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Press Release

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Press Release

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New Maintenance Facility Opens *Violet Township Opens Facility*

Pickerington, Ohio – October 26, 2009 – 18 months ago, local legislators and dignitaries participated in a ground breaking ceremony for a new Violet Township maintenance facility. On October 23rd, Township Trustees and other public figures met again to conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the fully functional facility; located at 490 Center Street which is on the corner of Center Street and Stemen Road in Pickerington.

The new facility was designed to maintain all Township equipment and vehicles to keep up with the growing demand for services. Currently, the Township maintains a 27-vehicle fleet for fire, emergency medical, road maintenance services and Township Administration. The new facility will also be used to maintain off-road vehicles and equipment. One full-time and two part-time maintenance technicians will work in the 12,000 square feet facility that also provides Road Department vehicle and equipment storage plus office space for the Township Engineer. Built at a cost of \$2.8 million, the facility has been fully funded through creative financing with the sale of bonds, thus eliminating the need for any additional taxes. The facility is self-sustaining and could be used as an emergency shelter during a community emergency.

The planning process for the new facility began in 2005 and has been driven by Mr. Bill Yapple, the Township Director of Operations. As Trustee Gary Weltlich pointed out at the ribbon cutting ceremony, Mr. Yapple has been the consistent advocate who first determined the need and then provided the vision and business case for moving forward. Mr. Weltlich also thanked the City for expediting the approval process to enabling a timely completion of the project. Mr. Yapple has also been the driving force to complete construction and get the facility ready for operations. At the Ceremony, Mr. Yapple was quick to highlight all the help and support provided by a wide range of Township staff during the design and construction phases. He pointed out that staff completed many of the design and construction tasks which reduced the overall cost of the facility. Trustee Chairman Harry Myers told the assembled Township staff and local dignitaries that the facility will allow the Township to deliver the services that the residents deserve and have come to expect. Township Trustee Terry Dunlap emphasized the fact that the facility will allow the Township to do more maintenance in house and thus avoid more costly options of using outside services, thus saving budget dollars each year.

The Township Trustees all agree that the new maintenance facility will allow Township services to grow along with the population so that service levels will be maintained and Violet Township will remain a great place to grow a family and a business.



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