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Brentwood officials seek options for moving borough operations



By [Stephanie Hacke](#)

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Brentwood leaders want to know how much it will cost to move operations from their crumbling municipal building to the borough's largest shopping center.

Council members on Nov. 23 authorized borough Manager George Zboyovsky to have architect HHSDR prepare renderings for two options to move borough operations from its current site on Brownsville Road to Brentwood Towne Square.

Brentwood will pay HHSDR \$18,875 to evaluate two options and provide cost estimates, Zboyovsky said. "Everyone's throwing costs at us, 'Oh, it's not going to cost that much.' Well what is 'not that much?'" Zboyovsky said. "We want to see the numbers."

The two options are: move the borough's administrative offices and police department to Brentwood Towne Square, or, move the latter in to the Brentwood Fire Station on Brownsville Road, Zboyovsky said.

The project will produce a cost estimate for the two options.

"They're doing their due diligence," Zboyovsky said.

Borough leaders have discussed plans for renovations or constructing a new borough building for decades. Studies date back to the late 1980s, when leaders were exploring renovation of the Brownsville Road facility that once housed the fire department and library.

Today, the building is home to the Brentwood administration offices, police department and EMS. Yet, the ceilings are caving in, and tile flooring in the upstairs is filled with asbestos.

Borough leaders most recently were close to a deal for a public-private partnership to move the borough offices to the former Snee Dairy location, when the developer, citing a lack of consensus on council, pulled out late last year.

Brentwood Council in October agreed for Zboyovsky to work with nonprofit Economic Development South to begin negotiations with Echo Development, the owners of Brentwood Towne Square and the Brentwood Giant Eagle, along with any other parties associated with leasing space, to house municipal operations.

Castle Shannon-based Marsa Masonry Contractor conducted an inspection of the municipal building's structure and found that the stone panels had bowed, shifted and fractured.

Council members on Nov. 23 opted not to proceed with an option from MARSa to make repairs to the structure because of the cost, Zboyovsky said. Instead, they want to see if there is a cheaper option.

"They didn't want to spend that much on something that would just be putting a Band-Aid on it," Zboyovsky said.

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