall be vetted by the Committee on Transport and Public Works. I therefore urge this committee to adhere to the timeframe as set by the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act 2017.

Hon. Members, I have equally received another communication from H.E. The Governor. Section 6 (1) (A) of the Laikipia County Revenue Board Act, 2014 Section 7 (1) (A) of the Laikipia County Development Authority Act, 2014 and Section 45 of the County Government Act, 2012 provides for the nomination and appointment of the Chairperson of the Laikipia County Revenue Board, Chairperson of the Laikipia County Development Authority and County Chief Officers respectively, by the Governor with the approval of the County Assembly.

Pursuant to the above provisions and the provisions of the Public Appointments County Assemblies Act, 2017 I wish to inform this House that the Governor has forwarded to the County Assembly through the Office of the Clerk the names of the nominees for; Chairperson, Laikipia County Revenue Board, Chairperson, Laikipia County Development Authority, and County Chief Officers through letters dated 15th June, 2023 for consideration by this House.

The names of the nominees and their respective clusters as forwarded by the Governor are as follows;

NO.	NAME	CLUSTER
1.	Macharia Gakiri	Chairperson- Laikipia County Revenue Board
2.	Dr. Allan Mugambi Michael	Chairperson- Laikipia County Development Authority
3.	Stephen Napian Nuru	Chief officer- Office of the Governor
4.	Mike Kipchumba Kemboi	Chief Officer- County Administration and Public Service

Pursuant to Standing Order 191(5) (f) and the first schedule of the Standing Orders, the aforementioned nominees shall be vetted by the following Committees:

	NAME	CLUSTER	VETTING COMMITTEE
1.	Macharia Gakiri	Chairperson- Laikipia County Revenue Board	Finance and County Planning.
2.	Dr. Allan Mugambi Michael	Chairperson- Laikipia County Development Authority	Finance and County Planning
3.	Stephen Napian Nuru	Chief officer- Office of the Governor	County Cohesion, Justice and legal matters

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

4.	Mike Kipchumba Kemboi	Chief Officer- County Administration and Public Service	Joint committee (labour, social welfare and Community Services and County Cohesion, justice and legal services)

I therefore urge these committees to adhere to the timeframe as set by the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017. I thank you.

PAPERS LAID

AUDITOR GENERAL REPORTS

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the Majority Leader, Hon. John Gichuki Maina, I have the following papers to lay:

a) Report of the Auditor General on Rumuruti Municipality for the year ended 30 June, 2020.

b) Report of the Auditor General on Rumuruti Municipality for the year ended 30 June, 2021.

c) Report of the Auditor General on Rumuruti Municipality for the year ended 30 June, 2022.

(Hon. Stephen Ndiritu laid the Paper on the Table)

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REPORT FOR THE F/Y 2022/2023

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I have another paper to lay on behalf of the Chair, Budget and Appropriations Committee;

Second Supplementary Budget report for the financial year 2022/2023 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 20th June, 2023.

(Hon. Stephen Ndiritu laid the Paper on the Table)

VETTING REPORT FOR CHIEF OFFICER NOMINEE, ECONOMIC PLANNING

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I have another paper to lay;

Report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the vetting of Mr. Burje Mohamed Ibrahim, nominee for appointment to the position of Chief Officer, Economic Planning dated 5th June, 2023.

(Hon. Stephen Ndiritu laid the Paper on the Table)

LAIKIPIA COUNTY BUDGET ESTIMATES REPORT 2023/2024

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Mr. Speaker, I have a report to lay on behalf of the Chairperson of Budget and Appropriations Committee;

Report on the Laikipia County Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023/2024 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 20th June, 2023.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Hon. Stephen Ndiritu laid the Paper on the Table)

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Speaker: Hon. Members, papers have been laid and I want to refer to the papers laid, that is;

a) Report of the Auditor General on Rumuruti Municipality for the year ended 30th June, 2020.

b) Report of the Auditor General on Rumuruti Municipality for the year ended 30th June, 2021.

c) Report of the Auditor General on Rumuruti Municipality for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

These papers are committed to the Public Accounts Committee.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

VETTING REPORT FOR CHIEF OFFICER NOMINEE, ECONOMIC PLANNING

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, this House adopts the report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the vetting of Mr. Burje Mohamed Ibrahim, nominee for appointment to the position of Chief Officer, Economic Planning dated 5th June, 2023.

Thank you.

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REPORT FOR THE F/Y 2022/2023

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Mr. Speaker, I have another notice of motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the 2nd Supplementary Budget report for the financial year 2022/2023 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 20th June, 2023.

Thank you.

LAIKIPIA COUNTY BUDGET ESTIMATES REPORT 2023/2024

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Mr. Speaker, you know we are used to using these gadgets but now it seems that we have gone back to the manual system. I beg to give the following notice of motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report on the Laikipia County Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023/2024 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 20th June, 2023.

Thank you.

STATEMENTS

INADEQUATE HEALTH WORKFORCE IN MELWA AND MUHOTETU HEALTH CENTRES

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to seek a statement from the Chairperson Health Services Committee pertaining to inadequate health workforce in Melwa and Muhotetu health centres in Marmanet Ward.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders No. 45 (2) (C), I want to seek a statement from the Chairperson of the Health Services Committee regarding the above-mentioned subject. Article 43 (1) (A) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that every person has a right to the highest attainable standard of health which includes reproductive health rights.

Hon. Speaker, there is an acute shortage of human resource for health in the County which has not only constrained the achievement of health-related development goals but also impeded accelerated progress towards Universal Health Coverage. The situation at Melwa and Muhotetu which I represent in Marmanet Ward, is worse due to lack of clinical officers, nurses, community health workers and public health officers. These are identified by the World Health Organization as the frontline cadre in the health sector and are responsible for delivery of preventive health services occasioned through attrition.

