COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – SECOND SESSION

Thursday 27th April, 2023

House met in the Main Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu) in the Chair)

PRAYER

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Madam Clerk, please take us through the Order Paper of today.

Next order!!

PAPER LAID

WARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE KISUMU COUNTY WARD DEVELOPMENT FUND AMENDMENT ACT 2016

BY

HON. VITALIS K'OMUDHO, MCA, MUHORONI/KORU WARD

(CHAIRPERSON, WARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Hon. Vitalis K'Omudho.

Hon. K'Omudho (MCA, Muhoroni Koru Ward): Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 182 (6) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, I wish to table today Thursday 27th April, 2023 the report by Ward Development Committee on the status of the Kisumu County Ward Development Fund Amendment Act 2016. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Honourable Members, I confirm the receipt of the report by Ward Development Committee on the status of the Kisumu County Ward Development Fund Amendment Act 2016. I therefore, commit this report to the House Business Committee for the purposes of scheduling it for debate. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Next order!!

NOTICE OF MOTION

WARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE KISUMU COUNTY WARD DEVELOPMENT FUND AMENDMENT ACT 2016

BY

HON. VITALIS K'OMUDHO, MCA, MUHORONI/KORU WARD

(CHAIRPERSON, WARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Hon. Vitalis K'Omudho.

Hon. K'Omudho (MCA, Muhoroni Koru Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders No. 45 (1), I wish to give a Notice of Motion that this House adopts the report by Ward Development Committee on the status of the Kisumu County Ward Development Fund Amendment Act 2016. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Next order!

MOTION

PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF FLOODLIGHTS AND STREETLIGHTS WITHIN KISUMU COUNTY

BY

HON. REUBEN RAKWACH, MCA, EAST KOLWA WARD)

(CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Hon. Reuben Rakwach.

Hon. Rakwach (MCA, Kolwa East Ward): Hon. Speaker and Members, the Standing committee on Public Works, Roads and Transport derives its explicit roles pursuant to Standing Orders No. 193(5) and the 2nd Schedule and is mandated to investigate into all matters relating to County Transport including county roads, street lighting, traffic and parking, public road transport and ferries and harbors, excluding the regulation of international and national shipping and matters related thereto ; county public works, and services including storm water management systems in built-up areas; firefighting services and disaster management

Committee Membership

Hon. Speaker and Members, the committee as currently constituted comprises of the following Honorable Members

Committee Membership as at April, 2023

S/No	Name	Designation
1.	Hon. Reuben Rakwach	Chairperson
2.	Hon. Anne Ochola	Vice-Chairperson
3.	Hon. Ken Ooko	Member
4.	Hon. Lumumba Owade	Member
5.	Hon. Seth Kanga	Member
6.	Hon. Jennipher Obonyo	Member
7.	Hon. James Omollo	Member
8.	Hon. Zackary Okoyo	Member
9.	Hon. Alice Wajewa	Member
10.	Hon. Samuel Dede	Member
11.	Hon. Pamela Awuor	Member
12.	Hon. Ken Ouko	Member
13.	Hon. George Abaja	Member
14.	Hon. Vincent Jagongo	Member
15.	Hon. Bill Oliver	Member

Secretariat

Hon. Speaker and Members, the technical team facilitating the committee in executing its mandate are as follows:

1) Mr. Peter Anditi Principal Clerk Assistant
2) Ms. Belinder Owino Clerk Assistant
3) Mr. Edward Odanga Hansard Reporter
4) Ms. Judith Akoth Sergeant-at-Arms

Acknowledgement

Hon. Speaker and Members, allow me to express my forthright gratitude to the committee members for their profound commitment and invaluable inputs during the entire inquiry process.

Many thanks to the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk`s for the support they accorded to the committee by providing an enabling atmosphere for better carrying out of this exercise.

Finally, I would wish to appreciate the much dedication of the secretariat and thank them for the efforts put forth in ensuring the production of this report. It is now my pleasant duty and privilege on behalf of the committee to present to this August House this report for consideration and adoption.

Background Information

Hon. Speaker and Members, I rise on Standing Order No. 41(2) (b) to respond to statement sought by Hon. Boitone Ratib, MCA, representing Nyalenda A on the status of County Floodlights and Streetlights within Kisumu County. (See annex 1).

