

CITY OF STERLING HEIGHTS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019
IN CITY HALL

1. Mayor Michael C. Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. Mayor Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Melanie D. Ryska, City Clerk, gave the Invocation.
3. Council Members present at roll call: Deanna Koski, Michael V. Radtke Jr., Maria G. Schmidt, Michael C. Taylor, Henry Yanez, Barbara A. Ziarko.

Also Present: Mark Vanderpool, City Manager; Marc D. Kaszubski, City Attorney; Melanie D. Ryska, City Clerk; Carol Sobosky, Recording Secretary.

(Mayor Pro Tem Liz Sierawski arrived at 6:05 p.m.)

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Moved by Koski, seconded by Ziarko, **RESOLVED**, to approve the Agenda as presented.

Yes: All. The motion carried.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. Mayor Taylor stated this is a special meeting to recognize and congratulate recipients of scholarships awarded through the 2019 Sterling Heights Area Community Foundation Scholarship Program. He introduced Foundation President Dr. Martin Brown.

Dr. Marty Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting this evening, stating they are pleased to present Scholarship Day. He introduced Mr. Karl Oskoian, Executive Director of the Foundation.

Mr. Oskoian thanked the City for being able to share this Scholarship program with the community. They are celebrating their twenty-eighth year serving this community, and this is the twenty-first annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony. He explained the Foundation was established in 1991 to strengthen the quality of life for all Sterling Heights area citizens through cultural, educational and recreational categories, with tonight celebrating the educational aspect. They do this through partnership and collaboration with businesses, companies and organizations, and these nine scholarship partners are awarding a total of twenty-four scholarships worth a total of \$24,000. Nine scholarship sponsors are BAE Systems, Ford Motor Company and Ford Foundation, Friends of Tom Kroll, General Dynamics Land Systems, Macomb County Chiropractic Association, Former Mayor Richard J. Notte Public Service Endowment, Rotary Club of Sterling Heights, Selfridge ANG/Base Community Council and the Sterling Heights Area Community Foundation. He stated they started awarding scholarships in 1999, and with this evening's awards, they will have presented scholarships totaling \$393,000 to 445 area students pursuing degrees in general studies, technical training programs, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health care and public service fields. He noted each year the Foundation receives hundreds of scholarship applications, and they are

awarded based upon their sponsor's unique requirements, which include academic performance, as well as leadership, community service, career plans and need.

Mr. Oskoian introduced the Board members present, including Mr. Doug Dinning (attorney with Dinning & Greve, PLC), Ms. Melanie Davis (CEO/President of the Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce), Mr. John Bozymowski (President of Macomb Intermediate School District), Dr. Martin Brown (President of Macomb County Chiropractic Association, President of the Sterling Heights Area Community Foundation and recent past president of Sterling Heights Rotary), and Mr. Michael Notte. He introduced Mr. John Bozymowski, Foundation Director and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee for the Foundation.

Mr. Bozymowski congratulated the students being honored, noting the scholarship sponsors set very demanding requirements, and those being awarded the scholarships met or exceeded those requirements. They have all achieved very high grade point averages, participated in many school and community activities, often taking on leadership roles, expressed a strong desire to continue their education and set high expectations for themselves. They have made their families proud of them, as well as the Sterling Heights Area Community Foundation directors.

Mr. Oskoian proceeded throughout the meeting to introduce each of the award presenters and provide a little information about them. Each award presenter,

in addition to presenting the scholarships to the recipients, also provided some information on grade point averages, achievements and future plans of each recipient.

Mr. Oskoian introduced Dr. Keith DeFever, Bay Area Family Physician and past president of the Selfridge ANG Base Community Council.

Dr. Keith DeFever explained that Selfridge ANG/Base Community Council partnered with the Sterling Heights Area Community Foundation about nine or ten years ago. He provided some history on Selfridge ANG and explained they have about 250 or 300 local business people who have been dedicated to support their military personnel and try to show their appreciation for the many sacrifices that the families make. They have come up with this scholarship to award to someone whose parent or parents are attached to Selfridge ANG Base. He presented the \$1,000 scholarship to Andrew Ulmer (Eisenhower High School).