I request the Chairperson of the Health Services Committee to inform this House when the aforementioned health workforce will be deployed in order to provide essential healthcare. Thank you.

Speaker: I do not see the Chairperson of the Health Committee. Any Member of the Health Committee? When could be the appropriate time to have a response to that statement Hon. Nyokabi?

Hon. Catherine Nyokabi: Two weeks are enough, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. It shall therefore stand that, that response must be given within two weeks.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MOTION

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REPORT FOR THE F/Y 2022/2023

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I have a notice of the following motion… Sorry, Hon. Speaker, I was being directed by the clerk that we are on a motion, not a notice. So, I beg to move the following motion on behalf of the Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the 2nd Supplementary Budget report for the financial year 2022/2023 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 20th June, 2023.

Hon. Speaker, I have this motion and I know that all Members have received it on their desks as well as their boxes.

Mr. Speaker, the Budget and Appropriations Committee appreciates all Members of the County Assembly of Laikipia for their participation in scrutinizing this Second Supplementary Estimates for the Financial Year (FY) 2022/2023. The committee also expresses its gratitude to the Office of the Clerk, Office of the Speaker and Budget Office for their efforts to ensure that the committee was able to process this supplementary budget in good time.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to the Hon. Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee who made insightful contributions to this report on behalf of the

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

committee and pursuant to Standing Orders No. 215 together with the provision of Section 135 of the PFMA Act, 2012. It is my pleasure, duty and privilege to table this report of the Second Supplementary Estimates for the FY 2022/23 and recommend it to the House for adoption.

Mr. Speaker, the committee comprises of the following Members;

1. Hon. Mwaniki Muturi – Chairperson
2. Hon. Stephen Ndiritu – Vice-chairperson
3. Hon. Paul Leshuel – Member
4. Hon. Nicholas Lempaira – Member
5. Hon. Benson Kuria – Member
6. Hon. Wachuka Irene John – Member
7. Hon. Maina John Gichuki – Member

Mr. Speaker, this is the Second Supplementary for this FY because we had a first supplementary around November. Now, the government has decided to come up with a second supplementary to supplement certain funds especially on personal emoluments where the government has added Kshs.150 million to that line.

This report has been with these Members and they have gone through the report, and I want to assure them that in this supplementary budget, there is no change of projects. The supplementary budget is only mainly on personal emoluments where the court has ruled that ECD teachers be employed on a permanent and pensionable basis. That is where the government found out that it needs to add some money to cater for those ECD teachers.

I know that Members from the wards which they come from have noted that there is need for those teachers to be employed on a permanent and pensionable basis, because they have been working very hard but earning only peanuts. That is why the government of the day has decided and has been ordered by the courts to employ those teachers.

So, I would request Members to support this supplementary budget so that we can align the figures with the amount which the government has proposed. I therefore request this House to support and request Hon. Muturi to second this motion. Thank you.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to second this motion on the supplementary budget. Many Members may wonder why Nicholas who is the Chairman of the Budget Committee is not the one presenting the motion. As I can feel, I am not in a good state of mind and that is why I requested my able Vice-Chair to present this motion on supplementary budget.

Speaker: Hon. Anthony, the motion is being seconded. I do not know whether you need to interject on something before the seconding is done.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was worried, he just said that he is not in his good state of mind which is very alarming especially now that we have very serious business. I think we are going to tackle after this because those are very serious allegations.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Speaker: Thank you. We will allow him to second the motion then probably see what to do next. Welcome.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate his concern as my Deputy Speaker. I second this motion because it is a timely motion and there are government expenditures. As we are heading to the end of the Financial Year, we still need to supplement some money towards some few projects in some few dockets in the Executive part of County Government. We have some pending bills and expenditures mostly concerning our ECD teachers, and that is where the largest portion of the fund is headed to. It was not factored in the supplementary budget, so we are factoring it in now so that we can dispense of the salaries of ECD teachers. Thank you. I second.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Hon. Members, I open the floor for debate on the motion.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to make my contribution on the supplementary budget report as brought by the Vice-Chair of the Budget Committee, and the Chair has just seconded. This is the high time that we do not dwell much on this. The year is coming to an end. We just have less than ten days to go and it is necessary to supplement the available money for the government to use within the next ten days. So, the more I speak here, the more I reduce the number of hours and days for the government to implement using the money that we are allocating today. So, I support.

Having said that, I do not know whether I will be seen as though I am out of mind like Hon. Mwaniki, or what is happening? I still insist either we have a refurbished Director of ICT in this Assembly. We have insisted this, day after the other till now. I have seen Hon. Karuiru is almost breaking his gadget. Mine has already collapsed. Hon. Speaker, we agreed that we should always have somebody from that department. Either we disband that department and say that we do not have a department of ICT and get the right people or else we be allowed to go back to manual system. Otherwise, we are using millions of shillings in this Assembly for work not done.

We have talked here about the internet. Out there the internet is costing other institutions Kshs.500,000 thousand to Kshs. 600,000 thousand. For us, because it is a senior institution, we are using over Kshs.3 million yet we cannot get such simple important things such as internet. Why this? Is this something that should be repeated day after the other? I have repeated it but now I think I will not repeat it because I might find myself being seen as if I am mad or that I do not understand what this gadget is for. None of the reports that we are discussing here is in my gadget or his gadget, yet we are seated here saying that we are discussing a serious business. We have somebody who is getting paid and has a team but cannot cooperate even a single day. That is ignorance and undermining this Assembly, unless the whole department is led by a refurbished man. Thank you.

