# COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

# COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

# THE HANSARD

*Official Report*

**THIRD ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION**

**Thursday, 04th July, 2024**

**House met in the Main Chamber at 02:30 p.m.**

**(The Speaker (Hon. Elisha Jack Oraro) in the Chair)**

## PRAYERS

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Clerk, kindly take us through the Order of the day.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Next order!!

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, I have got two communications to make. This is a reminder of our Open Day scheduled to take place tomorrow, which is going to be an Inaugural Open Day. It is going to be the first of its kind among all the County Assemblies since 2013. We have made arrangements for that and we will have booths for all House Committees to enable each House Committee showcase to the public what they have achieved. Again, I had communicated earlier in the morning, the General Oversight Committee, please ensure you come on time, by 08:30 a.m. I have talked to the Governor of Kisumu County, who will be our Chief Guest. The Governor has confirmed that exactly 09:00 a.m. he will want to give his opening speech so that he goes for another function. So please let us ensure that we are here by, if possible by 08:30 a.m. so that by 09:00 a.m. we can allow the Governor to give his opening remarks, so that he can proceed to other functions as we continue with our Opening Day engagements. I am also being reminded again that our dressing code will be the corporate shirts.

Secondly, yesterday I made a communication that I will give guidance in terms of those Motions that were returned to the various House Committees and one of them being the Implementation Committee Report. There is another one on Finance on the issue of collection of Cess Revenue. I want to encourage these House Committees to take advantage of the short recess if approved. That you work on those reports and you bring them back for discussion in the first week of opening after the short recess. So all other House Committees that still have pending works that requires time to work, please, you need to communicate formally. But I am very specific on what I said yesterday. The Select Committee on Implementation, you heard the discussions and concerns of Members, so ensure that you do your work appropriately and report back in the first week of opening after recess. Otherwise, welcome to this session.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Next order!!

## MOTION

ADJOURNMENT OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY PROCEEDING FOR ITS LONG RECESS THIS IS PURSUANT TO GAZETTE NOTICE NO. 5804, ORDER NO. 26(3) OF THE KISUMU COUNTY ASSEMBLY STANDING ORDERS READ TOGETHER WITH THE HOUSE RESOLUTIONS OF THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY, 2024 UNTIL TUESDAY 06TH AUGUST, 2024 AT 2:30 P.M.

BY

HON. KEN OOKO, MCA, AHERO

(LEADER OF MAJORITY)

*(Motion is presented by Hon. Carren Ajwang on behalf of the Leader of Majority)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I have communication that the Hon. Caren on behalf of the House Business Committee and the Leader of Majority will be presenting the Motion. So, please Hon. Carren the floor is yours.

**Hon. Ajwang** (MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Thank you Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the Majority Leader Hon. Kennedy Ooko, I want to move a Motion on the Adjournment of the County Assembly until Tuesday, 06th August, 2024 at 02:30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker Sir and Honourable Members, that during the sitting of the County Assembly on 22nd February, 2024 this House approved the County Assembly Annual Calendar for the year 2024 that is regular sessions outlining that the Long Recess was scheduled to commence on Friday, 05th July, 2024 and conclude on Monday, 05th August, 2024.

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDING the importance of orderly legislative proceedings of Orders No. 26 (3) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders specifies that;

*On a day when the County Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the next normal seating day, in accordance with the County Assembly calendar, a motion shall be moved by the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party or another Member of the County Assembly Business Committee, this motion shall be shall be debated for not more than three hours after which the County Assembly shall be adjourn without question put.*

RECOGNIZING that, the demanding nature of the legislative duties and needs for the Honourable Members to adequately address the constituencies concerns an engage in communal activities and this becomes imperative as this offer the Honourable Members the opportunity for an in-depth consistency work and the overall rejuvenation.

NOW THEREFORE, this Assembly recognizing the importance of this recess in fostering effective representation and its legislative performance, this House prays that, this County Assembly do now adjourn its sittings for the Long Recess this is pursuant to Gazette Notice No.5804 and Orders No. 26 (3) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders read together with the House Resolutions of Thursday, 22nd February, 2024 until Tuesday, 06th August, 2024 at 02:30 p.m. Mr. Speaker, I therefore call upon Hon. Jennifer Obonyo, the Deputy Whip, to second. Thank you.

