

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 18th June, 2019

The House met at 10.31 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. (Mrs.) Mwangangi) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker: Good Morning Hon. Members. It is going to be a little different Hon. Members, because we are going to adjourn the sitting anyway, so we are not going to go through the Order Paper; I will just do the communication that is number two on the Order Paper. Yes we will do it that way Dominic, do not worry.

WELCOME FROM SHORT RECESS

Hon. Members, I welcome you back to today's sitting from the recess that you undertook on the 15th of May, 2019 as per the Assembly the Calendar. The recess was meant to ensure that Hon. Members consult with the electorates as well as interrogation of Budget Estimates for 2019/2020 through the Committees and public participation.

Hon. Members, it is my belief that those objectives were met and that you are ready for this part of the session in which the House will consider and approve the Machakos County Budget Estimates for 2019/ 2020 and the Machakos County Appropriation Bill, 2019.

THREE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2018

Hon. Members on the second communication I have is on a report by the Auditor General. The Assembly received the following reports from the office of the Auditor General on 21st May, 2019 in accordance with Article 229(7) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010:

- a. The Financial Statements of the County Assembly of Machakos Housing Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2018;
- b. The Financial Statements of Machakos County Assembly Staff Car Loan and Housing Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2018;
- c. The Financial Statements of Machakos County Assembly Car Loan Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2018.

Hon. Members the reports are hereby committed to the Public Accounts and Investments Committee. The Committee is required to interrogate them and file reports of its findings in the House within three months as per the provisions of Article 229(8) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

PROJECTS FOR WARDS 2019/2020

The third communication Hon. Members is on the Members' project for the wards. Hon. Members the Budget Committee, you know, is in the process of finalizing the process of the budget for the Budget Estimates for the year 2019/2020 and the committee is requesting each elected Hon. Member in this House to submit programmes totaling Ksh. 20 million for his or her ward showing clearly the Departments in the executive which is to undertake the programmes to be done by close of Thursday, 20th June, 2019 to enable the committee factor that in the Budget.

CASA GAMES 2019

Hon. Members, I have a fourth communication on CASA games 2019. The theme for this year's County Assembly Sports Association (CASA) Games is "Sports and Culture as a Means to National Cohesion." The games will be held in the month of August, 2019; the date is to be firmed but the venue is to be in Uasin Gishu County, Eldoret on a date to be communicated later.

To ensure that Members and Teams fully participate and win medals for this Assembly, the County Assembly Service Board (CASB) has approved practice sessions for the games to be undertaken every Monday and Tuesday from 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Number two, Hon. Members, the Members of this House and the Staff are requested to register for disciplines in which they want to participate; remember the more disciplines we undertake, the more we stand to win medals and I can see Hon. Kiilu nodding with appreciation because that is turf and so Members, the Office of the Clerk is going to provide information for the team captains or the contact officer through Members' pigeonholes to enable Members register.

Further, Hon. Members, as is a tradition, we are going to constitute a seven-Member *ad hoc* Committee to oversee the preparations of the games. In this regard, the Majority Party and the Minority Party represented in this House are requested to forward names of the Hon. Members to serve in that *ad hoc* Committee taking regard to the respective numbers of representation in the House to forward the names to the Office of the Clerk of the County Assembly by 24th June, 2019 for approval by the House pursuant to Standing Order 155(3).

I can see there is the sharing of the committee on the communication; the Majority Party will have four Members and the Minority Party three Members and that is in respect of the representation in numbers that I mentioned earlier. That committee, Members, is going to come up with different disciplines that we are going to participate in and generally co-ordinate on the sports including acquisition of the necessary equipment and uniform for purposes of enabling Members and staff to participate. They will definitely work closely with CASB in that regard.

INTERROGATION OF BUDGET ESTIMATES 2019/2020 AND BUDGET REPORT-WRITING PROCESS

Hon. Members, I have a fifth communication on the interrogation of the budget estimates by sectoral committees and the Budget report-writing process. Hon. Members, you recall that on

7th May, 2019, the Budget Estimates received by the Assembly on 30th April, 2019 from the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Finance and Economic Planning were tabled before this House and committed to the Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Sectoral Committees.

Hon. Members, Standing Order 206(3) which was read to you during the time of committing the Estimates to those committees provides that upon being laid before the Assembly, the Budget Estimates shall be deemed to have been committed to the respective Sectoral Committees without question being put. Hon. Members such committee if you remember is to deliberate upon the estimates according to their respective mandates.

Hon. Members, Standing Order 206(4) provides that each Sectoral Committee is to consider, discuss and review the Estimates according to its mandate and submit its report and recommendations to the Budget and Appropriations Committee within twenty one days, after being laid before the Assembly. That is a process, Hon. Members, that committees have been undertaking.

You recall further, Hon. Members, that those Budget Estimates underwent a public participation process undertaken by the Assembly in the period between 11th to 14th June, 2019. After the public participation Hon. Members, it is mandatory that the Estimates be reviewed in the light of the contributions of the public by Sectoral Committees together with the County Executive Committee Member for finance and economic planning and you recall that, Hon. Members, this is a process that has been ongoing, particularly in the Assembly Boardrooms.

In addition, Hon. Members, the Budget and the Liaison Committees are at the moment scheduled to undertake an instructive training on budget processing sponsored by the AHADI on 19th and 20th June, 2019 for purposes of the effective finalization of the budgeting process. Hon. Members, after that the Budget Committee will continue with the budget process from 21st June, 2019 in which case it will receive the reports from the Sectoral Committees as well as the feedback on the public participation which you Members undertook in each ward and that will also include consideration of the views of the County Executive Committee (CEC) Member for Finance and Economic Planning.

Hon. Members, you are very well aware that the Budget making process is very critical; it is all about the County and the importance of that process cannot be overemphasized and also you know you have a deadline to finalize the process by 30th June, 2019 and you will approve the Budget by that date and you are also required to pass the Appropriation Bill, 2019 into an Act for purposes of appropriating the Budget after you approve it and so the process needs to be fast-tracked.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: There is no much time and it is for that reason and for the need to give that process importance for finalization that under Standing Order 1, the House will stand adjourned as far as its sittings are concerned and it will resume on 25th June, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. The purpose is to enable you Members, to continue participating fully in the remaining part of the budget-making process so that we can have a well-done and effective budget for the County. It is so directed, Hon. Members, and have a good day.

The House rose at 10.45 a.m.