Speaker: The sentiments and concerns of Members are taken to note. Thank you.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the supplementary budget. As Hon. Mugweru has said, we need to pass it as soon as we can. We have less than 240 hours for the government to work but on the same, I still have some reservations not on the budget. I have heard the Chief Whip who is the Vice Chair for the Budget Committee saying that they are

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

going to employ the ECD teachers. My concern is that they have already been employed. I have issues on this employment but let it not be an opportunity for corruption in this county.

It is not the first time we have discussed about ECD here. The teachers are complaining that some have served this county for more than twenty years, fifteen years and not less than ten years yet they were not employed. When the high court ruled that they should be employed on permanent basis, now we have new teachers here who have never been seen before. We should look at both sides.

On the right side, I did not say that the Honourable Member for Tigithi is out of his mind but I was just echoing what he has said. It is very serious and I pray that all is well with him and we are in this together. On this issue of ICT, it is not the first time we have discussed this. Honourable Speaker, let us be Honourable for once. I will not mind carrying papers from outside and ball pens for taking notes instead of relying on these gadgets that are not working. Let it be the final day.

I know they are going to say and I can see there is work being done here. That is not the case, so let everything be done diligently and in order. I support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Catherine Kibue: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was on a point of information to my able Deputy Speaker, that it is not the County Government that wants to employ the teachers. It is the court that has ordered the County Government to employ these teachers. Thank you.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: I am standing on a point of clarification that the County Government is taking advantage of the few people who want to spoil the good name of the government. They are taking advantage to employ new teachers whereas we have other teachers who have been working under poor conditions for more than fifteen years without getting employed. It is the high time we take charge that we should not take advantage and employ those people that are not supposed to be employed.

These things are happening and I know very soon in this House it is going to be tabled. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Mugweru, you have spoken so I will give you a chance before we conclude on this.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, I was rising because I am the Chairperson for Education Committee and need to shed light on the same. By saying that the court has ordered, is saying that the ones who went to court, the court gives orders with a list. The interested are the ones who will get employed because the court stated, “we have ordered you to employ teachers”. Hon. Kanyutu came here as a complainant.

So, it is a group of teachers who went to court and the County Government was ordered to employ. When we say they were ordered it means the County Government was not willing to employ but they have been ordered to employ so and so. Thank you.

Speaker: Without much ado, I want to invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nachukua nafasi hii kushukuru Waheshimiwa kwa kuweza kuunga mkono Bajeti ya Ziada. Bwana Spika, bila Bajeti ya Ziada kaunti itakwama na waalimu ambao walikuwa wanafaa kulipwa hawatalipwa. Bwana Spika, kuna jambo ningetaka kusema kuhusu walimu wa shule za chekechea ambao korti iliamua waweze kuajiriwa. Kama vile mwenyekiti ameweza kusema ni kwamba wale ambao walipatiwa idhini na korti ili waweze kuajiriwa ndio wataajiriwa.

Vilevile Waheshimiwa kutoka wadi ambazo wametoka, wanajua stesheni zote na ni vizuri wajue kama walimu ambao walikuwepo ndio wameajiriwa ama ni wengine wapya. Waheshimiwa ningewaomba wote mchunguze. Kama kutakuwa na makosa yeyote yule ambaye atakuwa amefanya makosa atafuatiliwa.

Nimeelewa wasiwasi wa Naibu Spika kwa sababu wakati mwingine serikali hutafuta mwanya ili wafanye ukora lakini ninaamini hii serikali haitafanya ukora lakini ikifanya ukora sisi Waheshimiwa tutakuwa *bampa* ili tuhakikishe mambo yote imefanyika vile inavyostahili. Kwa hayo machache naomba Waheshimiwa waweze kupitisha hii Bajeti ya Ziada ili serikali iweze kusonga mbele na kaunti yetu iweze kusonga mbele. Asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

(Question put and agreed to)

VETTING REPORT FOR CHIEF OFFICER NOMINEE, ECONOMIC PLANNING

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, this House adopts the report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the vetting of Mr. Burji Mohamed Ibrahim Nominee for appointment to the position of Chief Officer, Economic Planning dated 5th June, 2023.

Hon. Speaker, I know Hon. Members have been with this report and the members have gone through the report because they are aware that there is a person by the name Burji Mohamed who was appointed to the position of Chief Officer in that docket. Therefore Mr. Speaker, I am aware that Members have gone through the report. They now understand the person Ibrahim Burji. What I am going to read is a brief report of Mohamed Burji because the Members are aware of that report and they have seen what the committee has done.

Mr. Speaker, I will start on page 7. Without wasting a lot of time, they can see the mandates and where the Finance Committee in our Standing Orders 191(5)(f) is stipulated.

On appointment Process of the Chief Officer Economic Planning

Pursuant to section 45 of the County Government Act 2012, H.E. the Governor, forwarded to the Clerk of the County Assembly, the name of the nominee vide a letter (Reference Number: CGL/GVN/*A(I)/*20), *(Annexure i),* dated 27th April, 2023 for approval by the County Assembly for Appointment as the Chief Officer Economic Planning as detailed below;

On 27th April, 2023, the Hon. Speaker through a communication informed the House that the Clerk of the County Assembly had received the name of the nominee and directed that the name and Curriculum Vitae of the said nominee be referred to the Finance and County Planning committee for vetting and reporting to the House.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Mr. Speaker, there is notification to the public and they can see that the public were aware of the said Burji. They were given time to give submission of the memoranda to come to this Assembly in person and give any information regarding to the said person. On issues for consideration during the approval hearings, members can see the process and what the committee have found.