The committee held three (3) sittings in processing the foregoing issue. In its 1st sitting held on 3rd November, 2022, the committee resolved to communicate to the CECM in charge of Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works vide letter dated 4th November, 2022 (see annex 2) seeking for comprehensive responses on the attendant matter raised. The 2nd committee sitting delved into examination and scrutiny of the response dated 8th November, 2022 Ref No: CGK/TE&I/CA/2022/03. The committee thereafter resolved to invite the CECM with his relevant technical staff vide letter dated 1st March, 2023 Ref. No. CAK/CGK/CS/VOL.1 (10) to shed more light on the response. During our 3rd meeting, the committee made resolutions based on their findings and observations.

Hon. Speaker and Members, the following were the issues raised in the statement and the department`s correspondences on the said matter:

1. The Chairperson to probe into by giving details of the current status of floodlights and streetlights, the areas affected and what the department is doing to ensure they are functional.
2. The Chairperson to investigate and find out if there is a maintenance team put in place where Members of the Public can channel their grievances in case of defaults.

1ST INQUIRY: The Chairperson to probe into, by giving details of the current status of floodlights and streetlights, the areas affected and what the department is doing to ensure they are functional.

<u>The Department`s Position</u>

Hon. Speaker and Members, the department provided a list highlighting status of the floodlights and streetlights within Kisumu County and the areas affected as tabulated below:

S/No	Location	Sub-County	Comments
1	Rabuor Floodlight	Nyando	Floodlight not functional
	No. Okana Floodlight		
	Migingo Floodlight		
	Panadol Floodlight		
	Othoo Floodlight		
	Awasi Market HMFL and Streetlights		
	Boya		
	Jubilee Jumbo		
2.	Kasawino Center	Kisumu East	Floodlight not functional
	Kingdom Power		
	Dago		
	Magadi Catholic Center		Faulty timer
3	Corner to Kajobita	Kisumu Central	Mwangaza Mtaani
	Western to Okonyowelo		
	Jujoni(carwash Joventure Hotel		Floodlight not functional
	Maseno Sacco		
	Ondiek		
	Arina Primary		
4.	Riat Ramula Floodlight	Nyakach	Floodlight not functional
	St.Aloys Floodlights		
	Nyamoroka Floodlight		

	Sangorota		
	Kolweny		
	Harambee		
	Njogoo		
	Nyakwere		
	Dirubi Floodlight		
	Nyabondo Floodlight		
5.	Obambo Floodlight	Kisumu West	Floodlight not functional
	Maseno Streetlights		
	Uradi Floodlight		
	Ogal Floodlight		
	Dago		
	Bar Andigo		
	Riat Hospital		
	Riat Airport		
	Usoma Dispensary		
	Chuth Ber		
6.	Reru Floodlight	Seme	Floodlight not functional
	Akado Floodlight		
	Lolwe Floodlight		
	Nyaguda Floodlight		
	Magwar		
	Bar Korwa		
	Manywanda		

	Bodi		
	Olute		
7.	Koluoch	Muhoroni	Floodlight not functional
	Koru		
	Kopere		
	Onyalo Biro		
	Menara		
	Songhor		

Mr. Speaker, the following explains reasons as to why the county is currently having faulty floodlights and streetlights. The department states that:

a) The previous maintenance contract expired on 20th February, 2022 and therefore the department could not procure new maintenance services contract due to lack of budgetary provision and time constraint, therefore new contractor could only be engaged in the beginning of July, 2022(new FY 2022-2023).
b) The department through the central procurement advertised for procuring services of maintaining lighting infrastructure on 09/11/2022 but due to contractor apathy arising, only 2 bidders applied which did not meet the threshold of a minimum of 7 contractors.
c) Delayed issuance of AIEs and temporary freeze of procurement of goods and services in the 1st and 2nd Quarter of FY 2022/2023 led the department unable to seek contracted services.
d) Delayed payment for maintenance works done reduced service providers' capability and ability to promptly respond to the reported faulty lights thus made it difficult for the department to continuously engage them.
e) The department lacks capacity (tools & equipment) and limited resources to handle the logistics associated with maintenance works