**Deputy Whip** (Hon. Obonyo, MCA, South West Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I second the adjournment of the House for the recess. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, now that the Motion for Adjournment of County Assembly sitting for recess pursuant to Gazette Notice No. 5804 Order No.26 (3) of the Standing Orders, read together with the House Resolutions of Thursday 22nd February, 2024 until Tuesday 06th August, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. has been moved, seconded. I want to propose that the motion is open for debate.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Were.

**Hon. Were** (MCA, Nyalenda "B"): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also rise to support the Adjournment Motion. There is need for Members to go refresh their minds. Again, there is also need, for us to take a break so that we can go and interact with our constituents. Mr. Speaker, breaking for a month is quite okay for us, so that we can discharge our mandate and duties of representing our people. We can interact with our people and see the various needs that need to be addressed. So, Mr. Speaker, it is quite in order for us to adjourn. I therefore beg to support. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I have to give Hon. Bill. You know Hon. Bill is an independent Member. So, I have to consider that priority Hon. Tom Nyaoke.

**Hon. Bill** (MCA, Kobura): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Thank you for recognizing my seniority. Mr. Speaker, this is a good opportunity for us as Members, both elected and nominated, to at least go back and interact with Members of Kisumu County, where ever we will be.

Mr. Speaker, a lot has been happening. You have seen what message the Gen-Zs have been sending and this will be a good opportunity for us to at least get direction from our electorates and know what our electorates want and when we come back, I believe we are going to help push the agenda that the electorates are sending to the Government and also to the County government. I support.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Tom Nyaoke, before you proceed. Hon. Bill, you know I considered minority under parties. So, Hon. Bill comes from the Minority Party, which is Independent. This is the reason as to why I gave you that opportunity.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Nyaoke.

**Hon. Nyaoke** (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving that clarification. I believe that the Member misconceived the point while it was on minority issue. I equally stand here to support the Adjournment Motion that has been brought before us this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, it has come at a time that we all know that we just passed the Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2024/2025 just the other day. Mr. Speaker, it is also the opportune time that we can seat down with our electorates to go through it, one by one. See what we have put for them; see what might be missing so that we start planning ahead.

Mr. Speaker, it is also another time, that besides just being engaged here in this House, we can also get opportunity to now engage with the electorates on a day to day basis while we are at our respective Wards. I believe that all of us will support this Motion on Adjournment because that is the right thing to do. Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to support.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Ken Ouko.

**Hon. Ouko** (MCA, West Kisumu): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to support the Motion of Adjournment of the County Assembly until Tuesday, 06th August, 2024. It is advisable that we go back to our constituents and meet the electorates. It is coming at the end of the Financial Year and we know and understand very clearly the circumstances which we are going through as a County and as a Country. Mr. Speaker, at times it is quite disheartening, now that we are going for the recess. And you heard what the Salaries and Remunerations Commission gave us. Mr. Speaker, I believe that you understand at the same time, that we earn very small amount of money, as compared to what a legislator should be earning.

Mr. Speaker, we are just a victim of circumstance at the time we are going home. Because, we are the people at the grassroots and Mr. Speaker, you understand that there also the Members of

Parliament are up there. And they have the opportunity to probably stay in Nairobi for even one month, but the MCAs will always be with the electorates. Mr. Speaker, we do not blame ourselves and we do not blame you. We do not blame anybody, but let us just accept that we are victims of uncontrolled circumstances. Like the one we are going through.

Mr. Speaker, you can understand the kind of situation but you are also the same victim. So, we just have to go to our people. Thank you very much Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Kelvin Oraro.

**Hon. Oraro** (MCA, Kolwa Central): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also rise to support this Motion of Adjournment of this House having done a lot. From the electorates, we were following up what was happening in the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I believe that I want to borrow leaf from Hon. Ken Ouko of what the Member has just pronounced. How I wish that Members of Parliament would have taken time before rushing to please the public about the increment in salary. MPs know very well that where they seat, as they speak to the Parliament, if they were sincere enough, they could have told the public that they do not want the National Government Constituency Development Fund (NGCDF).