On approval hearing of the nominee; the committee held a sitting to deliberate on the approval hearing and the following were highlighted. Members can see the highlighted information and I know Members of this House are learned friends. They know how to read and they can express themselves so I know the Members have gone through that report.

On page 9 Members can go through that report and they can see on page 10 there is professional experience, general sector and specific questions.

The Committee on Finance and County Planning observed the following;

1. That the nominee is a Kenyan Citizen. This tells this House that Burji is a Kenyan Citizen so he qualifies to be a Chief Officer.
2. That the nominee has not been charged or convicted in a court of law for a criminal offence. That tells us that the person in the name Burji is not a criminal. He is a clean person and he has not committed any offence so he is as white as ice.
3. That the nominee has not been adversely mentioned in an investigatory report in the County Assembly and any other commission.
4. That the nominee has not held any position in a political party.
5. That the nominee has never been dismissed or removed from office for any personal, public or official duty conflict.
6. That the nominee has never been advisory associated with any practise that depict biasness, favouritism and nepotism while discharging public duties.
7. That the nominee has two sources of income; consultancy firm and owns a business.

On Specific questions, Members can go through that page. On economic planning the nominee was well conversant with most of the planning documents in the county and pointed them out as follows; CIDP (County Integrated Development Plan), ADP (Annual Development Plan), CFSP (County Fiscal Strategy Paper), County Debt Management Paper (CDMP. Members can see what the nominee said to the committee.

On that page members can read what we asked. On page 12 there is the Committee's observations;

The Committee having considered the nominee's Curriculum Vitae and heard his oral submission during the vetting exercise/interview, made the following observations: -

1. THAT, the nominee had satisfied the requirements of Chapter 6 of the Constitution of Kenya on leadership and integrity.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

2. THAT, he had been cleared by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), Kenya Revenue Authority on tax compliance, Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and the Credit Reference Bureau.
3. THAT, in accordance with Article 78(1) (2) of the Constitution of Kenya and Section 35(3) and 35(4) of the County Government Act, he is a Kenyan citizen and does not hold dual citizenship and is therefore fit to hold office as a Chief Officer;
4. THAT, his academic credentials, and experience are impressive and in compliance with Section 7(8) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017;
5. THAT, he has never been charged in a Court of Law.
6. THAT, as stipulated in Article 75(1) of the Constitution, he has no potential conflict of interest;
7. THAT, he satisfies the requirements of Article 77(1) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and Section 35(4) of the County Government Act in that he does not intend to participate in any other gainful employment;
8. THAT, he had never been dismissed from office for contravention of the provisions of Public Officer Ethics act which deals with conduct of public officers.
9. THAT, he had not been adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of County Assembly or any Commission of Inquiry.
10. THAT, he is not a member of any political party neither does he hold any political office.
11. THAT, he is a member associated to the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK)
12. THAT, the nominee exhibited impressive knowledge of topical issues touching on the Finance Department and had the requisite abilities, qualifications and experience.

Mr. Speaker, the members can go through that information. On page 11, there are the Committee's recommendations;

COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 9(2) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 191(5) (f), the Committee recommends that, this House approves the nomination of; Mr. Burji Mohamed Ibrahim, for appointment by H.E. the Governor as Chief Officer Economic Planning.

Mr. Speaker, without wasting more time and knowing that Members have gone through this report, they now understand Mr. Burji Mohamed. I humbly request the House to approve this nominee because he is fit to hold that office. Mr. Speaker, the said person is a Laikipian. He lives in Nanyuki, He is a business man in Nanyuki and he is willing to work with the County Government.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Since he has been given that chance to work as a Chief Officer, I beg all Members to agree with me and approve Mr. Burji Mohamed for the sake of this county. We need a person who knows how to plan. Mr. Speaker, the Members knows well that if you are not planning, you are planning to fail. In this case, the Governor has planned to appoint Mr. Burji so that this County can have a plan. I urge Hon. Umija who is a Committee Member to second this motion and this House to approve Burje Mohamed Ibrahim. Thank you.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Chairperson for Finance Committee for reading this report to the House. I second the approval of the nominee Mr. Burji. I hope that the House will be able to second the nominee. He was well qualified. We did the interview and he actually qualifies to do the work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Members, I open the floor for the debate. Hon. Anthony Theuri. Incidentally I just remind you that you are the Deputy Speaker, so kindly resume your seat from the Majority Leaders seat.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had told you before that human beings are social beings. Sometimes I feel lonely when I am seated in this corner alone. Forgive me for my manners. I support this motion. I know Mr. Burji. He is a good man and he deserves the seat. He comes from my ward. Mr. Speaker, I have some reservations on the words used by Hon. Stephen that for this county to continue, we must have an economic planner which is very okay.

I was wondering, in the last ten months or so we did not have the Chief Officer for economic planning yet we are moving on well. Does it mean we have been doing zero work? Mr. Ndiritu, next time you come to the market to sell your cow, it is good to mind your…

Speaker: What is it Hon. Stephen?

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Bwana Spika, nasimama ili niweze kufafanulia Mheshimiwa Anthony. Yeye huwa anaangalia sana vile Kaunti inaendelea kwa sababu yeye ni kijana barubaru. Ningetaka kumfahamisha ya kwamba tulikuwa na mtu katika hiyo idara lakini alikuwa ameshikanisha majukumu yote. Huyo mtu ni Afisa Mkuu wa Fedha. Gavana aliona aigawe ili kaunti iweze kuwa na watu ambao wataweza kufanya kazi haraka iwezekanavyo ili vijana wake wapangwe kwa sababu ya *hustler* na *bottom-up*. Asante.