COMMITTEE`S FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, having discussed the topical areas with the line department regarding the subject matter, the committee made the following observations and findings during the joint meeting:

1. The County Government of Kisumu has a total of 381 lighting infrastructure and most of these streetlights and floodlights are established within the City of Kisumu, major highways and the upcoming satellite towns
2. The entire county is facing problems of faulty lighting system and this has resulted to many areas encountering insecurity, crime, invisibility issues and inefficient market operations at night.
3. That during the FY 2022-2023, the County Government of Kisumu budgeted to install new floodlights within a budget of Kshs 8 Million in the following areas: Riat Market Floodlights in West Seme Ward, Kamagore floodlight in East Seme Ward, Rabuor Floodlight in Kobura Ward and Omuonyo Le Floodlight in Awasi Onjiko Ward.
4. The County undertook to maintain a number of streetlights that were non-functional as at 31st January, 2023 which resulted from a survey being conducted.
5. That the initial routine maintenance budget for lighting infrastructure was Kshs. 18 Million and out of that budgetary allocation, Kshs. 3 Million was utilized to rectify streetlights within the City that are not for KPLC. This was as a result of KICOSCA games that took place in Kisumu County hence the expenditure.
6. An additional Kshs. 3 Million was used on pending bills.
7. City requested for Kshs. 6 Million from the department`s budgetary provision in the supplementary budget FY 2023-2024.
8. The department plans to utilize Kshs. 6 Million remaining and an advert put on a daily newspaper once the supplementary budget of FY 2023-2024 is approved by the County Assembly.
9. The procurement process started again with an open tender circulated and published on the county website in March, 2023 with a view to attract multiple firms to maintain the lighting infrastructure. This was further delayed due to supplementary budget review before the Assembly.
10. The process of awarding tenders was expected to be completed by the beginning of April, 2023 upon approval of the supplementary budget by this House.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the committee further scrutinized both the proposed supplementary budget FY 2022/2023 and the BAC report on consideration of the supplementary budget with a view of establishing the department`s budget on floodlights and streetlights. It observed the following:

a) That the programme of floodlights and streetlights is erroneously placed in the department of Trade, Energy and Industry where as the directorate of energy is now domiciled within the department of Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works.
b) The department proposed Kshs. 8 Million for installation of new floodlights and Kshs. 18 Million for routine maintenance
c) The City of Kisumu has a budgetary provision of Kshs. 16 Million for maintenance/rehabilitating streetlights within its jurisdiction.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT, the City Manager should ensure continuous rehabilitation/maintenance of all the streetlights within Kisumu City.
2. THAT, the CECM submits within a period of 60 days upon adoption of this report quarterly report on the status of floodlights and streetlights as required pursuant to Section 166(3) of the PFM Act, 2012.
3. THAT, the CECM, Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works should ensure a routine maintenance of all the streetlights and floodlights within its jurisdiction
4. THAT, the Department for Finance, Economic Planning and ICT to consider procurement of programmes in good time to avoid last minute rash which always delays delivery of services as well as contributing heavily on pending bills.
5. THAT, the Department of Finance and Economic Planning should decentralize procurement and payment of procurable services to departments.
6. THAT, in future, the County Assembly to consider appropriating enough funds for routine maintenance on floodlights and streetlights

2ND INQUIRY: The Chairperson to investigate and find out if there is a maintenance team put in place where Members of the Public can channel their grievances in case of defaults.

Department`s Position

Hon. Speaker and Members, through their response, the department indicated that they have a mechanism for receiving fault reports through governance and administration units and has a dedicated engineer who is assigned with that task.

COMMITTEE FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

1. The department relies on service providers/contracted services to carry out both routine and non-routine maintenance works on all installed lighting infrastructure.
2. Currently the department lacks a contracted maintenance team in place and the internal capacity to carry out maintenance works.
3. Lack of maintenance works on the streetlights and floodlights which has resulted to them not being operational for quite a long time.
4. Routine lighting of floodlights and streetlights during the day hence wastage of energy and resources.