Mr. Speaker, this is because of the Public Relations purposes, they have really spoilt what was due and relevant for Members of County Assembly. We do a lot of work and now we are the people on the ground that are going to listen to the voters and hear their concerns. The bad roads, the shortage of water and anything surrounding the public will always start with the MCA. It is high time, with the Gen-Zs demonstration that we also go and reflect and see that we come back energized and ready to work for this great County of Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker, as we break for the recess, I want to take this opportunity equally applaud you for the good proposal and plan to have the Assembly Open Day. Mr. Speaker, we need to do a lot of Civic Education to the public. Some have never known that MCAs are so limited in power, in terms of resources and they cannot act directly. Again, it is my belief that with the with the Kisumu County Assembly Inaugural Open Day that is scheduled to take place in the precincts of the Assembly and further activities that will be happening outside, members of the public will come to understand our roles. So, after the Open Day, we are going to interact with the electorates, those who are going to come and we are going to share the experience of the Assembly and majority of them will actually understand us. So for the Motion of Adjournment, it is the right time to adjourn and reflect and comprehend about Kisumu County, think about our Wards and the villages where we come from. I support the Motion.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Zack Okoyo.

**Hon. Okoyo** (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the Motion of Adjournment and I believe that it is timely. I also want to contribute on the adjournment.

Mr. Speaker, it is the right time for the Members of the County Assembly of Kisumu, to go back and mingle with the voters or the general public of Kisumu County. This is because, as we all know, we have been coming to this Assembly the time when our juniors who call themselves Gen-Zs, are on the streets fighting for their space and fighting for their democratic rights. Mr. Speaker, I believe that if we will be out there, they will understand that we are out and also to join them or to support them spiritually on what they have been doing. Mr. Speaker, these Gen Zs have done what we have not managed to do for quite a period of time. So, it is my belief that the Motion of Adjournment will give Members of the House ample time to also give them the moral support.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to borrow a leaf from my colleagues who have mentioned the issues of SRC. I want to put it in a different way. I would ask Members of this House to see a way of diffusing this narrative of SRC where they want to add or give us additional salary. To my personal opinion, Mr. Speaker and I want this to go to the record that at the moment, Mr. Speaker, I do not need any salary increment, citing the economic hardship which we are in and I want to put this very clear, that the SRC has given us a bad image as if us MCAs that we are just out to get money when the public is in dire need of economic reforms…

**Hon. Nyaoke** (MCA, North Nyakach): Point of Order Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Nyaoke, which Point of Order are you referring to?

**Hon. Nyaoke** (MCA, North Nyakach): Mr. Speaker, I am citing the provisions of Orders No. 89 on Statement of Facts Mr. Speaker. The speaker who has been on the floor is insinuating about some salary increment which is not even there Mr. Speaker. Is the Member in order to mislead the House that SRC has given some increment to salaries, while it has not?

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Okoyo.

**Hon. Okoyo** (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am just wondering where my Hon. Colleague lives, because this is in public domain. It is in public domain that the SRC proposed some increment which has been withdraws. So, Mr. Speaker, I am doing this…

*(Murmurs*)

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Order!! Honourable Members.

*(Hon. Ngeta rises on a Point of Order)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Order!!

**Hon. Ngeta** (MCA, Awasi Onjiko): Mr. Speaker I have a point of information that I want to inform the House.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): What is your Point of Order Hon. Ngeta?

**Hon. Ngeta** (MCA, Awasi Onjiko): Mr. Speaker, we need to concentrate on the Motion before us. We do not need to be populist in this House. We do not need to talk on something which is neither here nor there.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro):Hon. Maurice Ngeta, are you debating or you are on a point of order?

**Hon. Ngeta** (MCA, Awasi Onjiko): No, I am informing the Member who has just spoken. He is just being a populist Mr. Speaker. We do not need populist in this House Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Thank you so much. Hon. Maurice Ngeta I am here as the Chairperson of the Debate. As the Speaker, if any Member deviates from the debate, I will guide as them as appropriate. So, Hon. Zack Okoyo please proceed.

