City Council OKs engineer to design church bell tower

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — City Council approved a $13,180 contract with Carr Engineering for design, engineering and construction administration to restore the bell tower on the city-owned Allen Aire Church on Franklin Street.

The restoration of the church has been turned into phases and includes restoration and reconstruction of the bell tower.

In June 2018, the church caught fire as the result of a moving truck driving down Osborne Street, with electrical lines igniting the church's steeple tower. The church was prepped with foam to prevent rekindling. Later in the afternoon, the church's tower, briefly damaged, was dismantled.

Carr Engineering will provide structural engineering analysis and design, preparation of construction drawings including plans, sections, details, notes, specifications, estimates of costs and the furnishing of reduction and preservation of the bell tower phases of the project.

The contract includes $2,000 for schematic design, $10,000 for construction documents and $1,180 for construction supervision as a lump sum.

Earlier in the year, the city purchased the building in 2021 following a 2019 fire that damaged the steeple tower. bell tower, church, the three-story adjacent agreement status $25,000, proposed a plan to keep the church and part of its adjacent use for financial support for the continued restora- tion and preservation of the church and restoration and the continued recognition of its historical significance. The city purchased the church and part of its adjacent property for financial support for the continued restoration and the potential of continued recognition for the continued restoration and preservation of the church and the continued recognition of its historical significance.

The city purchased the building in 2011 following a 2010 fire that damaged the steeple tower, bell tower and church. The city is seeking to lease the property.

City police answer 2,483 calls in July

City police answered 2,483 calls for service with 770 police answered in the month of July, Cape May’s city police answer 2,483 calls in July.

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