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READING AREA WATER AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
4:00 PM  
Tuesday December 20, 2022

In attendance were Chairman Rev. Steven McCracken, Vice Chairman Richard Carpenter, Mrs. Cecile Grimshaw, Mr. Earl Lucas, Mr. Daniel Luckey, RAWA Solicitor Attorney Edwin Stock, Executive Director Mr. Bill Murray, Director of Operations & Maintenance Mr. Gary Phillips, Distribution Superintendent Mr. Anthony Reynolds, Engineering Manager Mr. Yuri Evans, Customer Service Manager Ms. Tracey Karish, Administrator Mrs. Sue Ruotolo, Plant Superintendent Mr. Patrick Bauer, Meter Reader Manager Mrs. Amy Styer, Lake Manager Michael Reider, H.R. Mrs. Wendy Marrero, Mr. Brian Hassinger from SSM Engineering. Absent was Dr. Phillip Dougherty and Mr. Jamal Abodalo.

The meeting was brought to order at 4:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was observed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the November 15, 2022, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve payment of the December 2022 invoices, for General Fund in the amount of \$730,518.40 Capital Fund in the amount of \$105,360.25 and the Escrow Fund in the amount of \$34,744.31 A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken asked for approval of the 2023 RAWA Budget, General and Capital Improvements. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. Mr. Luckey stated he felt a rate increase of 1% would be his preference rather than no increase in water rates. Mrs. Grimshaw disagreed, stating that newcomers to the city look at the rates and is a deciding factor in purchasing a home. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray let the Board of Directors know that the monthly department reports were included in the information given to each Board Member. There were no questions.

Mr. Murray presented the 2023 Chemical Bid awards and asked that a motion be asked for. Mr. McCracken asked for a motion to approve the 2023 Chemical Bid Awards. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray reviewed the work being done on the Buttonwood Street Bridge in conjunction with Western Berks Water Authority on the Interconnection to West Reading. Mr. Murray asked that a motion be called for approval to the agreement with The County of Berks for the Buttonwood Street Bridge. Mr. McCracken asked for a motion to approve the agreement with The County of Berks for work being done on the Buttonwood Street Bridge. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Hassinger presented his monthly Engineering Report. There were no questions. Mr. Hassinger let the Board of Directors know that the 1<sup>st</sup> Payment Application was approved and made to Liberty Restoration & Construction in the amount of \$29,266.75. There were no questions.

Attorney Stock asked for approval of the Resolution on the Change Order Policy. He asked that a motion be made to amend the resolution and allow up to \$10,000 for Executive Director to approve, anything between \$10,000 and \$25,000 the Executive Director and Solicitor would need to review and approve, and anything over \$25,000 would need Board Approval. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. All in favor. Motion passed.

Attorney Stock asked for approval of the Change Order for the Brick Shed Roof. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Attorney Stock asked for an executive session to discuss personnel matters. The executive session was called for at 4:39 pm.

The executive session ended and regular meeting resumed at 4:52 pm.

Attorney Stock asked for a motion to be made to approve the Executive Directors contract that would begin February 20, 2023, and end February 19, 2026. Mr. McCracken asked for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw All in favor. Motion passed.

Attorney Stock asked for a motion for approval of the payment of compensatory time to the Executive Director and should be paid as 637 hours in 2022, 637 hours in 2023 and a balance of 480 hours be carried forward to the end of the approved contract and be paid at that time. Mr. McCracken asked for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray let the Board of Directors know that he had a meeting with Mr. Jamar Kelly from the City of Reading on the rate increase for the Lease Agreement. At this time a 2% increase is what was agreed on. A draft of the agreement has been sent to the City and we are waiting to hear back from them on it.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lucas at 4:57PM