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Rendering provided by Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick Inc.

A rendering by Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick Inc. shows what the proposed Fire Station No. 5 will look like at 21 Mile and Schoenherr roads.

Shelby approves site plan for new fire station

BY SARAH WOJCIK

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SHELBY TOWNSHIP — On June 7, the Shelby Township Board of Trustees unanimously voted to approve the site plan for the township's fifth fire station on a 4-acre parcel of land located near 21 Mile and Schoenherr roads.

Fire Chief Jim Swinkowski said the station will address a big void of fire service in the southeastern section of the township, and that he believes its implementation will result in a lower overall ISO rating.

"The most important thing is we're going to have firefighters, paramedics, a first-response ambulance and engine in that area to provide the services that are desperately needed down there," Swinkowski said.

The parcel is located on the east side of Schoenherr Road, north of 21 Mile Road, directly adjacent to King of Kings Lutheran Church. The Fire Department purchased the land in 2012.

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Station

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Township Planner Glenn Wynn said the site plan strategically places the building and parking lot in the north portion of the site, leaving a substantial buffer to the homes in the southerly Pheasant Run subdivision.

“(It will be) maximizing the separation and minimizing the nuisances,” Wynn said. “The site plan fully complies with all ordinance requirements.”

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the site plan.

Swinkowski estimated the total project to cost approximately \$1.9 million.

On April 5, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the design-build team of Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick Inc. and Wing Construction Inc., as well as the first two phases of the

development of Fire Station No. 5.

Phase 1 includes the development of a schematic design, a topographical survey, soil borings, geotechnical engineering and a tree survey at a cost not to exceed \$43,100.

Phase 2 includes the completion of construction documents and a traffic engineering study at a cost not to exceed \$43,300.

Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis added that none of the money for the new fire station will come out of the township’s operational budget.

“It’s all been put in the capital improvement fund,” Stathakis said. “The capital improvement fund originated in the Fire Department, and this is the project from which it all kind of came about.”

Swinkowski said the department first began talking about a fifth station in 2005 in order to ad-

dress a developing community.

Fire Station No. 4, built in 1995 at 23 Mile and Mound roads, currently services the southeast quadrant of the township.

Swinkowski said the new station will be similar in size to the station currently located at 25 Mile and Shelby roads. Like the site for the fifth station, a residential area surrounds the station at 24 Mile and Shelby roads. Swinkowski said the Fire Department has proven itself to be a good and quiet neighbor.

With the new station, he said, he hopes the Fire Department’s ISO rating will improve to a 3 or a 4. It currently stands at a 5. The worst possible rating is a 9.

For more information, call the Shelby Township Fire Department headquarters at (586) 731-3476.

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