



The Source

Utica, Shelby Twp. Edition

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Clerk: No reason absentee voting to

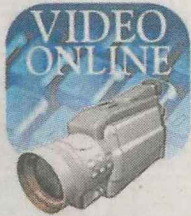
Township making progress on renovations to former police station

By **SEAN DELANEY**
Source Staff Writer

Renovations to the now-vacant space in the lower level of Shelby Township's municipal building, formerly occupied by the police department, are proceeding on schedule and under budget, according to Building Director Tim Wood.

"In terms of the improvements we're making here, we're on track to complete the project this spring," Woods said of the renovations, which will also see an expansion of offices for the township's Assessing, Finance and Information Technology departments.

The Shelby Township Board of Trustees voted in June to authorize French and Associates Inc., to develop revised construction plans for the renovation of the lower level of the township hall in order to accommodate the additional departments.



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"At a department level, the Finance Department and Assessing Department in particular are very excited about the opportunity to improve their workspace," Wood said. "They are very anxious about the improvements being completed. We're thinking it will provide a much more functional space for both employees and the public. We're also excited about having the additional

meeting room space, which has always been a problem in this building."

Originally, plans for the existing 7,000-square-foot space called for it to be renovated into meeting rooms and a training center. While that's still the case, Wood said the original plans have been modified to address space needs and improve the functionality of the other three departments that remain there.

"The (most visible aspect) of the project

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involves expanding the Assessing Department and reorienting the counter space that they have available to provide a more inviting and workable public interaction point," Wood said. "There's also going to be a large space that will serve as a multi-purpose area. The primary function of it will be to provide training opportunities to our police department, but at the same time it will be available for work sessions of the Board of Trustees or training for other departments and employees."

According to Wood, the Finance Department will see expanded workspace by moving to a new space previously occupied by Assessing, while the township's IT Department will move to the offices formerly used by the Finance Department.

"As work proceeds, we'll be taking walls down and recapturing a lot of space," Wood said.

Along with new space for workers in the lower level, the renovations will also allow for increased storage space for the Clerk's Office.

"We're going to put racking in one of the old garages for our township clerk to store voting equipment and other materials," Wood said. "Right now, that equipment and materials are scattered throughout the township in different locations. We want to consolidate that to the best of our ability."

A fitness room for the police department, as well as multi-purpose training and meeting rooms are also part of the plan.

"We've been working on the plumbing, and over the holidays we put in network wiring," Wood said. "We have a camera access control contractor that's going to be working very soon. The township's Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Department has also been doing some work to control costs, so it's taking us a little longer for that reason. But at the same time, the township is holding tight in terms of expenses."

Supervisor Richard Stathakis praised Wood for his leadership on the

project, noting that it is expected to come in under the projected \$4 million budget.

"Tim has done a magnificent job keeping costs under control," Stathakis said. "He's the one that made this possible. We wanted our new police station built for under \$4 million, and if possible we wanted all these additions to be under \$4 million. Because of the great work and leadership of Tim Wood, that's going to be a reality."

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CITY OF UTICA CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Take notice that the City of Utica City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7550 Auburn Road, Utica, Michigan.

The purpose of the public hearing is to gain citizen input for the following:

- 1) A temporary use request for a tent to be placed over the patio area at 7715 Auburn Road on March 15-19, 2013.
- 2) A temporary use request for a tent at 7636 Auburn Road on March 15-19, 2013.
- 3) A temporary use request for a tent at 45108 Cass Ave. on March 15-19, 2013.

Tent to be placed on city sidewalk if approved.

Comments will be heard at that time or written comments may be mailed to the above address prior to the public hearing.

M. CATHERINE MCGRILL
CITY OF UTICA
CITY CLERK