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READING AREA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
4:00 PM
Tuesday March 21, 2023

In attendance were Chairman Rev. Steven McCracken, Vice Chairman Richard Carpenter, Mrs. Cecile Grimshaw, Mr. Earl Lucas, Mr. Jamal Abodalo, 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. Manager Mrs. Wendy Marrero, Mr. Brian Hassinger from SSM Engineering. Absent was Dr. Phillip Dougherty.

The meeting was brought to order at 4:02 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was observed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the February 21, 2023 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Abodalo and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve payment of the March 2023 invoices, for General Fund in the amount of \$541,201.45 Capital Fund in the amount of \$459,758.00 and the Escrow Fund in the amount of \$17,079.33. A motion was made by Mr. Carpenter and seconded by Mr. Lucas. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Abodalo asked to meet with Mr. Murray to discuss blighted properties.

Mr. Murray said that there was an agreement with the City of Reading on the Blight Properties, and that he would be happy to meet at City Hall to discuss a procedure to help the process.

Mr. Murray spoke briefly about the Lead & Copper Inventory and contracting a company to help handle the inventory. Mr. Bauer went over the companies that were looked at for the inventory, and his recommendation is CDM Smith is the best fit for this project. Mr. Luckey had some questions on the process and Mr. Bauer explained which lines would be looked at and would potentially be needed to be replaced.

Chairman McCracken ask for a motion to approve to CDM Smith to be contracted to complete the inventory for a period of 2 years. A motion was made by Mr. Carpenter and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray reminded the board member the Ethic's forms for 2022 are due.

Mr. Murray asked for a changed in date of the May 2023 board meeting. Mrs. Ruotolo will send out an email to the Board Members for availability and dates.

Mr. Murray gave an update on North Heidelberg. After many hours of researching the area, a break was found at a property. When the property was shut down, the tank immediately stopped losing water and began to slowly refill. Mr. Abodalo asked if there was outside help with the issue. Mr. Murray said that SSM helped with the operators at the plant. Also, there was a frack tank brought in to hold water in case it was needed to provide water to the area. Mr. Abodalo asked how many staff members were involved. Mr. Murray said that there was about 10 during a 8 hour period, and then brought in more throughout the evening hours. Mr. Abodalo asked Mr. Carpenter how he would award his employees in the private sector for a job well done. A discussion was had and Mr. Abodalo feels there should be something done to acknowledge the outstanding work that was done. Mr. Murray said he will look into something to bring back to the board to approve.

Mr. Murray advised the board RAWA received a Grant for the IT/OT separation in the amount of \$165,649.00

Mr. Hassinger presented his monthly Engineering Report. There were no questions.

Mr. Hassinger proposed Change order for the project on Filter #7 & #3 replacement \$62,345.00. Mr. Hassinger went over the need for this change order. After evaluating the information, to have the filter be good for another 75 years, this project change needed to be done.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve Change Order #1 for Filter #3 & #7 in the amount of \$62,345.00. A motion was made by Mr. Carpenter and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Mr. Hassinger asked for the approval of PennBid for 60" Conduit Inspection to National Water Main Cleaning Co. in the amount of \$22,025.00 by National Water Main Cleaning CO., Kerney NJ. MThere were positive references from DEP.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the PennBid received from National Water Main Cleaning Co in the amount of \$22,025.00. A motion was made by Mr. Carpenter and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Attorney Stock asked for an executive session. The executive session was called for at 4:50pm.

The executive session ended and regular meeting resumed at 5:07pm.

Chairman McCracken stated that the next RAWA Board meeting will be held on April 18, 2023.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Luckey at 5:08PM