

Fire Station in Business

Fire and rescue runs by the Sylvania Township Fire Department have resumed from Fire Station No. 1 on Monroe Street in downtown Sylvania.

The only difference is that Fire Station No. 1 is a new, airy state-of-the-art structure which has replaced an old, crowded and outmoded building.

The two-story red brick building compliments much of the nearby architecture and has been called a "gem" of downtown by Fire Chief Jeffrey Kowalski.

The day before the station became operational Deputy Fire Chief Michael Froelich was directing movers where to put some new furniture when he looked up and swept an arm around to indicate how spacious the three-bay garage is. The previous building had been built in an era long before the large fire rigs which are in operation now and made for very tight quarters.

With the fire station in operation township trustees have now completed a project begun with the passage of a 1.25-mill fire levy. Funds from that have now been used to replace three fire stations and remodel another.

Although all of the numbers aren't in, trustees recently approved a change order which totaled an overall cost of about \$46,000 above the initial estimate of \$2,210,000. That's an increase of about 3.7 percent.

Some of the increase was due to changes mandated by the Lucas County building department and some from changes made by the township in seeking higher quality, more durable material in some places.

Living quarters in the new fire station are on the second floor. The other two newly-constructed fire stations are each on single floor, but the space available for the construction of station No. 1, wasn't sufficient for a single-floor design.

John Zeitler, township administrator, praised the overall job and quality of the construction by Mosser Construction.

Firefighters moved in after having operated out of a house at Brint and McCord. Use of the house was allowed by its owner, Lourdes University.

The station will be open to the public from 1 to 4 p.m. Nov. 17.

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