**Hon. Okoyo** (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Thank you for protecting me. Mr. Speaker, as I wind up on my contribution on this Motion on Adjournment, I believe that…

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Okoyo** (MCA, Central Kisumu): Mr. Speaker, it is good that I have made the House lively and I want to say I support this Motion on Adjournment of this House to the date specified in the motion.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Samuel Dede, then Hon. Mildred then Hon. Obaso

**Hon. Dede** (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you Mr. Speaker for also according me the opportunity to air views concerning the Motion on the Floor. Indeed it is good that we adjourn for the long recess. But, Mr. Speaker, my colleague who has just spoken, informed me yesterday that the does not know how he will step back at home, this is because the Member has been away from his people for a long time. He is in this House but the Member does not know how he will go back to talk to his people.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we have been in this House for the past two or three months and it is good we proceed for the recess. But, being that we have got the three roles to play, we legislate, we represent and we deal with the oversight. I believe that we have been in the House, for the said period we have done the Legislative part of it, we have represented our people in this House well. Now is the right time to go and do the oversight for the activities which are on the ground. I know that we have been living here, coming in the Assembly very early in the morning as early as 09:00 a.m. and leaving as late past 04:00 p.m. or 05:00 p.m. So, we do not have enough time to go and at least look at the projects which we have been doing over the Wards.

Mr. Speaker, it is prudent if we adjourn today, so that we go do the oversight of projects we allocated funds to for our people in the Wards, in all corners of the Wards, being that, that is now

our third role we have to play. So Mr. Speaker, I support the Adjournment of the Motion. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): I had given Hon. Mildred.

**Hon. Ajumbo** (MCA, Central Seme): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to support the Adjournment Motion. Every person gets tired and we are not adjourning because we are tired. We are adjourning because it is in the calendar. I want to support Members, their contribution and I want to just inform Honourable Members that we are going to deal with an informed electorates. This is going by the events happening in the last few days in this Country.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard some Members saying that we are going back to the electorates. I believe that this is not right. We are not going back to the electorates; the electorate expects you to be with them. That is why the mileage allowance is coming from a particular place. Yes or no? So, by saying that now we will go back to the electorates, we have been busy coming here. This is our work, Mr. Speaker. We come very early in the morning to do the work; we go back in the evening. Similarly, I just want us to take this time to reflect. This is because whatever has happened in the Country; remember the Gen-Zs are saying that we are come for you. Remember MPs are in hiding, the MCAs are not hiding. There is nothing to hide, because our salaries are in public domain and many other things. So this idea of saying yes we see them daily, the electorates. I can see some of the Honourable Member on their feed. Mr. Speaker please protect me. Hon. Henrietta and Hon. Mickey, I am talking and they are making faces.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Member, you are protected. Hon. Henrietta, Hon. Mickey, please allow Hon. Mildred to contribute.

**Hon. Ajumbo** (MCA, Central Seme): Thank you. Mr. Speaker all of us have a chance to talk. I want to say that I am going to miss all of you, now that I have heard that all of you are going back to your Wards. It means we will not see each other for the next one month. So I wish you well. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Obaso.

**Hon. Obaso** (Nominated MCA): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I stand here to support the Motion on Adjournment of this House. First, Mr., Speaker, I believe that this is another opportunity to reflect on what we have been doing over time. Again, it is another opportunity to go and reenergize and come back when we are full of the energy of the tasks ahead.

Mr. Speaker, this is another opportunity to go back home, to spend time with our families and not only with the electorates but with our families. I know we all have families here. And this is another opportunity to get time with them because most of our time we do spend here and in doing other things. So this is another opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, lastly, on the issue of increment of our salaries, I believe that this was another opportunity by the Government to divert the attention from the Gen-Zs so that they could focus on this other thing. So this is another opportunity we should take and go and explain to our electorates on these issues. Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to support.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Eunice Alandoh.

**Hon. Alandoh** (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also want to rise to join my fellow Members in supporting the Motion on Adjournment for Recess. Mr. Speaker, it is in order, because we have been here for the last, I believe four to five months while debating in this House. As we are all aware that, some of us are really come from far and we stay away from the electorates. Now, if we adjourned, I believe some of us, who even their relatives passed on, and they never attended funerals because they were busy in this House. So, this is the time they can go and engage with their electorates and also attend the funerals that happened when they were not there.. I know the electorates are out there waiting for us especially the Gen-Zs.

*(Laughter and murmurs)*

**Hon. Alandoh** (Nominated Member): Zs the word is Zs and the way you pronounce it matters. They are out there waiting for the elected leaders. Already…just a minute, give me time. I am on the Floor contributing you will have your time. Mr. Speaker, please protect me. They are there waiting for the elected leaders and nominated. That is the situation. Remember the MPs started their recess and they are not back home. It is you people who are going to be seen at home and you will be with them. So just prepare. If your pockets are dry like the way mine is dry, *(laughs)*, I believe God will give us wisdom to mingle with them. Otherwise, thank you.

