

Major Project Well Under Way

Sylvania Township trustees recently were given an update on the progress of the construction of Fire Station No. 1 in downtown Sylvania.

John Zeitler, township administrator, said that of the many projects he's been involved with in government he wished they all had moved along as smoothly as the one underway.

Mr. Zeitler said he was making the report at the request of David Simko, township financial officer, who had suggested that it would be useful to keep everyone up to date on the progress of construction.

He told the trustees that he was particularly pleased that one hurdle, digging and establishing the foundation for the building, had been completed without unanticipated costs.

Digging to begin construction is often when unforeseeable obstacles crop up and the cost goes up accordingly, he said, but that wasn't the case in beginning work on the 9,000 sq. ft. fire station.

As of mid-July the projected total cost for all construction-related expenses is \$2.136 million up slightly from an earlier estimate of \$2.070 million.

Some bargain hunting, much of it by Fire Chief Jeffrey Kowalski, led to a savings of slightly more than \$11,000 in the total cost of equipment for use in the new two-story, three-bay station.

At this point the projected total for all construction-related costs and equipment for the station is \$2.264 million, up 2.47 percent from an earlier estimate of \$2.209 million.

Of all the projects Mr. Zeitler has been involved in, he said he didn't think he'd ever seen one this close to the original estimate.

He added that the township currently has \$2.51 million available for the project.

Joe Vetter, of the Vetter Design Group, architect for the building, said Mosser Construction, the fire department and all the contractors have worked as a team. He said there has been good communication on the job site and when issues arise they are discussed and dealt with.

In addition to that there are weekly meetings of the key players in the project, Mr. Vetter said where both short and long-range issues are considered by the group.

He added, "a good team leads to a good final project."

John Jennewine, president of the trustees, said he is very happy with the progress and that it is also important to keep the public up to date on expenses and the construction schedule. The target is to have the job complete Nov. 1.

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