COMMITTEE`S RECOMMENDATIONS

Hon. Speaker and Members, based on the above findings and observations, the committee herein makes the following recommendations:

1) THAT, the management of Kisumu City and the Department should put in place a strong maintenance team that should routinely detect faults and maintain streetlights and floodlights.

2) THAT, the maintenance system that is to be put in place should be a toll number where members of public or leaders can call to report on any anomaly or problem regarding streetlights or floodlights.

Mr. Speaker. May I request Hon. James Omollo to second?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Hon. James Omollo.

Hon. Omollo (MCA, West Nyakach Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I stand to second the report.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Honourable Members, now that the Public Works, Roads and Transport Committee report on the status of Floodlights and Streetlights within Kisumu County has been moved by the Chairperson and seconded by Hon. James Omollo. I therefore, propose a question that we open this report for debate.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Hon. Mildred Ajumbo.

Hon. Ajumbo (MCA, Central Seme Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to congratulate this committee for the elaborate report they have brought on the status of streetlights and floodlights. I see a lot of challenge. There are also similar challenges in my Ward and most of them are not captured. These are lights that have not been working for the last one year. These are markets where people sell. You can imagine of the insecurity in the evening when these is no light.

The committee says that the department lack funds, maintenance team and they have also said that there should be a toll-free line to called when the lights are not working. I want to support that because the Members always do not have lights in their Ward but I believe we can reach the persons responsible when they introduce the toll-free number. I remember we had same numbers during the Covid 19 by the Department of Health but they were not working. I want to request the Chair of the Committee to include, Wang Arot and Rita Markets are not functioning. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Hon. Kelvin Oraro.

Hon. Oraro (MCA, Kolwa Central Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to begin by congratulating this committee for the good work they have done. from the on set of the report, the Chair read that there was contract that was given for the repair of lights and it ended in February 2022. The next contract was to begin in this Financial Year. The Chair, has not mentioned whether the contract has been renewed or not. The committee was to do a better work than what it is reporting.

Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons as to why things are not happening in Kisumu County is because of confusion. We must accept that we a city and other sub counties that should be empowered. Each of these sub counties should have officers to be in charge of every department to ease work. It is from this report that the Chair is even complaining that the flood lights are not in his docket. The lights are under Trade docket. We must get it right as an Assembly because the same confusion will affect the budget.

Mr. Speaker, Kisumu is dark because someone is not doing his work rightly or correctly. It is this Assembly that can speak on behalf of the people we represent. We have lost good people due to lack of lights at night. I am beseeching the Chair to follow up issues brought by the Members. Nyamasaria market is one of the upcoming markets, we have problems with the lights and it is really posing a lot of threats to the traders.

Mr. Speaker, we have floodlights in Ofunyu, Kunya, Kibos and Ogango are not working. I believe if the lights are repaired, we will enable our people trade even up to 9 p.m. This is a timely statement brought by Hon. Boitone. We need to have a functioning City. We should also be told of the status of the contracts given. Is there one that is running? If that is done, we shall appreciate the Chair. I support the report.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Hon. Millicent Omuya of North Seme Ward.

Hon. Omuya (MCA, North Seme Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to congratulate the committee for the good work they have done. I have this question for the department. When the County Government started, the floodlights were being maintained by the County staff, right now they have gone the tendering way. My question therefore is that; why do we choose to take the most expensive route yet we have staff who can do the maintenance? We have electricians in the department, who are able to do this work. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Honourable Members, please let me give chance to Hon. Benny Pete Oiko.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo- Kanyagwal): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The matter of floodlights in Kisumu County's rural areas and the streetlights in the city are the two matters raised by Hon. Ratib Boitone. The position is that; initially, energy was under the Department of Industry, Trade and the like, which has been transferred to the Department of Roads, Public works, Infrastructure, and Energy. A question is now raised when that department has been transferred from the old to the new department, which is okay. However, there has to be an outcry Mr. Speaker on maintenance of the floodlights in Kisumu County. The main reason I propose is because the department has not been keen on maintenance. If we reflect properly on our rural places, when the floodlights go off, the report is taken to the village Administrator, and then they file their report to the department or to the office of the County Secretary. If the department of Energy has its engineers who go round to supervise the floodlights and ensure that the faulty ones are corrected to avoid the outcry. First, the engineers that go round for supervision to ensure that the floodlights are in working conditions are not there. It is the first mistake we have, then when we go to the issue of budget it becomes a big matter that even if you read the explanation given here, you wonder what is it we are being told.

Mr. Speaker, if Kshs. 8 million is for new floodlights that is okay, then there was Kshs. 18 million for maintenance. This Kshs. 18 million is split and used in paying pending bills given to City department. So, you wonder why the city department doesn't have its budget. It also looks like there are some streetlights, whose maintenance should be undertaken by Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) as is on page 7 number 5. I think that that is the information that the committee wanted to pass. Let us now imagine KPLC undertakes maintenance of the floodlights

in the city, how effective has this been done? From our observation this has not been done effectively.

Mr. Speaker these floodlights were installed and are being installed by the County government. They should not just install them and forget to give good allocation for maintenance because I know that in the rural areas, when one goes off just like a member has just said one in Central Seme has been off for almost a year, which is very possible. The same problem happens even in my ward, and this is because no proper allocation for maintenance is put, the personnel to do a routine check is not there. The picture being painted here is that we are not serious to serve the locals hence insecurity sets in and the members of the public start blaming the MCAs. This is because according to the members of the public, when things do not work out well on the ground, it is the MCA who has failed. Now that the Energy department has been transferred, Infrastructure, Roads, Public works where there are engineers. The assembly now needs to ask the department to avail their engineers to do supervision on the ground and put good money for maintenance. This will make the people of Kisumu County to see the seriousness of their government.

Mr. Speaker, the committee has also suggested decentralization. When you go to page 8, number 5; the department of Finance and Economic planning should decentralize procurement and payment of procurable services to departments. I do not know what the committee had in mind when they were suggesting this, and this at one time had been echoed by Hon. Lumumba Owade. This element of decentralization was echoed by Hon. Owade when he said that if the Assembly is serious, they could put the County Executive to task if this could work because it has worked in some counties. However, in our situation, it is being suggested as a by the way but I hope that if someone could raise that matter substantively for the County Executive so that we hear and see what their response is. Mr. Speaker, on page 8 number 2 on committee's recommendations, it is giving order there to the CECM to bring some report to the Assembly. I wish such orders are strictly followed when given and later on we see that on such a report, a committee gave an order and that order has been honored. Not a matter of just making sweet statements. On No. 6 on the same page, when the Assembly is asked to consider appropriating enough funds for routine maintenance on floodlights and street lights. When the budget for the financial year comes here, where does the Assembly ends? The committee in charge should take their department to task while interrogating the budget. For instance, I now know that by next week, the budget should be lying in the compound of the Assembly. By Tuesday, it should be tabled here. That is because, by 28th of every April, the budget should be presented to the Assembly. I hope the department will not forget this that they have given in their report. Be keen to look at the allocation for routine maintenance of streetlights and flood lights so that someone will now read our record and get another record and be able to connect. This is a serious House that when they give a recommendation, they follow up. Mr. Speaker, the report has been given and it is a good one. However, as usual, gaps must be there and it is these gaps that we are trying to highlight. I hope that my contribution has been heard on the floor of the Assembly and the way it is tailored is to correct the gaps that could have been there in the report. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Yes Honourable James Were of Nyalenda B Ward.

Hon. Were (MCA, Nyalenda "B" Ward): Mr. Speaker, I also rise to support this good report and I want to commend this committee for having elaborated so well in their report. Mr. Speaker, this problem is cutting across almost in all wards. A case in point, just to mention a few, flood lights in Nyalenda are not functional. Almost all of them are off. If you go to Pandpieri Primary School, Dunga Primary School, Dunga Beach, Kilo Five Ways, Okonyo Welo and Kogelo; they are all off. If you look at all the street lights, they are all off; you go to Ring Road. Dunga, Oboch, Kilo, Simba Nanga Bridge, Got Owak and Kogelo; all street lights are off.

