

# Police facility construction costs rise

By Joanne Malczowski  
staff writer

Due to the addition of certain equipment, construction expenses for the Farmington Hills police facility have increased by approximately \$103,000.

Farmington Hills City Council Monday approved the increased ex-

penses and authorized buying certain equipment that was not included in the city's previous budget for the police facility.

The proposed purchase of equipment increases the police facility budget from \$3.6 million to \$3.7 million. When first planned, the police building was expected to cost \$3.3 million. Increases have occurred

mostly in architectural costs, engineering and other construction costs, as well as in equipment.

Instead of appropriating additional money now, plans call for using money from the city's capital improvement fund once city officials know specific costs for additional equipment, City Manager William Costick said.

Construction on the two-story, 35,000-square-foot facility began in August. Council issued \$2.7 million in bonds to help pay for the entire project. Remaining costs are to be paid with \$770,000 transferred from the city's capital improvement fund and \$190,000 from interest on the bonds.

Other equipment and expected costs include:

- Mechanical and electrical installation for firing range at an estimated \$24,000. These items were deleted from the original construction contract because city officials were unsure what kind of firing range equipment would be installed.
- Purchase and installation of surveillance system for an estimated \$23,745, plus an additional \$1,230 for an extended 12-month service warranty. Security monitors were not fully evaluated when the initial bidding was conducted and not included in the construction contract. The closed-circuit video system would be used on the building's exterior and certain interior areas. "This is basically being provided for security

purposes and to monitor the jail area," Costick said.

- Landscaping plans and estimated costs were also not included in original construction contracts and costs because city officials felt the work could be done by city staff. Although city staff are still expected to complete a majority of the work, a landscape architect is expected to be hired to provide the landscaping design. Estimated cost for landscaping is approximately \$40,000.
- Signs for the city hall and new police facility for an estimated \$15,000.
- Purchase of a pneumatic tube system that would run from the dispatch area on the second floor down to the command desk in the building's lobby. The tube would ease the transfer of documents between dispatch and the front desk, particularly at night when it might be inappropriate for employees to leave their posts, Costick said.

- Installation of an intercom messenger system that would allow police officers to use portable dictating equipment in patrol cars to take notes and write reports on incidents. The notes and reports can be put on cassette tapes and typed at a central location. City officials want the equipment installed and ready to work when the building is occupied, Costick said. Estimated cost is \$10,500.
- Purchase of a high-density file system, lockers and storage racks for a combined estimated total of \$40,000. The file system would replace the department's existing files. New lockers would replace the old ones that would be used in other city facilities. Storage racks would be installed in the department's property room.
- Relocating the department's communications tower from the old site closer to the new building for an estimated \$2,500.

## Filing deadline nears

The deadline to declare your candidacy for one of two seats opening on the Farmington Board of Education is Monday, April 7.

Trustees whose terms are expiring on the seven-member board are Janice Holnick and R. Jack Inch. Both are completing their second four-year terms, and both have announced their intention to seek reelection. The only other person to take out a petition so far has been Paul Bilzman of Herndonwood Drive.

Prospective school board candidates must be at least 18 and registered voters. Nominating petitions, signed by at least 20 registered dis-

trict voters, must be filed by 4 p.m. Monday, April 7. Those turning in completed petitions can withdraw from the non-partisan race before 4 p.m. Thursday, April 10. If they don't, their names will appear on the ballot.

Petitions are available from administrative assistant Scott Bacon between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays in the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center, 32500 Shawwassee, Farmington.

The REVISIED budget includes items that were not included in the original police building budget because plans called for adding these items later. Other equipment requests have been added at the request of police officials who feel the equipment is necessary when the building is occupied, Costick said.

The increased budget includes revised costs for the proposed Oakland County E-9-1-1 emergency phone system. Based on information that was available when city offi-

cially planned for the E-9-1-1 system, \$150,000 was budgeted for the system. Now expenses are expected to run up to approximately \$210,000, Costick said.

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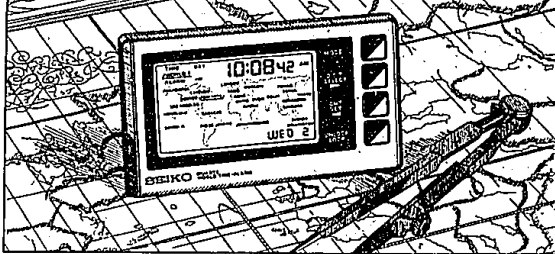
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