

DEVELOPMENT: Forty-foot lots approved for Hoover Park Drive and Jacob Way

Lebovic plan gets nod

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
STAFF WRITER

Will 40-foot lots become a building standard for development in Stouffville?

It's a controversy the town has been faced with for years, and one which resurfaced at council again Tuesday.



JOE LEBOVIC

Will build 41 single-detached homes

said.

Lebovic will build 41 single-detached homes including some on 40-foot lots, with others on larger lots. The plan is to extend Hoover Park Drive and Jacob

Local developer Joe Lebovic of West Hill Redevelopment Company was successful in his longtime bid to build a subdivision in the south east end of town with 40-foot frontages.

But critics say approving the smaller lots sizes will open the flood gates and set a precedent for future developments. Sixty feet has been the smallest frontage permitted in Stouffville for years.

"This is almost like a dress rehearsal. This (40-foot lot issue) is coming down the road with the Big Pipe," resident Steven Kerley

Way to accommodate the homes to be built on a six-acre parcel.

Bungalows are the design of choice because people, especially seniors, are demanding them, Lebovic said. "I make less profit on a bungalow, but people want them."

Ward 2 Councillor Mark Carroll allowing 40-foot lots will "become a habit," which will eventually erode the standards for wider lots across the town. As well, Carroll suggested the houses are being built too close together.

But Ward 4 Councillor Cliff Dunkeld disagrees. Dunkeld said young people who have grown up in Stouffville need the starter homes to enable them to live in the community as adults.

Ward 6 Councillor Sue Sherban requested Lebovic to add two trees, instead of one, to each building lot. While Lebovic rejected her suggestion, he did agree to put two trees on each corner lot.

Council recently allocated 41 units of sewage capacity for the development which has been on a waiting list for years. As well, the application was reviewed by a number of agencies, including the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, York Region and both local school boards.

No objections were registered but some area residents wrote letters regarding the lot sizes.

Tennis proposal needs full services

FROM PAGE 1.

ClubLink has just submitted an application for amendments to the Official Plan and to the York Regional plan to facilitate the development. As well, a full Secondary Plan for Gormley is recommended by town staff.

The new community hinges on full municipal services, including an extension of the York-Durham septic servicing system to the Gormley area.

The proposed tennis facility includes a main stadium court seating 12,500 people, while two other courts will seat about 5,000.

If all goes as planned, Tennis Canada will host major competitions, including the Canadian Open, which is one of Super 9 events of the APT tour.

Super 9 tennis competitions are now held in Paris or Monaco or in England at Wimbledon. Moffatt pointed out that the Canadian Open is a 10-day event. "It's not an

on-going Air Canada Centre," Moffatt said.

The new community will complement two existing 18-hole golf courses, Rolling Hills and Gormley Greens, Mayor Wayne Emmerson said.

As well, the tennis facility could mean the town will become a host community for the Summer Olympics. "I welcome Team Canada to Whitchurch-Stouffville. We'll know by this fall if we're to be part of the Olympics," he said.

Mayors want to discredit board: Leach

FROM PAGE 1.

hadn't addressed important issues only days before the board's first meeting at the Sheraton Parkway hotel.

"It's typical of ramming things through at the last minute. We're going into this with a lot of unknowns."

Vaughan Mayor Lorna Jackson resents that the province is acting like "big daddy." She said the mayors should be telling Queen's Park how they want to see the board run.

Mayors said they're prepared to suspend Friday's meeting for up to a month to give Municipal Affairs Minister Al Leach a chance to respond to their demands.

They also agreed that rather than disbanding the GTA mayors

committee in favor of the GTSB, the monthly get-togethers will continue for at least the next year while the board gets up on its feet.

Leach, who didn't attend the meeting, later said he'll give mayors the time they want to choose a chairperson.

But he suggested the mayors' outrage is just a ploy to discredit the GTSB before it even begins.

"As you well know there are individuals in that mayors and chairs group who have been trying to thwart this process from day one. And if it wasn't this excuse, it would be 10 others," he told reporters.

York Mackenzie MPP Frank Klees said the province may end up regretting listening to officials who lobbied the province not to appoint a chairperson.

"Maybe, in retrospect, we should just appoint a chairperson; get the job done and move to elections a year from now," he said, adding he still believes the board should select its own leader.

He suggested the chairperson's salary be an average of GTA mayors' wages.