*(Silence)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I am assuming that no Member wants to contribute again so the mover can reply.

**Hon. Ajwang** (MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Honourable Members…

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Caren before you proceed, what is it Hon. Mickey? You want to contribute?

**Hon. Awuor** (Nominated MCA): Yes Hon. Speaker and thank you so much. Kindly protect me from Hon. Mildred, she is making faces. I just wanted to say that it is a good opportunity to go back home and have a rest. However, this was not my time to speak; Hon. Alice looked like she wanted to say something. So I was just encouraging her to speak up Mr. Speaker. But since I am on my feet, I do not know why we are so worried about the Gen-Zs. We even have one here, Hon. Speaker and I do not see any problem. So, let us go back home and I think it is very

important for us also to take the opportunity to be able to mingle like Hon. Eunice has said and to maybe explain something which they do not know.

Mr. Speaker, I know the issue of salary increment is a thorn on every ones flesh right now especially the people who feel that we do not deserve the increase. But I also believe that it is because, most people do not really know how much we earn, so they may speculate and just say things that are not correct. So, maybe we will be able to have time to talk about those kinds of issues with them. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Alice.

**Hon. Wajewa** (Nominated MCA): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to call the mover to reply. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Caren.

**Hon. Ajwang** (MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I want to thank all the Members who have stood up to speak in support of this Motion. Hon. Speaker, it is good to take a break so that these Honourable Members can have quality time with their families and their electorates as well. Mr. Speaker, I want to urge the Honourable Members to take care of themselves, because the Gen-Zs are aware that you are going for long recess. So, in case they decide to come and say hi, just receive them well. Once again thank you. I reply.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, now that the Motion on Adjournment of the County Assembly seating for Long Recess pursuant to Gazette Notice No.55804 Order No. 26(3) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, read together with the House Resolutions on Thursday 22nd February, 2024, that is until Tuesday 06th August, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. has been presented, debated.

Honourable Members, I also now want to take this opportunity, to add that the one month is actually not long enough. It is not a very long period like what we normally have between December and February. So, I just want to advice the Members to take care of themselves, but request, if there be any call that you appear before the end of recess, please, you will bear with us and please accept to come. What I am trying to say is that, between now and the last day of recess, if there is any call through Special Seating of any House Committee, I request please avail yourself.

Honourable Members, I also want to request that as you go, reflect deeply on what is now happening to the Country. So, that when you come back after the long recess, ending Monday, 05th August, 2024 , please come back rejuvenated and ready to work for the electorates. We are here to serve the citizens of Kisumu County and with the population of over one million, you are only less than 50 Members who got the opportunity to seat in the County Assembly on behalf of over one million people who come from Kisumu County. That is a rare opportunity and should

not be taken for granted. So let us work. Like I said in the morning, we know our roles and our responsibilities, but above all, let us integrate what is called integrity. And as I said in the morning, integrity is what you do when you are not being watched or when you are not being supervised. Let us be good citizens. Otherwise the House Committees that have not completed their works as I directed during Communication, please ensure that you submit them by first week of opening after the recess.

## ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Otherwise, Honourable Members, I want to refer ourselves to the provisions of Orders No. 26(3) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing order and I read,

*That on a day when the County Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the next normal seating day, in accordance with the County Assembly calendar, the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party or another Member of the County Assembly Business Committee, shall move a Motion of Adjournment which shall be debated for not more than three hours, after which the County Assembly shall be adjourn without question put. So we can be up standing. And I declare that the House is adjourned until 06th August, 2024 at 2:30 p.m.*

Honourable Members as you move out, ensure that you remove your vehicles from the compound. There are enough parking spaces out here at the gate so that those that are preparing the tents for tomorrow's activity can have enough space to put up tents. Thank you.

*(House rose at 05.15 p.m.)*

## *Addendum*

### ***Hansard Team***

*Zablon Otiende* - *Senior Hansard Reporter (Acting Editor)*

*Edward Odanga* - *Hansard Reporter*

*Fanuel Okode* - *Hansard Reporter*

*Patrick Okoyo* - *Hansard Reporter*

*Jesca Otieno* - *Hansard Reporter*

*Jacklyne Otieno* - *Hansard Reporter*

*Valery Achieng'* - *Hansard Reporter*

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*Mercy Rapando* - *Attache'*

*Wendy Akinyi* - *Attache'*