REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 7th May, 2024

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.50 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have quorum?

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum I direct the bell to be rang for 10 minutes.

(The bell was rang for 10 minutes)

Hon. Salim Edung: Hon. Speaker, I think we have a quorum.

Speaker: Clerk confirm that status?

(Clerk confirmed the achievement of Quorum)

PAPERS LAID

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE REPORT ON REVIEW OF WATER TARIFFS

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to lay the following paper;

a) The report by the Committee on Implementation on reviewing of water tariffs downwards dated 2nd April 2024.

(Hon. Paul Leshuel laid the Paper on the Table)

NOTICE OF MOTION

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE REPORT ON REVIEW OF WATER TARIFFS

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report by the Committee on Implementation on reviewing of water tariffs downwards dated 2nd April 2024.

MOTION

REPORT ON MARKETS AND STALLS OVERSIGHT VISIT BY TRADE COMMITTEE

Hon. Catherine Kibue through Stephen Ndiritu: Honourable Speaker, I beg to move the following motion on behalf of Hon. Catherine Kibue, Chair, Trade, Tourism and Cooperative;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report on oversight visits to various markets and stalls in Laikipia West and North Sub Counties by the Trade Tourism and Cooperatives Committee dated 25th March 2024.

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Hon. Speaker, on this report, we shall start from page one and on the second page there is table of contents. Page three has preface.

Preface

This report is as a result of oversight visits to various kiosk stalls and markets in Laikipia West and North Constituencies. The Committee embarked on an oversight visit between 21st- 23rd March, 2024. The purpose of the oversight visit was to check on the market infrastructural development across the county in order to the improve business environment and promote enterprise development.

This will in turn help to bring more revenue in the County with an overall impact of increase in wealth and job opportunities. The report will highlight the mandate of the committee, the observations and recommendations given by the committee.

Introduction

Establishment of the Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives Committee

The Sectoral Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives Committee was constituted by the House on 26th October, 2022 during the First Session of the Third Assembly in Laikipia County.

The Committee is established pursuant to Standing Order 191 and the functions and mandates have been highlighted here. I believe Members of this House understand the mandates of the committee which are very clear in the Standing Order. I know all Members are familiar with our Standing Orders.

The committee's Mandate are in Standing Order No. 191 (5) and the Members can read the mandates.

Committee Membership

The Committee was constituted by the House on 26th October, 2022 comprising of the following Members;

1. Hon. Catherine Kibue - Chairperson
2. Hon. Moile Eunice Salaten - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Antony Theuri Wambui - Member
4. Hon. Simon Kanyutu - Member
5. Hon. Stephen Ndiritu - Member

The Committee is led mostly by women because the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson are women. We men are behind and we are just mere Members of that committee which we are very much grateful.

Oversight Visits

Naibor Stalls

There are 20 stalls which are located at Naibor Centre in Segera Ward. The Committee was informed that the stalls or kiosks were constructed in a location that is not accessible to people who visit the centre. Therefore, the stalls are not functional thus the county government does not collect any revenue from them.

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Hon. Speaker, if you look at those kiosks and the report, you can see that there was no value for money. If those kiosks were not utilised, that automatically tells you that there is no revenue. Hon. Speaker, the committee has given the right information. I know the Hon. Member from Segera ward, Hon. Salim can confirm that the stalls are not used. Therefore, the County is not collecting any revenue. Hon. Speaker, we can revisit and see whether we can use those kiosks for other businesses.

The toilet block for the stalls is in a pathetic condition and poses danger to the community as well as the livestock. The toilet block can be termed as a 'hanging toilet'. Underneath the toilet, there is a deep hole which currently serves as a compost pit. The toilet block is held by some few pillars. The foundation stones for the toilet block were vandalized or they fell into the pit.

Hon. Speaker, on page 5 you can see that toilet. The toilet is in pathetic condition. Hon. Speaker, you can see that the report is very clear that the toilet is hanging. I do not know how they use the toilet because if you see a toilet hanging, that will tell something else. When you are inside, somebody else outside can see your waste going down which is not good.

