

Springfield airport improvements continue

City purchases and will demolish house in noise buffer; asphalt fix complete

By Samantha Sommer, Staff Writer

10:02 PM Tuesday, September 28, 2010

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport is in the midst of some improvements.

City commissioners agreed Tuesday night to purchase a home at 2160 W. Jackson Road from Anna Mae Hopkins for \$111,500 and undisclosed relocation benefits.

Almost all of the cost of the .67-acre property is covered by a Federal Aviation Administration grant.

The city likely will close on the sale in four to six weeks, said Tom Franzen, the city's economic development administrator. It plans to demolish the house.

It is buying the property because it is in the noise buffer for the airport.

Commissioners also approved a contract amendment and a change order to two other projects at the airport.

ME Companies Inc. is designing a sewer project that includes an extension from the Southern Interceptor sewer line to the airport.

The contract amendment increases the scope of their work. The entire sewer project is expected to cost about \$4 million, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers paying 75 percent, City Engineer Leo Shanayda said.

Construction on it is likely at least a year off.

The approved change order decreased the cost of some runway repairs by more than \$41,000, Shanayda said, because a layer of stress-absorbing fabric didn't need to be put under the runway.

The repairs by A&B Asphalt Paving included shaving down a 10-foot wide section of the main runway and repaving it, as well as fixing some heaved areas.

Those repairs are complete, and the remaining work includes pavement markings and the removal of some trees that are too tall, Shanayda said.

The total project cost is about \$264,000, with the Ohio Department of Transportation paying for 80 percent of it and the city covering the remaining costs.

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