Speaker: Duly informed. Welcome Hon. Theuri.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: That was well explained. On the other issue, it is always good to know that we hold political seats and you can see the formation of the government. We did not have any member from the Muslim Community. This has been a challenge to me as their area MCA. So, I congratulate the Governor and the committee. They have done a good job. We have not received any complaint from my people because it has been in the public domain that Mr. Mohamed Burji will be the new CO for Economic Planning.

Thank you, very much. I support the motion. Let the man be. Let him come and help us to take this county ahead.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, being part of the committee, I would like to congratulate the Chair. He was apprehensive to the vetting of the said nominee, Burji. I was indeed present during the vetting and I can conclude that Burji qualifies. Mr. Speaker, if Members would go through the curriculum vitae of the said nominee, it is a clear indication that he has worked for over five departments.

When we received the curriculum vitae, we went through it and found that the different departments he worked on and the recommendations that he was awarded were not volatile. They were good recommendations. As my Chair, Finance Committee, Hon. Stephen has said, we can actually articulate that the economic planning apprehended by him as the Chief officer who will be the accounting officer.

Now that we are headed to our new County Headquarters in Rumuruti, the name economic planning, I congratulate H.E the Governor for the thought of distributing the various departments into smaller ones. Mr. Speaker, we have had issues and it has been in the social media that this is a Muslim community. I believe that if we would all agree that Laikipia is a Cosmopolitan County with all tribes, we should agree that we all have issues.

Out of interrogations Mr. Speaker, through the ID of the said nominee Mr. Burji, I think we now have every caption of this county's tribe representation. I think when we go to where I hail, I am a Kikuyu by Birth and I know once a bank is robbed and money is involved, we will always complain that it is a Kikuyu.

Mr. Speaker, if there is cattle rustling, I will think of my fellow Hon. Lekopien who is in this Assembly. In my ward Mr. Speaker, if we quote…

Speaker: Order Hon. Karuiru. Just a minute. What is it Hon. Parleto?

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Sometimes I get worried because we are here as Members and we are talking about county planning then suddenly we hear about cattle rustling. What is the connection between cattle rustling and county planning? Can you please clarify.

Hon. George Karuiru: Mr. Speaker, I think Hon. Lekopien was sleeping when I was addressing this. I am saying that in social media, it was said that we are going to have al-Shabaab in the County Assembly of Laikipia which represents the Muslim. I said that all tribes are somewhere gazetted. There is that mentality that a person would think that a Kikuyu is for money when a bank is robbed, there is that mentality.

When there is cattle rustling, Hon. Lekopien is involved as a cattle rustler because there will be a Pokot who will be mentioned in that cattle rustling but all of us were elected from diverse communities.

Speaker: Hon. Parleto, give him a minute to conclude.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your protection. So Mr. Speaker, I was saying that Hon. Umija who comes from the diverse community that we love, when we talk of a fish, we would like her to come to us and give us the best fish. When we talk of demonstrations, we will always quote Hon. Umija who is not for that. Why I was saying this is about diversity of the communities that we have…

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Speaker: Hon. Karuiru your debate is...

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Mr. Speaker, I am just standing on a point information whether the Member for Ol-Moran is attacking the opposition. He has moved from Hon. Lekopien to Hon. Umija. Can he give us a clear information on what his mission is? Thank you.

Speaker: Hon. Umija, what do you have to say so that he may be able to respond to both.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Honourable Member for Ol Moran is just attacking us without context and I think we should stick to what we are discussing. Let us not depart from what we are supposed to be discussing.

Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Karuiru, kindly move faster.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to know whether Hon. Lekopien was addressing me because I am an Honourable Member. He talked of Mr. Karuiru. Mr. Speaker, I was addressing …

Speaker: Members, just follow clarity. We only have Honourable Members in this House.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the person he was addressing to is not in this Assembly because I am an Honourable Member. Mr. Speaker, as I was saying as the Honourable Member has raised, if somebody would meet Honourable Mugweru whose hair looks the same, he can conflict but what I wanted to say is that we need everybody's representation here. As long as we want to grow economically and financially and develop, we must have everybody on board so that we can agree.

That is why I have congratulated H.E the Governor for actually thinking of going to that place. During the vetting of that Chief Officer for Economic Planning, that guy was very eloquent. We asked him about the documents which are produced for instance in this sensitive time of the year regarding budget and he quoted all of them including the ADP and CIDP.

Mr. Speaker, I think that we should have the best person if by then he was not set for the interview and he will be able to go for the task even without the interview. I know that we are going to grow together and I urge the Hon. Members to support our brother Mr. Burji to be the Chief Officer for Economic Planning. So, I congratulate the Chairperson and the Committee on Economic Planning for burning their midnight oil. I also thank the Office of Speaker and that of the Clerk for facilitating what we had that time up to date. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, very much. Given the enormous work that is ahead of us, kindly allow me to give the mover of the motion to give a reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Members for their contribution because as I stand now, I can tell that this House is happy with Mohammed Burji who is a youth and will now join the County Government of Laikipia. As a youth, it is the high time that the youth will demonstrate to this county and also the country that they are able and they can use their energy to ensure that this county moves from where we are economically to go upwards. That is the manifesto of our UDA Party (Bottom up).

Now I agree with these people that if we approve this appointee from the Governor, Mr. Burji, we will be demonstrating that we are in that UDA manifesto. I know that even the ODM

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Members will join us in this one because we want to grow this county economically. I heard earlier from Hon. Mwaniki that he is stressed and now I am getting worried and I would like him to tell this House why he is stressed because it is not good to just sit here and think that things are well. I would like him to tell this House his problems and the difficulties he is facing so that we can sit down and see whether we can fix it because it is not good to have our member being stressed and we don't know where the stresses are coming from.