We need the County Government to intervene and repair the toilet so that it can be used by humans. If you look at that toilet, it is not in good condition. I think it should not be used by human beings. It is a health hazard to the community and the area traders. Hon. Speaker, you can see the front and the back photo of the toilet on page six. The pillars are exposed and when we say it is dangerous, you can see with your eyes.

That is why we have come up with this report. We have taken the pictures so that Members can also see with their eyes what is happening in Naibor; Karandi Stalls- Marmanet Ward.

Hon. Speaker, we also visited Karandi Stalls. The Committee observed that there are 19 stalls. At the time of the visit, only 3 stalls were opened. The committee was informed that due to the area where the stalls are located, the traders use them as stores for their goods. They sell their goods at the proposed market area which also serves as a matatu stage.

Hon. Speaker, on page seven you can see the kiosks in Marmanet. Many stalls are closed and they are not in use. They serve as stores. In those kiosks, there was negligence. The County Government should use the money to rightful areas. The Business people are complaining that where the stalls are, they are not fit for business. That is why they use them as stores.

Kinamba Stalls – Githiga Ward

The stalls are 15 and all of them are functional. The traders pay Kshs. 1,900 for the licence. The stalls serve as the main market in Kinamba Town. The traders there are very optimistic. The committee was informed that the floodlight next to the stalls is currently not functional and this poses a threat to the traders who sell late in the evening. They claimed to have been attacked occasionally by criminals.

The stalls do not have a toilet and clean water. So the floodlights should be installed immediately so that the community and the traders can do their business without the interference from criminals. You can see the stalls in page eight and goods there are like bananas, potatoes, charcoal and gas. So those stalls are being utilised well. You can see a path leading to Kinamba Stalls and those people requested for a tarmac road for their businesses to grow. Traders can earn more than what they are earning.

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Observations

The Committee observed that;

- There are no markets constructed by the County Government at Naibor, Karandi and Kinamba towns.
- The stalls constructed by the County Government are never maintained and are in a dilapidated state.
- Naibor stalls are not functional since they were built far away from the shopping centre. Hon. Speaker, if we want to do stalls, let the County Government officials and the Members look for a centre area to build kiosks. The people can then be reallocated so that we can have a good area for traders. The observation tells you where the stalls are being built is far from where the businesses are.
- Karandi traders close early since they lack a flood light nearby.
- The stalls at Karandi lack a toilet and clean water. The traders use the county government's toilet which is a distance away and they pay ksh.10 per visit. Hon. Speaker, if I was a business person in that area, those kiosks are used as stalls. They are saying that the toilets that they are using is far from that area. They use ten shilling per visit. If one is sick and visit that toilet ten times, you are paying Kshs.100 per day. That is Kshs. 3,000 for visiting a toilet in one month. That money is enough for taking your child to school. Let us be serious and look into this issue which is painful.
- The stalls at Karandi were constructed on a sloppy place and the front part requires murraming and levelling. Few people access the stalls since it is across a main road.
- The committee noted that several traders at Karandi use the stalls for storage but take their wares to an open ground near the matatu stage to sell. During the rainy season, it becomes a challenge.
- The committee noted that the road/path that leads to the stalls at Kinamba Town is inaccessible during the rainy season. It requires some murraming.
- The floodlight near the Kinamba stalls is currently not working. This makes the place insecure in the evening. Most traders are women and we are exposing them to danger. They are complaining that this makes the place insecure in the evening. In the evening there are people looking for heat from others.

Recommendations

- That the County Government to construct markets at Karandi, Naibor and Kinamba for the traders who sell food items and a livestock shed. The market will shield the traders from the scorching sun and the rains.
- That the County Government needs to paint and repair the county stalls in the various towns.
- The County Government needs to install a flood light just outside the Karandi stalls. This will help them sell even late in the evening.
- That the County Government to relocate the stalls at Naibor centre to enhance more economic activities and in return the government will also obtain revenue.

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- That the County Government to consider repairing the floodlight at Kinamba stalls and murram the road that is in front of the stalls.
- That the County Government to ensure that the stalls have clean water and a functional and accessible toilet.
- That the House adopts the Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives committee`s report.

