

MIDDLETOWN

Board to award bids for work on substations

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Work should start within a month or two on fire and emergency squad substations in northern Middletown after the township supervisors approved notices of intent to award bids at Tuesday night's meeting.

A building to house substations for the Langhorne-Middletown Fire Co. and Penndel-Middletown Emergency squad will be constructed on a three-acre piece of the township-owned Styer property on Langhorne-Yardley Road.

Tuesday night, the board approved notices of intent to award general construction, mechanical construction, electrical, plumbing and fire protection contracts totaling about \$2.8 million. The total was higher until Penndel-Middletown Chief Brent McLaughlin and Langhorne-Middletown president Ryan Marte said their companies would chip in \$143,000 for electrical generators and a vehicle exhaust system.

The bids will be awarded in a month to six weeks if a check of the low bidders reveals that they meet all requirements of the township's responsible contractor ordinance, something that usually happens.

James Linske, an architect working on the project, said the bidders should be able to start almost immediately if they check out. Once started, the substations will take about a year to complete, he estimated.

"Let's break ground, everybody," said supervisors Chairman Robert McMonagle.