Mr. Speaker, I also sympathize with the Hon. Wachuka who is covering her mouth and nose. I don't know what disease she is suffering from and we are going to pray for her to have a quick recovery and resume her duties of representing the people of Igwamiti. I can see the faces of these Members and I want to take this opportunity to beg them, I have not begged them there before but for this one, I beg them to agree with this committee and approve Mr. Mohammed Burji. Thank you and let us have the faith in this gentleman and a youth who is qualified and fit to work for this county, we ensure that we give him a chance to work in this county. Therefore, I rest my case.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen Ndiritu. The sentiments are well noted to Hon. Wachuka who is a bit unwell but she is striving to fulfil her duties in the Assembly. For the Hon. Mwaniki, later I will give my chance so that he will be able to speak to the House about the disturbance.

(Question put and agreed to)

LAIKIPIA COUNTY BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2023/2024

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki through Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the Chairperson Budget and Appropriation, Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki who is not feeling well, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT, this Assembly adopts the report on the Laikipia County Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023/2024 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 20th June, 2023.

Mr. Speaker, as Hon. Mugweru had said earlier, we are experiencing problems with these gadgets. There is a visitor who has managed to come into the House and I think he comes from the Department of ICT. This problem needs to be solved because I thought that I was going to get through the report very easily.

Mr. Speaker, we are not ending the financial year 2022/2023 and it is now the high time we present the estimates for 2023/2024. I am very much aware that with the Members, we have sat down and agreed on this report. The Members are aware of the report and also the projects which the government is intending to do in their wards. Therefore, allow me now to go through the report and I beg the Members to go with me page by page so that they can see where there are changes.

The Members are asking where the budget is but they can find it in their gadgets and maybe the ICT person can assist. By your leave Mr. Speaker, I request you to allow him to show the Members where the report is in their gadgets. Therefore Mr. Speaker, allow me to go through the report.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Mr. Speaker, Standing Order 186 establishes the Budget and Appropriations Committee with specific mandate to discharge the following responsibilities-

1. Investigate, enquire into and report on all matters related to coordination, control and monitoring of the county budget.
2. Discuss and revisit the estimate and make recommendations to the County Assembly.
3. Examine the County Fiscal Policy Statement presented to the County Assembly.
4. Examine Bills related to the county budget including Appropriations Bills.
5. Evaluate tax estimates, economic and budget policies and programs with direct budget outlays.

Committee's Composition

Mr. Speaker, the Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriations is comprised of the following members:

1. Hon. Mwaniki Muturi - Chairperson
2. Hon. Stephen Ndiritu - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Paul Leshuel - Member
4. Hon. Nicholas Lempaira - Member
5. Hon. Mwangi Benson Kuria - Member
6. Hon. Irene Wachuka John - Member
7. Hon. Maina John Gichuki - Member

Mr. Speaker, I can see that Hon. Lekopien is pressing his mic and I seek your protection as the mover so that I can move on with the motion. Mr. Speaker, because the Members have been with this report and they have gone through it, therefore they understand the report and have got all the information related to this budget. We have also given them time as a committee and therefore allow me now to go to committees' recommendations.

Re-allocation of funds

The committee recommends the following reallocations in line with the CFSP recommendations and committee observations;

1. County Administration

Recurrent:

- Kshs. 5.3 million be reduced from the office of the County Secretary and Deputy County Secretary. These funds are reallocated to Roads, Public Works, Lands and Energy under road network improvement. This is a movement of funds from recurrent to development.

2. Finance and Planning

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Development:

- Kshs. 4,945,500 be reduced from Emergency fund in line with the committee recommendations.

3. **Laikipia County Revenue Board**

Recurrent:

- Kshs. 21,000,000 be allocated to Revenue Collection services.

4. **Laikipia County Development Authority**

Recurrent:

- Kshs. 5,000,000 be allocated to Board operations and Partnership and fundraising.

Development:

- Kshs.1, 990,000 reallocated back to Development and infrastructure initiatives as per CFSP recommendations.

5. **Laikipia Health Service**

Recurrent:

- Kshs. 167,920 be reduced from this vote to realign it with CFSP recommendations.

6. **Laikipia Health Service Nanyuki**

A total of Kshs. 3.475M reallocated from this department as follows:

Recurrent: Kshs.1M

Development: 2.475M

7. **Laikipia Health Service Nyahururu**

A total of Kshs. 2.72M reallocated from this department as follows:

Recurrent: Kshs.1M

Development: 1.72M

8. **Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries**

Development:

- Kshs. 14.6M for the completion works for Mutanga Warehouse reallocated to Desilting of existing irrigation water pans / Dams each ward getting Kshs.1.02M within the department.
- **Reduction** of Kshs. 510,000 for Procurement of farm ponds liners and installation of drip irrigation kits.

9. **Lands, Housing and urban development**

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Development:

Reduce;

- Land management services by Kshs.1.5M
- Survey and planning services by Kshs.1M
- Road emergency works by Kshs.20M
- Development of a policy to guide and incentivize investment by Kshs. 15M

Create a line item;

- Drainage works; Allocate Kshs.5.3M. This is a new line of expenditure and the funds will be equally shared among the 15 wards. Members will be able to see that fund in their wards and are supposed to follow to the latter to ensure that the fund is utilized well.

Mr. Speaker, on page 14, the annexure the Members can see where the re-allocations were made. Therefore Mr, Speaker, this is the budget of this financial year 2023/2024 and I beg all the Members of this House to approve it so that the Government of the day can have money to deliver to the electorates. As elected Members, we were given a mandate by the people and that is why now on behalf of the Chair of Budget, I am urging the Hon. Members to approve this budget so that we can deliver our manifesto and also our manifesto to fulfil the promises which we made while we were campaigning.