Acknowledgement

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Trade Committee, I wish to extend my gratitude to Members of this House for the support they have accorded the committee. I wish to acknowledge the Members of the committee for their zeal and commitment as we embarked on this work. Mr. Speaker, I also want to the thank your office and that of the Clerk for the support that you have always accorded us. Lastly Sir, on behalf of the Trade Committee allow me to table this report and recommend it to the House for adoption.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker because of the support that you have given us while we were preparing this report. May God bless you? I want to take this opportunity to call upon Hon. Kanyutu who is also a member of this committee to second because we also visited Karandi which is in his ward.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to second this report by the Trade Committee which I am a member. Whatever has been proposed by the committee is what is on the ground. I would wish that in future whenever we have an idea of putting up stalls, it is good that proper public participation is done because it seems that some of the stalls that were done previously, they were done without the people's consent.

It seems that it was implemented as if they were pushed just like the way a cow is pushed to take medicine. Were it not for Kinamba, almost all stalls in other areas have already stalled. They are not being utilized and even the manner in which some are utilized, I witnessed because I was among the committee members who visited those areas. Some of those stalls have got some use apparatus that are used by human beings while enjoying. I was shocked because some are not even closed and are used at night. Some are hardly used but other people use them in uncouth ways.

Therefore, in future I would wish that as a county while preparing to prepare stalls for our people, let us have public participation where people can earmark the areas that are fit for them to utilize. In some areas, for example in my area of Karandi, the stalls are in a sloppy area whereby even if somebody were to start a business there, customers can rarely be able to access.

Furthermore, they are on the side of the forest. In future because we are planning on how to enclose the fence with an electric fence due to wild animals, they might be enclosed inside the forest. So Mr. Speaker, I second this report and I am sure that almost all Members who have these stalls in their areas, they know the challenges that we encounter due to the stalled stalls which are never utilized.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Members, I open the floor for debate. Thank you, Hon. Members. Reading the mood, I think I will now take the position to invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Nachukua hii nafasi kwanza kuwashukuru Wajumbe kwa vile wameweza kusema hii ripoti na kuifahamu na pia kutambua yale ambayo kamati imefanya ya ukweli mtupu. Sisi tulisema ya kwamba ni lazima tuseme

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ukweli. Unajua Mswahili husema ya kwamba; *"mficha uchi hazai."* Sisi hapa tumetoa uchi wote ili kuanika vile Kaunti yetu ilivyo ili kama kuna matibabu, tuweze kutibiwa.

Ukienda kama hiyo soko ya Naibor ambayo umesikia, ni mbaya sana. Unakuta ya kwamba vioski zilijengwa bila mipango. Kama kuna mpango ambao serikali inataka kufanya, ni lazima wananchi kuwe na roho ya *public participation* ndio tuweze kusikizana baina ya wananchi na viongozi. Kwa hayo machache, nataka kuunga mkono na kusema ya kwamba hizi vioski wakati mwingine hutumiwa kwa njia mbaya.

Wakati mwingine, tulitembea Kimanju katika Mukogodo Magharibi na yale tulikuta hapo kwa mlango, unaweza kuwaza kwa sababu ni kama watu wazima hapo wamepata chumba cha kulala. Yale mambo tulipata pale ni mlima ya vitu ambapo biashara ilikuwa inafanyiwa usiku na kwa kweli unaona ya kwamba biashara inafanyika kabisa kwa sababu shamba inalimwa.

Ukienda katika sehemu zingine pia utashangaa. Kwa hivyo, ni vizuri kama tunajenga vitu za biashara ziwe za biashara na kama ni za kufanyika chumba za kulala, basi tujenge za kulala kwa sababu hata ukienda pale unashangaa vile mtu anaridhika kukaa mahali pale kwa sababu hauwezi kwenda kupanda mlima bila kukanyanga vizuri. Wakati mwingine tunashtuka. Ni lazima tuangalie haya mambo na tuyashughulikie kwa haraka. Asante Bwana Spika, kwa kunipatia hii nafasi.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, 8th May, 2014 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.08 p.m.

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