

## **Information about the new firehouse project as of Feb. 4, 2010:**

The project has been temporarily slowed down due to cold weather. Due to the masons not being permitted to use antifreeze or calcium in the mortar mix, there has to be a time period where the temperatures do not drop below 25 degrees for a 48 hour time period. When we have that kind of weather, you will see a continuance of the block work. They are hopeful that work on the sewer line from the town hall and historical building will begin in the next two weeks.

We also have had numerous comments about the future of the existing building. Several people have inquired about fixing it up and utilizing it for another purpose. There are several reasons why this cannot occur.

- 1) There is no money available to put into such a project. If the township had available monies, they would be invested into the town hall. There are several issues that need to be addressed with our town hall. Windows, insulation and ADA requirements need to be addressed. A retaining wall is crumbling, and there are paint issues. A lot of people are attached to our town hall and its historical significance to our town, so that is the building that would receive any available monies.
- 2) There have been requests to keep the existing fire station for a community room. We have planned for community functions in the new firehouse. That is why we have a multifunctional community room as part of the firehouse project. It will be used for township meetings, and the fire department training room. Township based organizations will be able to utilize the community room in the new firehouse free of charge.
- 3) We need parking spaces. According to our zoning resolution, we need 57 parking spaces for the new fire house alone. There are only 45 planned, and that will be achieved by utilizing the land currently occupied by the existing fire house. Parking spaces at the township garage, historical building, and townhall will need to be used when events are being held that require the 57 spaces.