

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



BOMET COUNTY ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

DAILY HANSARD

Wednesday 2nd March, 2022

PLENARY

BOMET COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

Wednesday 2nd March, 2022

The Assembly met at the Main Assembly Chamber,

Dr. Joyce Laboso Centre at 2:30 p.m

[Hon. Speaker (Hon. Nelson Mutai) in the Chair]

PRAYER

PAPERS

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Hon. Davis.

Hon. Majority Whip (Hon. D. Kipkirui): Mr. Speaker I beg to Lay the following Paper on the table of the County Assembly today Wednesday 2nd March 2022, The Bomet County Spatial Plan 2022-2031. I beg to Lay.

Paper laid

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): I commit the Bomet County Spatial Plan 2022-2031 to the Committee on Lands, Housing and Urban Planning. Hon. Maritim.

Hon. D. Maritim: Thank you hon. Speaker I heard that you committed to the committee on Lands, Housing and Urban Planning yet you did not mention the time frame

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): The committee should act as provided by the law. They know the timeframe. Hon. Davis.

Hon. D. Kipkirui: Hon. Speaker I want to conquer with hon. Maritim. Being a member of the committee I'm aware that it is needed urgently.

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Hon. Rono.

Hon. R. Rono: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I want to raise an issue concerning what has been tabled. The Spatial Plan concerns all of us hence I request the committee to include us to see the document and have a retreat.

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): We discussed that with members and since it affects all of us, we should have a retreat and look at the document. You are aware that this is a document that is required urgently and you need to have a public participation on it. Hon. Serbai.

Hon. R. Serbai: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of the House as per the provisions of Standing Orders that when discussing matters of County importance, we are within the provision of the Standing Order that we discuss several issues affecting this county including the desertion of duty by various officers of this County. When you make a phone call trying to ask for any information that are asked by the members of the public it is so rare to find these particulars. Mr. Speaker the implementation of the approvals that were approved by this House is a problem. I am from the Executive and nobody is in the office. Are these staff in offices or they have gone home for good? Hon. Speaker allow me to request Hon. Alfred to second me on the issue of County importance.

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Hon. Alfred?

Hon. A. Langat: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I second the sentiments by Hon. Serbai. As we head to the end of our term, it is evident that most of the employees and the staffs behave like they are

ending their term. It is awkward for a government to pay salaries and wages to employees who are absent at work. Members are not getting service. It is important for the House to take measures appropriately. All civil servants should comply with the regulations.

If you visit the department of water now, we hear there is no water in our town and that is not good. We have not received proper communication but we are struggling to look for information. We have gone to their offices but they are not there. This is loophole for them to steal public resources. It is our duty as Hon. members to salvage the situation. It is high time that we stamp authority. We should tell them that even though we are ending our term, they are supposed to be in offices, serve the public, attend to issues. If you check the statements being sought by fellow members, the kind of responses they are giving us seem like they do not have time. That is why you realize you ask the chairperson for the committee on Water, Environment and Natural Resources to give us why the projects have not started, he is given very little pieces of information. This means that some departments are lacking seriousness and are taking advantage of electioneering time because of commitment of some of us politicians. We do not have a vacuum. It is only that we are now campaigning. I am supposed to be in my village doing a lot of campaign but because I have a duty and also bound by regulations, I have to budget my time so that I ensure I am here and at the same time with my people. So, I second the sentiments of Hon. Serbai that we discuss this matter deeply and be able to institute measures to curb the situation. I second. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Hon. Davis.

Hon. Majority Whip (Hon. D. Kipkirui): Thank you Mr. speaker, I rise to support this very important business before us. We are trying by all means to fight corruption in Kenya. Stealing people's time is also corruption because the same officers are not in their offices and yet they are using public resources. Water department is the worst followed by finance. I want to urge this county government and County Assembly that we do whatever is possible within the law to discipline the said officers. I come from Longisa Ward where the county referral hospital is situated. If you go there right now, you will just find interns serving our big clients because we do not find doctors, nurses, clinical officers simply because may the Human Resource officers, Chief

Officer and CEC under same department are not in their offices. I am almost losing my votes because there are no sufficient services in Longisa referral hospital. My prayer to this House is that if there is anything possible we can do in the same department, then let us do it now. Otherwise I support, thank you.

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Hon. Marcella.

Hon. M. Chepkirui: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the matter of County importance. Much has been said and I want to add that the law is very clear when it comes to duties of our staffs. We do not have to sit here while our citizens are crying out there because of poor service delivery. Thank you. I support.

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Any comment Hon. Serbai?

Hon. R. Serbai: Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the members for their contributions. The hon member from Longisa has also mentioned Longisa hospital whereby the senior officers are never in their offices yet always ready to check their accounts during the end month, at the expense of poor citizens who need their services. This town has no water yet we have BOMWASCO that is supposed to deliver water to our people. If you can check from the budget, we have been giving them money but they are doing nothing. Also the CO water has never been in office and not responding to calls. It is very painful to our people when we are seated here and keep asking us if we are aware of the same. So we need to bring to their attention that the number of people or senior officers who are not in their offices including CO of Culture and Social services. We have been allocating money but nothing out of it. It is through your chair that we are requesting the House to write a letter as County Assembly to each department to give us reports within 7 days on the remedy so that our people can get medicine, good roads among other services. Every committee of this House has enormous powers that it can use. We are still MCAs until 8th August 2022. So no one should think that we are about to go. We can also invite the EACC. Hon. Davis mentioned that when you absent yourself from work and you are being paid, then that is corruption. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Thank you. I want to make a ruling. This matter is of County Importance and due to the fact that the County Assembly exercises oversight role, I direct that the committee Labour and Public Service summons acting County Secretary to appear before the committee on 8th of March 2022 to shade light on allegations of absenteeism from office by officers under his leadership.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker (Hon. N. Mutai): Hon. Members, let us rise up. This House now stands adjourned to Tuesday, 8th March 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

The House rose at 3:10 p.m.