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Thomas Link

Chairman of the Board

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**For Immediate Release**

**West Webster Fire Department Announces Facilities Study**

The West Webster Fire Department is pleased to inform the community that a facilities study is underway at the department’s headquarters, Station #1.  The station, located at 1051 Gravel Road, was originally built in 1966, and has been enlarged with additions in 1979 and 1993.  Today, the station is currently undersized for the fire, rescue and emergency medical services that operate from it, and many of the original and repaired building systems are insufficient for the building’s functions.  The Board of Fire Commissioners has commissioned a facilities study to determine the most appropriate and cost-effective way to address the building’s deficiencies long term.

The department issued a Request for Proposal in late June 2015, and, following interviews with short-listed firms, selected Rochester-based LaBella Associates to provide architecture and engineering consulting services.  LaBella was selected based on their successful project history with both fire stations and facility assessments in general.  “LaBella will provide a comprehensive, investigative report,” Chairman of the Board Tom Link said.  “They are going to look at various solutions for Station 1.  Renovation, additions and replacement will be objectively studied, and LaBella will provide the costs and benefits for each solution.”

The final report, expected to be published at the end of November, will be made available to the public for review.  “We are committed to providing first-rate service to the residents of Webster and Penfield, as well as shepherding the community’s resources responsibly,” Link said.  “The facility is used by 125 active firemen, over 100 Firemen’s Association social members, the Fire Explorer program and the Ladies Auxiliary, who are all members of our community.”  Following the release of the report, any subsequent construction project will be voted on by residents.

Station 1 will be open to the public Sunday, October 4, from 1 pm – 4pm, as part of Fire Prevention month.  Residents are encouraged to visit the station, learn about the department, and ask questions about the process.

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