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READING AREA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
4:00 PM
Tuesday December 19, 2023

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

The meeting was brought to order at 4:03 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was observed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the November 21, 2023. A motion was made by Mr. Earl Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve payment of the December invoices, for General Fund in the amount of \$490,0557.14 Capital Fund in the amount of \$78,748.28 and the Escrow Fund in the amount of \$98,346.41. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray presented to the Board of Directors the 2024 dates of the calendar board meetings and asked for them to be approved. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw to approve the 2024 Reading Area Water Authority Board Meetings. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Murray let the Board of Directors know that Mr. Hassinger would be retiring from SSM Engineering in the summer of 2024 and that he thought that it would be in the Authority's best interest to think about once again put out a RFP for Engineering services in the near future.

Mr. Hassinger announced that CFA awarded RAWA with a \$750,000 grant that was applied for towards the rehabilitation of the Hagal Gahl. The original grant application was for a project application of \$2.5 Million with a 50% RAWA responsibility. Mr. Murray commented that this is a good opportunity to work with Muhlenberg Township and asked the Boards permission to approach them to see if they would be interested in partnering with RAWA in the Rehabilitation project. The Board agreed that this would be a good idea and said Mr. Murray should do it.

Attorney Stock presented to the Board of Directors a proposal to approve the 1st amendment to the MOU between the City and the County on the use of the Fire Training center for free water and sewer in return the City will then

be allowed to use the property for fire training. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Stock spoke to the Board of Directors about amending the Article of Incorporation. He proposed resolution 2023-06 amending paragraph 8. "Reading Area Water Authority may only be dissolved or its existence terminated, or the assets of Reading Area Water Authority sold, by action of all seven members of Reading City Council". A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. Mr. Luckey stated he would support the motion but feels it probably goes against the City Charter and the resolution probably doesn't have any power behind it. Mr. Murray said you are probably right, but it will now go before City Council and they can make changes and then the Administration can take look and take changes and he is sure that Fred Lachat will make sure nothing is going against the City Charter if it is approved. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken stated the next meeting would be the Reorganizational meeting being held on January 16, 2024. Motion to adjourn by Mr. Lucas at 4:28 pm