I remember that when we were campaigning, we were promising our electorates that we are going to ensure that the road network is well done, our health facilities get medicines and all the equipment's that are needed there. I also want to remind the Members that we also have a workforce in this county and the people who are working also need salaries. Without this budget, we are not going to get that salary.

Mr. Speaker, we are also employed and get paid through the budget and therefore I am requesting the Members to see the need of passing this budget in time so that the government can access the money and that it can fulfil the promises made during the campaigns. As a Budget Committee, we have analysed this budget and looked into all sectors and have come up with a very good report on this F/Y on budget.

We have got able Members who have got experience while others are still getting experience. In our committee we are privileged to have Hon. Shuel who can analyse this budget up to the last coin. We also have got an able Chair who understands the budget process and also energetic and ready to work for this county. The members of this committee burnt their midnight oil to ensure that this report is tabled in this House. I will also take this opportunity to thank the clerk of this committee, the assistant clerk, the budget officer and the entire team for ensuring that this report is with us today.

Mr. Speaker, I know where we are heading and the difficulties being faced by this county. By approving this budget, it means that this county will have a good time to deliver. So, with those few remarks, I urge the Hon. Leshuel to second this motion and also urge this House to agree with the committee and pass these estimates. Thank you.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to second this motion. Due to time, I want to mention on few areas on this budget. I am happy that we are discussing the first budget since we got elected. It is a concern for all of us here to ensure that we understand this budget. Our role is very clear that after approving this budget we go back to oversight. It is our role to ensure smooth implementation of this budget.

Mr. Speaker, for us to realize the development, we must follow to the letter the issue of revenue collection. We have added some amount of money to the people of revenue board and it is our responsibility to ensure that the money is utilized properly so that we be able to meet our target.

Mr. Speaker, for us again to realize this, we must balance the issue of development and the recurrent because the moment we allow this county salaries and recurrent expenditure to go up, definitely the development allocation will go down. Therefore, it is the responsibility of this House to balance those three things. We balance the recurrent, the salaries and the development issue.

In many counties it is realized that there are ghost workers. I don't want to give attention to this House but I want to let the Members know that it is also possible to have ghost workers here. I have seen some indications somewhere and it is our responsibility to ensure that the employees that we have got are employees who are working for people and not ghosts.

Therefore, the budget is clear, people have read the budget in the department, sectors and even as individuals. The other day we approved the ceilings here and it is the ceilings which guide the estimates. So, the budget is within the law and even the balancing of recurrent percentages and developments. So, the priority of this county is clear, which is health. It is now our responsibility to ensure that we do not just allocate money for health but we must see the impact of it.

The second priority if the agriculture and food security. We have got a lot of donors who are willing to support the agriculture as an addition to what we have allocated. Therefore, we have got a role to ensure that this county is working well. We have got able people who are in positions and we have put people in positions like the COs and CECs and the directors. Therefore, we have got no excuse of not giving our people services. Therefore, we need to ensure that the Executive is working well. I want to tell the Members here that this budget is good and we have read it properly. The remaining issue is now the implementation. Just follow the implementation properly and ensure that what we have approved here is what shall be implemented on the ground.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes we realize some changes here and there but we must be very clear because according to the PFM Act, what we have approved here should be implemented the way it is. It is like the Constitution of Kenya. You cannot amend the Constitution of Kenya without a referendum. The same case applies to the budget and whenever we approve the budget the Executive must implement the way it is.

So, I want to urge the Members, let us approve this budget, follow it up with the Executive because our role is oversight and ensure that everything is done well. I am very sure that after another year, when we come back, we are going to realize that we have done A, B, C, D to our people.

The issue of road networks is very important because it cross cuts. For you to access health or any other area, you must have a smooth road network. So, this issue is very key. In the

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

supplementary budget, the county has already bought the boreholes drill. We are only going to facilitate that machine to drill boreholes for our people. I don't want to take much time because I know the Members understand this budget well. This is our first budget so I am sure it will help us.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of Bottom Up should be clearly realized. It is a very broad name. Up to now, we have not employed the cleaners. This is what we call Bottom up. When you give the poor person out there a small amount of money, that clearly gives us the indication that we are implementing the manifesto. We still have time but I would like to urge the government to be firm so that we don't track because if we lose the track, we will end up in a very dark forest that we shall not know the exit.

I stand to second and urge the Members to support this budget and follow up after the approval. We have the issue of bursaries. We have allocated Kshs.75 million and am sure it will give an impact on that. It is our responsibility as a committee to make sure that everything is done well. I stand to second and to urge Members to second, thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen and Hon. Leshuel.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the report from the select committee on Budget. Having gone through it because it is on our gadgets, I have admired how they distributed everything equally. It is unfortunate because my Ward is a bit bigger compared to the others and I thought they would allocate some more funds. As per whatever we deliberated as a House sometimes back, I can see everything is in order. Expect from a small spelling mistake which am sure it will be corrected, everything else is accurate as agreed by Members.

Mr. Speaker, I don't have to say much but I wholly support the Budget. Without planning, you plan to fail. We have ensured that there is even distribution to all sectors and areas and I am happy. Some might think some have gotten more funding but those are benefits to us. I wholly support the report and will work together to see to it that the implementation of the same is well done. I am sure the committee knows what to do next because whatever is required from us shall be properly done. We shall oversight the implementation. In our minds we know what is captured in the Budget. Thank you, I support.

Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me this chance to speak. I was going through the Budget very keenly. I am happy because since I was elected, this is the first Budget I will present to the people of Salama Ward who brought me to this House. I would like to thank our Governor for caring more about the youths.