Mr. Scott Davis, Vice-President of Programs for BAE Systems, stated he is presenting two \$1,000 scholarships. He explained that the first recipient, Parker Skwarczynski (Henry Ford II High School), had another engagement this evening so he was able to come early to accept his scholarship and have photos taken. He presented the second \$1,000 scholarship to Abigail Wolf (Henry Ford II High School).

Mr. Gary Schmidt, of Ford Motor Company, stated they are pleased to award five \$1,000 scholarships this year. He presented the scholarships to Tyler

Amato (Oakland University), Luke Chapp (Henry Ford II High School), Claire Murray (Stevenson High School) and Amrin Shahnawaz (Sterling Heights High School). He noted that Zachary Werbrouck (Stevenson High School) was unable to attend this evening.

Mr. Oskoian stated that General Dynamics will be presenting four \$1,000 scholarships this year to high school students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math. He presented the scholarships to Kate Barber (Sterling Heights High School), Trevor Drumb (Stevenson High School) and Rae Owens (Utica Academy for International Studies). He stated Megan Modrak (Henry Ford II High School) is not present because she is at a math, science and technology graduation ceremony this evening.

Dr. Marty Brown, President of Macomb County Chiropractic Association, explained that chiropractic care is a natural approach to health and he provided some details of the type of care they provide. He stated he is pleased that their association has raised funds to be able to present five \$1,000 scholarships this year. He presented the scholarships to Jack Baranski (Hope College), Mackenzie Cook (Cousino High School) and Rachel Fiori (Anchor Bay High School). He noted scholarship award recipient Alexander Awwad (Life University) could not be present tonight, and he presented the scholarship award for Stephanie Demick (Palmer College in California) to her family, who was present to accept it for her.

Mr. Michael Notte presented the \$1,000 scholarship in memory of his father, former Mayor Richard Notte, to Natalie Schmidt (Sterling Heights High School).

Dr. Martin Brown stated the current Rotary Club president was delayed in arriving this evening. He provided some background on the Rotary Club and, in his capacity as Board member and three-time past president of the Rotary Club, he presented the two \$1,000 scholarship awards from the Rotary Club to Amanda Amato (Stevenson High School) and Omit Uddin (Sterling Heights High School).

Mr. Oskoian explained the Tom Kroll Scholarship created by Utica Community Schools alumni, and explained this is in honor of Mr. Tom Kroll, who was a teacher and wrestling coach in the Utica Community Schools.

Ms. Melanie Davis, President and Executive Officer of the Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce, announced that the recipient of this year's Tom Kroll scholarship is Gabriela Andrzejewska (Utica Academy for International Studies), who is no longer present this evening, although her mother is still here.

Ms. Davis also awarded the three \$1,000 scholarships on behalf of the Sterling Heights Area Community Foundation to Adi Esho (Sterling Heights High School), Brian Rubba (Stevenson High School) and Alyssa Tranchida (Stevenson High School).

Mr. Oskoian stated that this concludes the scholarship awards this evening, and he congratulated all scholarship award recipients. A group photo was taken of all of the scholarship recipients with City Council members.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Ziarko, **RESOLVED**, to recognize and congratulate the 2019 recipients of scholarships awarded through the Sterling Heights Area Community Foundation Scholarship Program and to thank partners BAE Systems, General Dynamics, Ford Motor Company, Macomb County Chiropractic Association, The Family of Richard J. Notte, Rotary Club of Sterling Heights, Selfridge/ANG Base Community Council, Sterling Heights Community Foundation, and Utica Community Schools Alumni for their continuing generosity and support.

Mayor Taylor congratulated all of the award recipients.

Yes: All. The motion carried.

6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

There were no comments from citizens.

7. ADJOURN

Moved by Ziarko, seconded by Schmidt, to adjourn the meeting.

Yes: All. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

MELANIE D. RYSKA, City Clerk