Mr. Speaker, I want to urge this committee to take the matter so seriously with the executive to ensure that this issue of floodlights and streetlights are being off is solved once and for all. That is because our traders are losing a lot of money because if they were to trade from 6:00pm to 9:00 pm, now it is forcing them to close their businesses by 7:00 pm. cutting their business hours by two to three hours Mr. Speaker. They are losing a lot and some of them depend so much on those businesses. Mr. Speaker, we have almost three to four cases in Nyalenda B Ward every day of shops that are attacked, of people who are stubbed, people who are slashed with *Pangas* simply because they are darkness. These rogues normally take advantage over darkness. This one can be solved Mr. Speaker.

If you look at the previous budget, Nyalenda B Ward had an allocation of Kshs 2 Million for maintaining these streetlights and floodlights and Mr. Speaker, nothing is happening. Nothing has taken place. We do not know who was doing the Maintaince, who was paid this money. So, I believe that this is something that can be dug into so that a better solution can be found for our people. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I beg to support, thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): The Honourable Boitone Ratib.

Hon. Ratib (MCA, Nyalenda A Ward): Thank you so much Mr. Speaker. I want to start from a point that at least may have also raised some concern because this statement was raised on 27th, October, 2022. From that time up to date, I think it is almost six months down the line. Again, I think we should be working with the timelines that are being provided by this Honourable House. Nevertheless, the report has already been brought to the floor of the House. I want to thank the Chair and the committee for at least giving a comprehensive list of areas that are affected. But, this cuts across because floodlights and streetlights are more or less in each and every ward of this County. I would have wished that Honourable Members that their areas are affected and yet those areas have not been outlined in this report should have come out very clearly and give those areas so that when we adopt this report, those areas will be considered.

I also realized that in the report that Kisumu East as per the report; that is page 5 has been indicated that it has only five. That is Kasawino Center, Kingdom Power, Dago and Magadi Catholic Center. This one has some laps. There are more than this. In fact in my own ward (Nyalenda A) we have around five floodlights. I also believe that in some other areas, the same mistake may have also happened.

Mr. Speaker, the team has worked on some few issues that I would like to raise that we need to get a clear picture. On page 6, they said the department through the central procurement advertised for the procuring process of bidders; they are talking about contractor apathy. What

causes this? Actually, that is what they are supposed to tell us. Why are this contractors not applying for this kind of tenders? Is it that they don't want to do business with the County Government or what is happening? If this issue is not taken into consideration then most of them will not be in a position to do business with the County Government.

We have delayed payment for maintenance work, the concern authority should tell us why there is delay. If a contractor has worked then why should the County Government delay payment! It should be done immediately the work is completed and that is why and that is why we are having pending bills Mrs. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Hon. Member, I think we have discussed the issue of pending bills in this House. I believe you should know why there is some delays in payment so that you don't load the Chair of Public works with questions that you have answers to. Thank you.

Hon. Ratib, MCA, Nyalenda A: Thank you so much. To conclude Mrs. Speaker, the Chair has also given us a total of 381 lightening infrastructure within Kisumu city. Out this 381, I would have wished they could outline how many are functioning and those that are not. I support with that reservation, thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Yes the Hon. Pamela Oyoo.

Hon. Oyoo (MCA, Migosi Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am just asking for your guidance. For those areas which were not covered, can we bring amendment at this stage?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Hon. Member I think that is why we are discussing the report so that whatever is not included you can inform the Chair so that he includes in the final report that he will be presenting to the Executive as resolutions in the House. Therefore, I your area was not covered this is the right time to bring them through your debates. Thank you.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal Ward): Mr. Speaker. When you look at the report…

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Order!! Hon. Member.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal Ward): Just for guidance Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu, MCA, East Seme): How are you contributing or under which Standing Order because you have just contributed.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal Ward): Just to what Hon. Oyoo has said.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Order!! Hon. Member just move close to Hon. Oyoo and help her because if I allow you to speak and you had contributed then you know we are breaking the rules of the House.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal Ward): Mr. Speaker we are not breaking the rules of the House but just trying to help one another.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Order Hon. Member. You will be contributing twice. Then you want to bend the laws of the House, just move close to the Hon. Member and give her the information you have then she shall contribute when her time comes for contributing.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Yes Hon. Bill Odhiambo.

Hon. Bill (MCA, Kobura Ward): Mr. Speaker, judging from the mood of the House, I want to call the mover to reply.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Now that the Hon. Bill has called the mover to reply and nobody has stood up to object, I want to give the Hon. Rakwach to reply.