I can see in the Budget that there is a whole sum of Kshs.8 million to purchase a bus that will facilitate the movement of sports for the youth. There is also Kshs.8 million of Governor's Cup which will be keeping the young men busy. I am happy for the allocation of Kshs.500,000 to level all the playing fields in our Wards. I am the MCA, Salama Ward and there many things…

Hon. Anthony Theuri: A point of clarification. It seems I have a different Budget. I want Hon. Gatati to clarify where he is getting the Kshs.8 million for the bus. In my Budget here, I did not see something like that. The last time we revised we did not get any money for the bus. We

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

said that if we need a bus, we needed three for the three sub counties. Honourable Members, as much as you said you are not feeling well. I need a clarification for this. Where is the Kshs.8 million coming from? The last time we talked about it, that money went to something else. Thank you.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Chairman of Budget, I want to clarify something on this Budget. I am also wondering where Hon. Gatati was reading because on page 12 there is education, social services and culture development. Number two is about the Kshs. 9 million buses to transport sports persons to be removed and be reallocated to road network improvement. That is what we agreed and it is the stand of the committee thus the whole House.

Speaker: Hon. Gatati the floor is yours but hold on a bit. Hon. Parleto Lekopien.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am supporting the Budget. I am standing on a point information. I'm getting worried on what we have for an IT department. Every time we ask about IT or Wi-Fi, people come to make sure that the Wi-Fi works when we need it.

Today, I am looking at these two documents. One is the Budget document and it's a Word document. On top of it, if Members can see, it says request edit access. It means as soon as we leave this House anything can be changed and that is my worry. The other document is a PDF document. Is the IT department qualified? Can we rely on them that nothing done here will change? We just want to get information and not be fooled.

We want to have a proper IT department that does what is needed to be done. We are spending money here. We are putting Kshs.3.5 million for the IT department that is not working to deliver. Can someone give us an answer to what is happening? I'm thankful that it has been seen. Hon. Gatati is just is reading what is there. This means that at the end of the day someone will change the Budget we have passed and give the information they want.

We want clarity for this. If possible, we need it now. We cannot live in denial of having an IT department that is supposed to work but it is not working. We thought we were going paperless but we are going backwards. Can someone please give us the right information? Before we even continue with the Budget I am impressed and shocked that we are using the same gadgets but we are getting different information. Let someone clarify on this. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Member. Concern noted and noted very seriously. The ICT team may not be able to come and answer it here. A follow up will be done to ensure we get it as fast as possible probably before the end of the session. Kindly let us allow Hon. Gatati to finish. I can see you are raising one finger. Probably you want a second or one point?

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My concern is why should we raise internet issues now and again? What were they doing since morning up to now? They should have ensured that all the gadgets and systems are working before we got to the Assembly. Must we sit here for the concerned people to check the gadget? They had the whole day and a whole month when we were on recess. What is happening? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Member. This thing will not lay low and it shall be effectively answered. Kindly let us allow Hon. Gatati to wide up. I will give you a whole opportunity. Hon. Gatati.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I apologize for reading the wrong document. It is not my error but it is the machine guiding me. I had no ill intention of creating my own document and I apologize. We are passing our first Budget since elected as Members of this House.

Nobody is taking any pictures. I don't know what will be posted on our Facebook account and our website. Previously, I have seen them post pictures with the caption of a new thing. Fortunately, they ever posted a picture of me while I was not in the Assembly that day. This is very misguiding. Apart from the people present in the House, how shall the community know what we are doing here? People call to say they don't know what we are doing in the Assembly. It is because we have no channel to communicate to the public. We need guidance on this.

I appreciate that the Budget has considered the road sector. There is an increase of around 2 to 3 million for road construction. On the ECD, we shall do a new rehabilitation. The Budget also has facilitated for five new dispensaries across the county. We have a Budget of Kshs.20 million for street lights. The bursary allocation has an increase of Kshs.20 million, we appreciate.

Mr. Speaker, you did not allow me to speak previously. This was to support the report on vetting of the Chief Officer for Planning. I wanted to be on record of supporting the young man since he is the first youth to be nominated in a high position. The Laikipia youth are happy. Thank you to the Governor and to you.

Speaker: Thank you. Before allowing the mover of the motion a chance to reply, I want to give Hon. Daniel Mugweru.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have much to say. The report has two versions, the original and the revised one. The one that talks about the Kshs.8 million is the original one. From page 12, there is an indication of the correction made. The report is ok.

Speaker: Thank you for that clarification. I now take this time to invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank all the Member for actively participating on the motion. This shows that Members are committed to the work they were elected for. I request the Honourable Members to agree with the committee and the report and approve this estimate. This will allow us close to the next financial year with a Budget.

I would request that if there is time, let us have the Bill. If we just pass the Report, we will have done nothing. The appropriation is the document that gives the government authority to spend money. I request Members to relook what we just passed and the Appropriation Bill then make sure that we pass both the Report and Appropriation Bill.

Thank you for allowing me to present this report on behalf of the Chairman for Budget who said he is stressed. I would like to know why he is stressed and not comfortable. We are here to care for the welfare of other Members. I feel bad to see him stressed and would like him to clear the air for us to understand his stress. Maybe the stress is from your office or the ICT department which is failing us. We want to know what is stressing our chairman who has led us now for one year. He is a good man. Give him a chance to tell us where the problem is and maybe get a solution.

(Question put and agreed to)

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: Without any other order, I want to refer you to our Standing Order No. 131 that reads;

"Unless the Speaker for the convenience of the House otherwise directs, the House shall meet at 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday and at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday but more than one sitting may be directed during the same day."

Therefore, I direct that we adjourn our sitting for 30 minutes and resume exactly 10 minutes past 5.00 p.m.

The House rose at 5.00 p.m.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*