

Thursday, 9 March 2017

No. 12 – 2017

FIFTH SESSION, SIXTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THURSDAY, 9 MARCH 2017

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

1. The Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer and Affirmation.
2. **Announcements by the Speaker in terms of Rule 20(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**
 - (i) The Speaker reminded the Members of Parliament that they are all invited to attend and engage in a Budget Review discussion tomorrow Friday, 10 March 2017, in the Chamber of the National Assembly, from 09:00 till noon.
 - (ii) The Speaker congratulated the Minister of Finance for a positive budget presentation which was also welcomed by independent commentators and the rest of the Members in the House.
 - (iii) In order to facilitate the work of the Assembly, the Speaker requested that before the commencement on the budget debate, that the Members should use the remaining days to do justice to the rest of the agenda items that appear on the Order Paper.
3. **The Minister of Finance laid upon the Table:**

Reports of the Auditor-General on the Accounts of the –

 - (i) Village Council of Berseba for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2015; and
 - (ii) Village Council of Leonardville for the Financial Years ended 30 June 2014 and 2015.
4. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Ms. Van den Heever (DTA) to ask the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 40).
- (ii) Ms. Van den Heever (DTA) to ask the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 41).
- (iii) Mr. Auchab (UDF) to ask the Minister of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development (No. 42).

5. Ministerial Statement in terms of Rule 98 of the Standing Rules and Orders:

The Minister of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development made a Ministerial statement regarding the developments at SME Bank Limited.

6. QUESTIONS DEALT WITH:

- (i) Mr. Kavekatora (RDP) asked the Minister of Finance (No. 5) – *Replied to.*
- (ii) Mr. Kavekatora (RDP) asked the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration (No. 6) – *Stands over.*
- (iii) Mr. Mbai (NUDO) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (No. 9) – *Replied to.*
- (iv) Mr. Fleermuys (WRP) asked the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (No. 12) – *Stands over.*
- (v) Ms. Gowases (RP) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (No. 13) – *Replied to.*
- (vi) Ms. Van den Heever (DTA) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 14) – *Replied to.*
- (vii) Ms. Van den Heever (DTA) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 15) – *Replied to.*
- (viii) Ms. Dienda (DTA) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (No. 16) – *Replied to.*
- (ix) Ms. Dienda (DTA) asked the Prime Minister (No. 17) – *Replied to.*
- (x) Ms. Dienda (DTA) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (No. 18) – *Replied to.*
- (xi) Mr. Nekundi (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Mines and Energy (No. 19) – *Replied to.*
- (xii) Mr. Venaani (DTA) asked the Attorney General (No. 20) – *Stands over.*
- (xiii) Mr. Venaani (DTA) asked the Minister of Defence (No. 21) – *Stands over.*
- (xiv) Mr. Venaani (DTA) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (No. 22) – *Stands over.*

(xv) Mr. Jahanika (NUDO) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 23) – *Replied to.*

(xvi) Ms. Van den Heever (DTA) asked the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (No. 24) – *Replied to.*

7. **FIRST ORDER READ:**

Reconsideration – *Public Private Partnership Bill* [B. 24 – 2016].

The Minister of Finance moved, seconded by Ms. Haingura: That the Bill now be reconsidered.

Agreed to.

The Minister of Finance informed the Assembly that the objection to the principle of the Bill is not valid and explained.

Question put: That the principle be re-affirmed.

Agreed to.

Having reconsidered the Bill and re-affirmed its principle, the Speaker reported that the Bill shall now be taken up in Committees.

8. **SECOND ORDER READ:**

Committee Stage – *Nature Conservation Amendment Bill* [B. 22 – 2016] – [Minister of Environment and Tourism].

The Minister of Environment and Tourism moved, seconded by Mr. Nekundi: That the Assembly now goes into Committee.

Agreed to.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE:

Clause 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9 put and agreed to.

Clause 1 and 8(87) as amended, put and agreed to.

Title put and agreed to.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED:

Bill reported with amendment.

The Minister of Environment and Tourism moved, seconded by the Minister of Justice: That the Bill be read a Third Time.

Agreed to.

Nature Conservation Amendment Bill [B. 22 – 2016] read a Third Time.

9. **THIRD ORDER READ:**

Committee Stage – *Access to Biological and Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge Bill* [B. 4 – 2017].

The Minister of Environment and Tourism moved, seconded by Ms. Kafula: That the Assembly now goes into Committee.

Agreed to.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE:

The Minister of Environment and Tourism moved: That the Bill be adjourned to Tuesday, 14 March 2017.

Agreed to.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED:

Progress reported to the Speaker and leave given to sit again.

10. **FOURTH ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *Namibian Time Bill* [B. 28 – 2016].

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 7 March 2017, as moved by the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration (page 10): That the Bill be read a Second Time.

The Deputy Minister of Education, Arts and Culture moved without notice, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, that the Bill be referred to the relevant Standing Committee for further scrutiny and report back.

Agreed to.

11. **FIFTH ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on the impact of Chinese involvement in the Namibian construction industry.

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 7 March 2017, as moved by Mr. Van Wyk (page 22): That the Motion be adopted.

On the motion of the Prime Minister, seconded by the Minister of Works and Transport, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 14 March 2017.

12. **FIRST NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

The Minister of Urban and Rural Development moved, seconded by the Minister of Mines and Energy:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to amend the Regional Councils Act, 1992, so as to provide for certain definition; to provide for eligibility of member of regional council to National Council; to subject the appointment of a person as chief regional officer to the approval of the Minister; to increase certain penalties; and to provide for incidental matters.

Regional Councils Amendment Bill [B. 23 – 2016] read a First Time.

The Minister of Urban and Rural Development moved, subject to Rule 32(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by Mr. Kasuto: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of Ms. Van den Heever, seconded by Mr. Smit, debate adjourned until Wednesday, 15 March 2017.

13. **SECOND NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

The Minister of Urban and Rural Development by the Minister of Defence:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to amend the Local Authorities Act, 1992, so as to substitute and insert certain definitions; to provide further requirements for election as members of local authority councils; to make the period of office of members of local authority councils more clear; to provide for additional sanctions in the case of members of local authority councils who contravene or fail to comply with any provisions of a code of conduct; to extend the circumstances under which a member of a local authority council shall vacate office; to subject payment of remuneration, allowances and other benefits of members of local authority councils to the maximum determined by the Minister; to subject the appointment and discharge of town clerks to the approval of the Minister; to further improve the delegation of powers of local authority councils; to improve on the procedure and conduct of disciplinary inquiry; to add certain functions to local authority councils relating to water works; to increase certain penalties; to improve the provision relating to an interim valuation of rateable properties; to extend the powers of a valuation court with regard to a valuation roll; to improve the procedure relating to the convening of public meetings; to provide for steps the Minister may take relating to the failure by a local authority council to exercise or perform its powers, functions and duties; to extend the powers of the Minister to make regulations; to replace the commencement provision to validate certain legal instruments; and to provide for incidental matters.

Local Authorities Amendment Bill [B. 25 – 2016] read a First Time.

The Minister of Urban and Rural Development moved, subject to Rule 32(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by the Deputy Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of Mr. Van Wyk, seconded by Mr. Jahanika, debate adjourned until Wednesday, 15 March 2017.

14. In terms of Rule 99 of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:47 until Tuesday, 14 March 2017.

F. HARKER

Deputy Secretary of the National Assembly

Compiled by I. Nehoya