

Dealership to move to Fayette Crossing

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A car dealership has signed a \$975,000 contract with the Fayette County Redevelopment Authority to purchase about 7 acres at Fayette Crossing in South Union Township.

Mike Wood, owner of Mike Wood Toyota of Uniontown, advised authority members on Wednesday that he and Toyota had looked at several locations, but settled on the site on Matthew Drive because it best suited the dealership's needs.

“We liked this place the best,” he said of the property.

Fayette Crossing is a part of the nearly 280-acre Fayette Business Park. The park includes Walmart, numerous retailers, restaurants and various businesses.

The dealership currently leases property on West Main Street.

Wood said that the new 24,000-square-foot building will be a state-of-the-art complex that will have about 40 employees.

“In addition to the property purchase, we will be investing between \$2.5 (million) and \$3 million for the construction,” he said. “We believe it will be an asset to the area.”

The construction is to be completed by April 2015, added Wood.

Andrew French, authority executive director, said the purchase indicated the commitment of the business to the area.

“For the past year, they have been leasing property and now they want to invest here,” he said. “It is good news.”

In other real estate matters, the board agreed to amend a 2005 contract with RET-FAY LLC of Uniontown, to modify the type of businesses to be constructed on a 1.96-acre parcel the firm purchased nearly a decade ago.

According to the new contract, RET-FAY will construct one of the two originally proposed medical complexes and replace the second facility with a hotel at its Matthew Drive property.

The proposed hotel, a Holiday Inn Express, will be a 64,500-square-foot, five-story building, with the medical complex to be 10,000 square feet.

In other matters, the board approved a option agreement with Trek Development Group Inc. of

Pittsburgh for the redevelopment of the Union Station building in Brownsville.

The vacant building is one of several properties in the borough owned by the authority.

French said that the agreement allows the developer to pursue funding for the conversion of the building into a low-income, 24- unit, senior living complex.

According to the contract, Trek Development will pay the authority \$150,000 to hold its interest in the potential purchase of the property until December 2015.

In the interim, the developer will seek funding through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency/Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program.

French said the contract allows for the agreement to be extended should Trek Development not be successful in obtaining funding over the next 18 months.

In other action, the board conducted the following business:

n Awarded a contract with Kukurin Contracting Inc. of Export to extend waterlines along Stager Road in Georges Township. The \$272,272 bid offered by the firm was the lowest of the nine offered for the project. The 5,200-lineal-foot project, when completed, will provide public water service to 15 households. The cost will be defrayed through state Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds received by the municipality and county.

n Approved a \$538,980 contract with John T. Subrick Inc. of Eighty Four to extend water service to about 20 homes in Jefferson Township. CDBG funds secured by the township and county will be used to defray the cost.