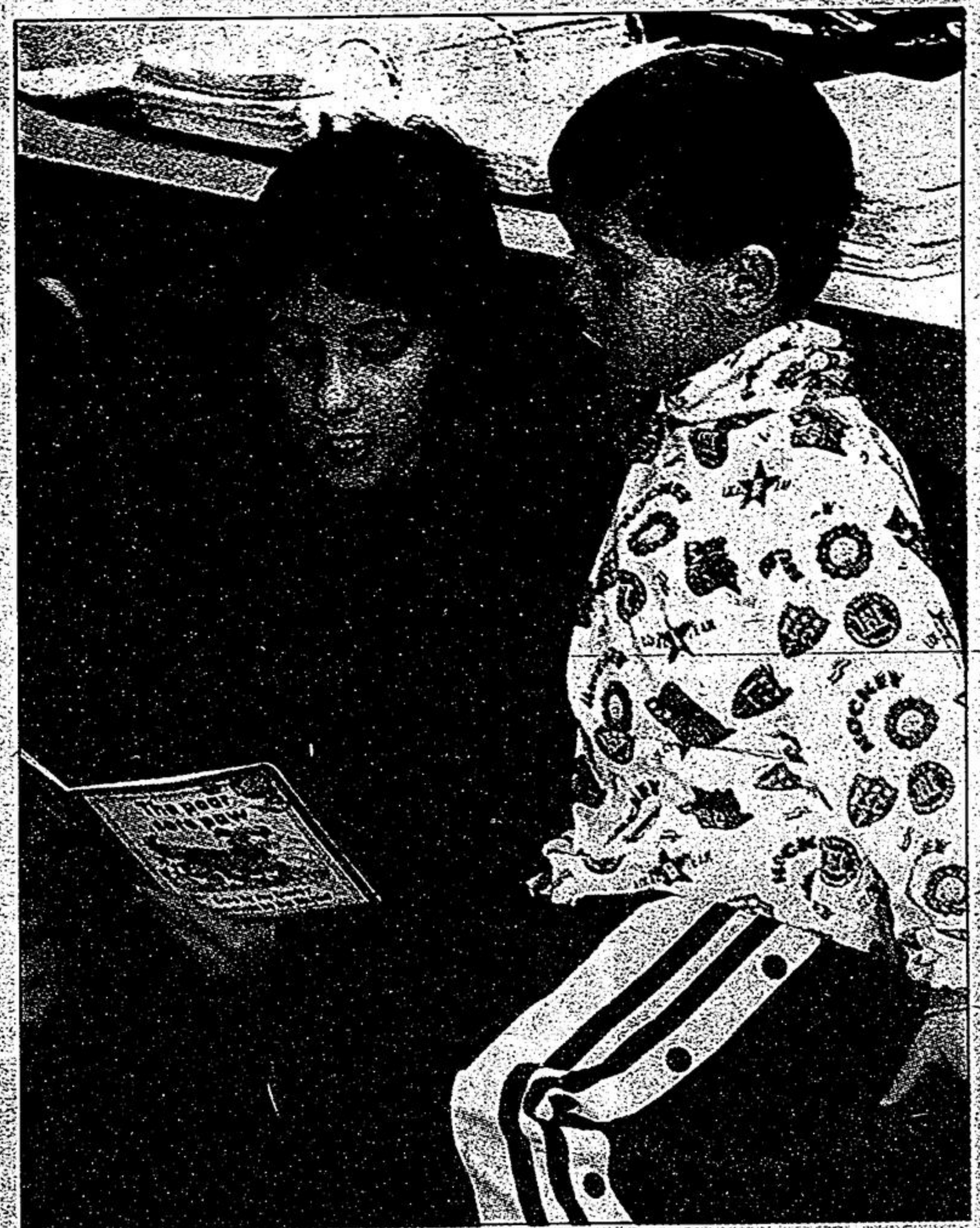
Toronto's 11 board members, who hold 50 per cent of the vote, intend to vote as a block for Tonks.

But 905 mayors are split over who they'll support.

York mayors Tom Taylor of Newmarket, Margaret Black of King Township and Jim Mortson of East Gwillimbury say they'll vote for Tonks, while Georgina Mayor Rob Grossi said he's leaning in that direction.

Other mayors said they're undecided.

READING BUDDIES



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

Summitview Public School Grade 7 student Lindsay Anderson, 12, reads with Brett Neil, 7, Grade 2, in a read-a-thon held at the school last Friday.

CRIME

Officer 'shook up' after being run down

BY CHRISTOPHER DOURIS
STAFF WRITER

A York Regional Police officer run down by a van whose driver was trying to avoid capture, was back on the job the next day.

A second constable remains off duty due to injuries after the cruiser he was driving was rammed by the van just before the occupants were arrested following a break-in at a home Monday afternoon.

"I can't compete with two tonnes of vehicle, holding out my hand just doesn't cut it," Const. Vince Eagan told *The Stouffville Tribune* before heading to hospital to be treated for injuries. "I thought I had him blocked."

The 10-year veteran added he was "a little shook up."

Meanwhile, Const. Andy Graham is at home recuperating.

Officers who saw Eagan hit by the van said the officer went between 10 and 15 feet in the air.

"He landed on his back, got up right away and took off after them," Insp. Gord Marshall said.

According to Sgt. John Sheldon, a citizen alerted police around 1:30 p.m. about a possible break-in at a Castleridge Drive home in the Bayview Avenue and Hwy. 7 area. Plainclothes officers in the area responded to the call and spotted a van where the break-in occurred.

Eagan was one of those responding to a call for backup. He had the van boxed in as it was stopped for a red light at Bayview and Briggs avenues.

As the uniformed officer approached, the van driver accelerated directly at the officer, who jumped at the last minute. The officer landed on the hood of the van, rolled onto the windshield, smashing it. The van sped off. Both occupants of the van were taken into custody and held for a bail hearing.

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