Hon. Rakwach, MCA, Kolwa East: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Sometimes is it good to give time to Members to clap for a committee that has done good work like this one. Otherwise, I wish to take this opportunity to commend members for their commends and views that they have given. I know that sometimes the report may not be 100% perfect but if it is 99% then we are greatfull.
There were some comments especially from Hon. Ajumbo who appreciated the committee and also highlighted three areas from her ward which have not been captured. We are going to follow up and make sure that every flood light that does not appear in any annex of this report is captured and well maintain.
There were comments from Hon. Oraro who first commended the committee by saying that it was good and at the same time bad, but I will go with what he said first that the report was good. He also highlighted the issue of contract and I think that is well reported here that there was a contractor eparthy and now the contract could not be awarded. There is a minimum threshold which if not met then you have to re-advertise and you cannot award. This is something that is clear to all of us because we are professionals and some of us were contractors like some members here.
The comment that flood lights are not in the road department, I think that was misconstrued. The floodlights and street lights are under road department now but when the appropriation was being done, it was under trade so the money is with the trade department but the services are under road department and that is also causing some problems.
The areas that were not captured in Kolwa Central like Kiwasco, Ofunyu and Ogango are noted. I think these are noted and they are going to form part of this report plus the recommendations that have been stated here is going to affect them as well.

Hon. Omuya had a comment that initially at the inception of the County Governments, maintenance was being done by the County staff but right now we have moved to contracting. We are all aware that at that time, the floodlights and streets lights have increased in number. That is why we said that the department lacks tools and equipment for doing all these. We also lament on the issue of wage bill because when you employ staff and start maintaining the roads by contracting then the staff will have nothing to do in the offices.

On to Hon. Pete's comment; the report did not indicate that the street lights within the city are being maintained by KPLC but it is well noted here. When KIKOSCA games was held in Kisumu, some amount of 3 million was used to maintain or to correct the faults that were in the street lights within the city. There are some that are being maintained by KPLC and some by the County Government. Decentralization should also be given some weight since the finance department sometimes gets overwhelmed.

I would like to thank Hon. Were for commending the committee for a good job done and for even encouraging the committee for solve the issues of floodlights. This time round I think we have very competent Members of roads committee.

Hon. Ratib; I know there are some delays in presentation of reports and this is occasioned by delay in reply from the Executive. I think this is a problem that is experienced by most of our committees and I know that the Assembly is working towards improving on the same.

The comment that in Kisumu East only 5 floodlights were reported other that the number which is more than that. If you look at the annex you will see that the number that was reported is 13 and not 5.

We did not get the reasons for contractor apathy because they are the ones to tell us why they did not contract bid. We only know of 2 contractors who bid. You cannot go outside to ask why they did not bid since they are many and some come from outside Kisumu County. Sometimes the reason may be that some contractors were overwhelmed hence they did not have the capacity to apply. If at all the delay in payment could have occasioned contractor apathy; we know where the problem comes from and that is from the National treasury. We will not blame our County so much but the National Government for failure to release the funds to the County for us to pay the pending bills.

With all those few remarks, I would like to thank all the Members for deliberating on this report. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Thank you. Hon. Members a motion on the report on the status of floodlights and streetlights within Kisumu County was moved by Hon. Rakwach, seconded by Hon. James Omollo and debated by Hon. Members, I therefore want to put a question on the adoption of the same.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): The report on the status of floodlights and streetlights within Kisumu County from the committee of Public Works, Roads and Transport is hereby adopted today 27th April 2023 at 1542 hours and I direct that this report together with the Hansard report to the department of Roads, Public Works and Transport for consideration and implementation.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Next Order!!

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme Ward): Honourable Members, there being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to Tuesday 02nd May 2023 at 02.30 p.m.

(House rose at 3.45 p.m.)

Addendum

The Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende – Senior Hansard Reporter (Ag. Editor)

Edward Odanga – Hansard Reporter

Fanuel Okode – Hansard Reporter

Patrick Okoyo – Hansard Reporter

Jacklyne Otieno – Hansard Reporter

Jesca Otieno – Hansard Reporter

Vallery Achieng' – Hansard Reporter