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Utica adonts Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Shelby Township, Sterling Heights to share inspection services

By **SEAN DELANEY**
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The Shelby Township Board of Trustees on Feb. 18 agreed to enter into a mutual aid agreement with the city of Sterling Heights that will allow the communities to assist each other in providing plan review and inspection services.

"The agreement is nearly identical to one that we have been using with the city of Rochester Hills since 2011," said Shelby Township Building Director Tim Wood. "Sterling Heights and Rochester Hills have an agreement directly. We have an agreement with Rochester Hills, so it made sense to 'complete the loop' and provide our department with another option for extra help."

According to Shelby Township Supervisor Richard Stathakis, the agreement allows either community to request personnel services of the other, on an "as needed and as available" basis, to meet high activity demands and loss of personnel to vacations or sickness.

"It is a nice outlet for either community in the event there is someone sick, training or using vacation time, to be able to rely on the other

See SERVICES Page A2

SERVICES

Continued from Page A1

community for those services," Wood said.

Some of the shared services outlined in the agreement include:

● The building officials from each community shall coordinate meetings to establish procedures and policies for the sharing of resources for plan review and inspection services.

● Shelby Township and Sterling Heights shall provide to each other on an "as needed," "as available" basis plan reviews or

inspections by state registered plan reviewers or inspectors.

● Shelby Township and Sterling Heights shall perform plan reviews or inspections as scheduled and requested by the other party, during normal business hours, subject to the availability of Shelby Township and Sterling Heights staff, it being understood and acknowledge by Shelby Township and Sterling Heights that the plan review and inspection requirements in their respective communities shall take precedence.

● Shelby Township and Sterling Heights agree that all plan review and inspection work shall be

performed in a competent, professional manner in compliance with all applicable state and local statutes, codes and regulations. The plan reviewers and inspectors shall apply and enforce the laws of the community where the property is located, which is the subject of the plan review or inspection.

No costs are expected to be incurred by either community, unless the hours of service used become unbalanced over a six-month period.

"Both departments intend on operating with a balanced level of shared services so that no compensation will be required," Wood said.

However, if the hours of service reported by one party exceed the hours provided by the other by more than 50 hours, the party providing any hour of service over 50 shall be compensated by the other at a rate of \$75 per hour within 30 days.

The agreement may also be terminated at any time, with or without cause, by either party with 30 days advance written notice to the other party.

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