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Wednesday, January 10, 2007

## **Business park secures another tenant**

By Paul Sunyak, Herald-Standard 01/07/2004

Yet another tenant is coming to the Fayette County Business Park, as the Fayette County Redevelopment Authority agreed Tuesday to sell 1.5 acres to Laurel Pediatrics, PC for \$75,000.

The 5,000-square-foot, one-story building will be located across Wayland Smith Drive from the offices of Dr. Paul Hartley, another of the fledgling park's tenants. FCHA Executive Director Raymond C. Polaski said that Laurel Pediatrics wants to be close enough so its patients can walk to the laboratory in Hartley's office.

Polaski said that Dr. Mani Balu of Laurel Pediatrics told him the practice is looking to hire another doctor and related support staff, which would add five or six employees to the operation.

Dave Dowling of Fairchance Construction, which will build the new medical facility, said that Laurel Pediatrics' lease with Uniontown Hospital runs through June 2005 but the practice is negotiating for an earlier termination.

Dowling said the 50-by-100-foot building would include a waiting room, general reception area and approximately 10 patient examination rooms. He said the plan calls for 20 parking spaces for patients and 26 for staff, and \$10,000 worth of landscaping.

Project engineer Terry McMillen, one of the park's first tenants, said that Laurel Pediatrics is in the same situation as his business had been: growth of the business has exceeded the ability to expand at its current location.

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"They're in a situation very similar to what I was," said McMillen, who noted that the site conforms to all South Union Township zoning requirements with the exception of a subdivision plan that the authority needs to submit.

Board Chairman Kenneth Finney and board members Paul Bortz Jr., Charles Cieszynski and James Woleslagle voted to approve the sale. Board member Ross DiMarco was absent.

The property being purchased by Laurel Pediatrics sits across the road from a development cluster formed by the Hartley medical office, CareerLink and the new county Mental Health/Mental Retardation Agency building currently under construction.

In a separate development-related matter, the board approved a \$750,000 open-end mortgage with First National Bank of Pennsylvania, which Polaski described as a line of credit for development work at the business park.

Although the funds may never be needed, Polaski said the line of credit is available if any money doesn't flow as anticipated. "This is our security blanket," said Polaski, who noted that Tuesday's action basically approved documents related to the board's October decision to obtain the line of credit.

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