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READING AREA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
4:00 PM
Tuesday July, 18, 2023

In attendance were Chairman Rev. Steven McCracken, Vice Chairman Richard L. Carpenter, Mr. Earl Lucas, Mrs. Cecile Grimshaw, Mr. Jamal Abodalo, Mr. Daniel Luckey, RAWA Solicitor Attorney Edwin Stock, Executive Director Mr. Bill Murray, Distribution Superintendent Mr. Anthony Reynolds, Director of Asset Management Mr. Yuri Evans, Administrator Suzanne Ruotolo, Plant Superintendent Mr. Patrick Bauer, Meter Reader Manager Mrs. Amy Styer, H.R. Manager Mrs. Wendy Marrero, Lake Ontelaunee Manager Mr. Michael Reider, Customer Service Manager Tracey Karish, Mr. Brian Hassinger from SSM Engineering. Absent Mrs. Tressa Jefferson.

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

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the June 20, 2023, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Abodalo. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve payment of the July invoices, for General Fund in the amount of \$443,504.29 Capital Fund in the amount of \$96,987.03 and the Escrow Fund in the amount of \$21,642.47. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Jamal Abodalo advised the board members that he and RAWA Executive Director Bill Murry will be meeting soon to discuss the intergovernmental agreement between Reading Redevelopment Authority and RAWA.

Mr. Murray discussed the PEMA/FEMA Designation of Agent Resolution which would replace Sandy Kieffer with Sharon Dively. Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the change of persons. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Carpenter. Mr. Abodalo asked for an explanation of the Resolution. Solicitor Stock read off the full resolution, Mr. Abodalo asked why the Executive Director is not the one in charge of providing the information for PEMA/FEMA, Mr. Murray advised this will be under his direction, but Sharon will be the one handling the paperwork. Mr. Abodalo stated he felt this should be handled by the Executive Director and was not in favor of the motion. Chairman McCracken asked for a vote, Mrs. Grimshaw, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Lucas, Chairman McCracken, and Mr. Luckey were in favor. Mr. Abodalo was opposed. The motion was passed 5 yes votes, 1 no vote.

Mr. Murray provided an update on the recent storm and flooding. He provided video of the Willow Creek backing up into the Maiden Creek, which was pushing and reversing the flow of the creek. Mr. Murray also showed the area where the Willow Creek Dam was just removed. Since the Dam was removed the storm washed away part of

the creek bed and exposed a valve stem. RAWA has no record of this valve and placed large rocks to protect this till it can be further investigated.

Mr. Murray advised RAWA received a call from MTA regarding a water main break. RAWA helped MTA locate the break, which the water main went under a small creek. Due to the main break MTA needed to pull water through the interconnection on Adams Street. This time RAWA received a phone call and written notification for opening the interconnection. DEP was alerted and MTA placed their system on a boil water advisory.

Engineer Mr. Hassinger went over the increase of the 183 Railroad Bridge Water Main Replacement and the PennDOT bid. PennDOT awarded the bid to Kinsley Construction. Mr. Hassinger advised there is a price increase. The total cost of the PennDOT project is \$8.1 million, RAWA to pay 25% which will be \$247,900. Mr. Abodalo asked if the 8.1 million is for the bridge or the water main. Mr. Hassinger advised the 8.1 million is the total cost of the project the water main replacement is \$991,000, RAWA is only to pay 25% of the water main replacement \$247,900. Mr. Carpenter asked to be abstained from voting on the motion stating he knows the executives at Kinsley Construction. Chairman McCracken agreed he will be abstained from voting. Chairman McCracken asked for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Abodalo and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. Motion passed, 5 yes votes, 1 abstained.

Engineer Mr. Hassinger provided the Chlorine Injector and Piping Bid. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Abodalo. All in favor. Motion passed.

Engineer Mr. Hassinger gave an update on Filter 7; the filter is under testing and should be online next week.

Solicitor Ed Stock advised a correction was needed for the Resolution number for KPN the resolution number was listed as 2-2023 and should have been 3-2023. A motion to correct the number was made by Mr. Abodalo and seconded by Mr. Lucas. All in favor. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lucas at 5:02pm