

## Budget On Track

After six months into the year David Simko, chief fiscal officer for Sylvania Township, said "things are starting to shape up," in terms of the budget.

And they are shaping up well, he added, with all departments under their anticipated expenditures for this point in the year.

He said it is particularly heartening because it was true last year at this time and suggests that a culture is taking hold in which everyone looks out for the cost of doing business.

Mr. Simko said expenditures aren't completely controlled by department heads, but it's "employees who help drive whether expenditures go up or down."

He praised township employees for their help in watching costs and added that he thinks they have come to see that the administration is open with them and that the accounting of the township is transparent.

Through the first six months of the year, the general fund has spent only 40.6 percent of what was anticipated, the fire fund is at 47.6 percent of projected costs, the police fund is at 47.2 percent, and the road and bridge fund has spent only 34.1 percent of the expenditures anticipated.

The general fund, boosted by some unanticipated money from estate taxes is at 76.4 percent, the road and bridge fund stands at 61.4 percent, the police department revenues are at 50.3 percent, and the fire department is at 47.9 percent.

Mr. Simko said the fire department has funds coming in later in July which should see them at about 50 percent.

John Zeitler, township administrator, noted that the revenue stream is about where it was expected to be. He added that, "it's a lot less money than it used to be, but we've anticipated it and made the adjustments necessary."

He said that that's why he, too, is appreciative of the employees for holding expenses down where ever possible.

Posted: 7/24/2013