Hills firm to build police station

In Canton Township

By Margaret Haubacher
staff writer

Construction of a two-story Canton police station will begin in approximately two weeks. The township board gave the $2 million project final approval last week.

Trustee ratification was the last hurdle for the proposed station, which has been in the works for 18 months. According to township's chief building official, Aaron Machnik, construction will get under way as soon as the necessary paper work is completed.

The final board action awarded the building contract to Hickson-Costigan, Inc., a general contracting firm in Farmington Hills.

Machnik recommended Hickson-Costigan, Inc., the low bidders, for the project. "Their track record and efficiency is beyond reproach," Machnik said.

An example of the firm's work can be seen in the addition to St. Michael Lutheran Church at Sheldon And Warren, which was completed in 1979.

A total of 24 bids were accepted for construction of the 23,000 square foot station to be built as an extension of the existing township hall at 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

The Hickson-Costigan bid promised completion of the police facility in 365 days at a cost of $1,928,245. The bid was $48,000 less than any other bid.

Completion time varied greatly among the bids submitted, the low being 240 days, the high 555 days. Trustee Carol Bodenmiller questioned Tom Hickey, secretary-treasurer of Hickson-Costigan, about the discrepancy.

Hickey explained completion dates can vary depending on what other projects a firm is working on.

"We feel that 365 days will be adequate. We will be starting in April, which is the beginning of prime building time, and there are a lot of subcontractors available now. Also the plans are relatively straight forward," Hickey said.

Before the trustees approved the contract, there was some discussion about supervision of the building project. The contract with Hickson-Costigan provides for an on-site supervisor, but Machnik recommended another supervisor from the Southfield architectural firm of Hamilton Dolgner, Dundon, and Argenta, which drew up the plans, be hired too.

"We want to make sure we are there to follow the building's progress. It's easy for folks not to communicate. We want to avoid that by trying to keep communication lines open and active all the time," Machnik said.

He stressed close supervision is important, especially in a project the scale of the police station.

"In our inspections if we miss even two days a lot can have gone on.

The trustees authorized Machnik to negotiate for an on-site supervisor from the architectural firm.

The new police station will be built onto the northeast side of township hall. The outside trim will match that of the present building. There will be a small parking lot paved in front of the new building, and the area surrounding it will be re-landscaped.

Participates in telethon

Mary K. Collins of Farmington Hills participated in the Annual Lake Forest College Telethon, seeking alumni funds from alumni, parents and friends, which received pledges totaling $47,865.

Students made calls over a 14-eve-ning period, contacting some [illegible] alumni. The students formed [illegible] Marok, which received pledges totaling [illegible] friends. The telethon has been a tradition [illegible]

Hospital honors retired judge

Retired Wayne County Circuit Judge Benjamin D. Burdick will be honored at a special Founders Dinner on June 14 hosted by the Board of Trustees of Brighton Hospital in the Westin Hotel Riverfront Ballroom.

Burdick is the only surviving founder of the nationally recognized facility that specializes in the treatment of alcoholism and related substance abuse. He has served on its Board of Trustees since 1950 and was recently re-elected to another three-year term as its secretary.

"The Founders Dinner is an opportunity to honor Judge Burdick for his 34 years of faithful service to Brighton Hospital and its patients and at the same time to raise some funds for the construction project currently under way at the hospital," said Richard R. Dam, chairman of the facility's Board of Trustees.

The $5.4-million construction program was launched last November. A 19,000-square-foot addition is being built and will be ready for use later this year. Twenty-two-thousand square feet of older areas of the hospital will then be renovated. The entire project will be completed in mid-1985.

Judge Burdick was appointed to the Wayne County circuit bench by then-Gov. George Romney and retired from the judgeship in 1970. He is counsel to the Southfield law firm of Sommers, Schwartz, Silver and Schwartz.

A graduate of Wayne State University Law School in the 1928 first class of law graduates, Burdick has served on Wayne's Board of Governors and as president of its Law Alumni Association. He received the Law School's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1968, the University's Alumni Award for outstanding achievement in 1965 and has had the annual Moot Court Competition named after him.

A practicing attorney for 35 years before joining the bench, Judge Burdick served as chief public administrator for Wayne County for six years and as special counsel for the Federal Housing Administration in Detroit.

Tickets for the Founders Dinner are $100 each and can be obtained from Brighton Hospital's Community Relations Department. For reservations, phone the hospital at 227-1211, Ext. 75.

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Arthritis Today
Joseph J. Weiss, M.D.
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Phone 478-7860
THE SEASONS AND ARTHRITIS
Recently I discussed the weather and arthritis. Today's column will extend that discussion to include the influence of the seasons on bone and joint conditions.
For example, psoriatic arthritis flares in the winter and is mild in the summer, these changes parallel the intensity of ultraviolet light in the atmosphere. Such light is excellent treatment for psoriasis, and however fares the skin, so fares the arthritis. Thus, the longer and warmer the summer, the more ultraviolet light is present, and the better the patient with psoriatic arthritis feels.
In contrast, for patients with lupus arthritis, winter is the best time of the year, and summer is the worst. Again the reason has to do with exposure to ultraviolet light, which in lupus patients accelerates the production of reactions within the body that are harmful to the individual. Thus a patient, writing of her experience with lupus, titled her book: The Sun is My Enemy.
These examples represent only a small sample of the ways in which arthritis and our environment interact.

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