

The Assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A. CALL TO ORDER: President Philippart called the Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

B. IN ATTENDANCE:

Troy City Council

Mayor Dane Slater
Wade Fleming
Dave Henderson
Maureen McGinnis
Ed Pennington
Doug Tietz

Troy Board of Education

President Nancy Philippart
Todd Milette
Paula Fleming
Ida Edmunds
Wendy Underwood
Gary Hauff
Karl Schmidt

Also Present:

City of Troy

City Manager Brian Kischnick
City Attorney Lori Grigg Bluhm
Mark Miller, Director of Economic & Community Development Services
Tom Darling, Director of Financial Services
Chief Gary Mayer, Troy Police Department
Aileen Bittner, City Clerk
Captain Robert Redmond, Troy Police Department
Sergeant Andy Breidenich, Troy Police Department

Troy School District

Superintendent Barbara Fowler
Kerry Birmingham, Director of Community & Media Relations
Janet Keeling, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Instruction
Richard Machesky, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education
Mark Rajter, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
Jasen Witt, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

President Philippart offered the opportunity for Public Comment to members of audience who wished to speak. No Public Comment was received.

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

C-1 DDA Bond Issue

City Manager Kischnick presented information relating to the DDA Bond Issue in the form of a verbal presentation and handout. He confirmed that the DDA Bond Issue has no impact to the Troy School District.

C-2 Update on School Security and Discussion About Police in Schools Concept/Programs

Police Chief Mayer offered a brief introduction of the presentation and introduced Sgt. Breidenich.

Sgt. Breidenich presented information relating to School Security in the form of a verbal presentation and handout. He discussed the first step in returning Police presence to Troy Schools since the City budget cuts by way of an agreement reached between the Troy School District and City of Troy to dedicate one Police Officer, specifically, as the liaison officer for Troy schools. He commended the Troy School District's choice of Safe-Ed, LLC. for contracted security services.

Chief Mayer reiterated that every Troy Police Officer is trained and equipped at all times for school security incidents.

Chief Mayer described the school resource officer's duties as patrolling every Troy school during the week in order to be the safety expert, enforce laws, solve issues, provide environmental security and conflict resolution, increase awareness of drug/alcohol prevention, and provide the Troy Police Department with updated building layouts, if applicable. The Officer sets the patrol schedule independently based on the needs of the schools and issues during each week.

Chief Mayer summarized by saying that the school resource officer will enhance the Police Department's relationship with the Troy School District. Also, the Police Department has applied for a grant that, if approved, would provide funding for two additional school resource officers.

President Philippart inquired if Safe-Ed can help the Police Department by being eyes and ears in the schools? Chief Mayer responded that yes, intelligence from Safe-Ed helps to resolve issues before they turn into problems.

Trustee Schmidt questioned when the school resource officer will be assigned. Chief Mayer responded that presence would begin with the 2013-14 school year.

Trustee Miletti asked Superintendent Fowler if the bond proposal included a contract with the Troy Police Department. Superintendent Fowler responded that it did not yet include a contract.

Trustee Hauff commented that communication with the Police Department is great now versus when the Police were only involved after problems occurred.

Chief Mayer commented that the Troy Police Department and the Troy School District meet regularly, which works very well.

Mayor Slater reiterated that this meeting is about communication; and, we are on the way back to where we were before the budget crisis. He said he is hopeful for the grant to be approved for the two additional school officers.

Mayor Pro Tem Fleming asked if the resource officer will patrol other schools or only Troy Schools. Chief Mayer replied that the Police Department has a commitment with the Troy School District during the days Troy Schools are in session. On days when Troy Schools are not in session, the officer will patrol other schools in Troy, such as

preschools. If the grant is approved, the two additional officers could make more contact with those other schools.

C-4 Troy Governance Project

Assistant Superintendent Machesky introduced and discussed the Troy Governance Project. This project is intended to educate voters and students on civic understanding of the democratic process and democratic citizenry. The project brought together representatives from the Troy School District, City of Troy, League of Women Voters and Friends of the Troy Public Library. The project started because government classes in school and text books do not teach local government even though local government is where important decisions are made. A video presentation called Get Gov! includes interviews revealing misconceptions about local government, and a panel discussion with various officials have been completed and is in the editing stage now. The video covers topics, such as Mayor and City Council, City Management, City Charter, Taxes, Troy School District, Voter Services and Civic Participation. The project went very well and will be a class resource for educating students on local governance.

Council Member McGinnis asked when the Get Gov! video will be revealed. Assistant Superintendent Machesky replied that he is hoping it will be made available for the cable channel and City Council before next school year.

Trustee Schmidt asked how many students were involved in the project. Assistant Superintendent Machesky responded that over 100 students at Troy High School, Athens High School and the International Academy were involved, plus the video production class at Troy High School.

President Philppart questioned if the video will become part of classes. Assistant Superintendent Machesky responded that yes, the idea is that the video will be used in classes at the high school level and will cause more conversations regarding local governance in the future.

Trustee Edmunds thanked Rhonda Hendrickson and Assistant Superintendent Machesky for putting this together. She thanked City staff and officials for their expertise and assistance.

C-5 School District Update and Bond Discussion

Superintendent Fowler presented an overview of the status of the Troy School District. The District offers a wide variety of programs for all ages. Enrollment is steady at 12,400+ students and growing every year. There are 83 languages represented in the student population. The School District holds the North Central Accreditation and the Board of Education receives many honors. Troy High School was #1 and Athens High School was #6, according to the Washington Post list of top academic schools in Michigan. Troy has twenty-seven (27) advanced placement offerings and was named in the 100 Best Communities for Music Education. This year, there were seven (7) Troy School District students that had perfect ACT scores; 60+ National Merit Scholars; and two Troy School District students won the International Space Lab Contest. The MEAP scores for 3rd-8th

grade students are the 2nd highest in Oakland County for reading and the highest in Oakland County for mathematics.

Superintendent Fowler reported that the challenges facing the school district come from Lansing where the funding for education has been cut each year. To address financial issues resulting from funding cuts, there will be a bond proposal on the November ballot. The last time the Troy School District had a bond proposal was in 2004. The bond will be for infrastructure; security and building modifications; technology; instructional equipment; and transportation. The bond is 55% infrastructure.

Superintendent Fowler emphasized that the bond will not cause a tax increase for Troy residents due to lower interest rates. The proposal organization, made up of Troy residents, will be releasing podcasts, holding meetings, and disseminating information regarding the bond.

Mayor Slater stressed the importance of a great school district like the Troy School District to real estate property values. He thanked the School Board and administrators.

C-6 Other

Mayor Slater commented that the Troy School District/City of Troy partnership is impressive. He read from a report provided by the City Manager to City Council that indicated, among many others, the relationship between the School District and: Community Affairs, Information Technology, Recreation, Police Department, Public Works and the Troy Public Library.

Mayor Slater stated that one police officer is a good start in the schools, but more are needed.

Trustee Hauff said that he thinks citizens missed out by not attending tonight's meeting because it shows good governance and two areas of resident services coming together.

President Philippart said this is the first step in reestablishing the formal collaboration between the Troy School District and the City of Troy.

D. ADJOURNMENT: President Philippart adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM.