

1090 Hoover Park Dr.

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GOVERNMENT: Busy Bethesda Road

Soccer, ball fields ready for May

The Bethesda Sports Fields are starting to look like, well, sports fields, according to Councillor Richard Bartley.

"Ball fields and the senior soccer field will be ready May 1, which is the beginning of their seasons," said Andrew McNeely, director of planning and building services for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The fieldhouse will be ready July 1. However, portable toilets will be available at the park in the interim.

Among the tasks that still need to be completed is the field lighting, which has been awarded to S&F Excavating for \$320,250, including GST.

"The contractor is well known to the town and has been directly involved in the construction of the sports fields and associated amenities to date at Bethesda Park," wrote Mr. McNeely in his Jan. 19 report to council.

Five other proposals were received with bids ranging from \$398,000 to \$664,000, inclusive of GST.

The park is on Bethesda Road between the Ninth and Tenth Lines just north of Stouffville.

Operation centre costs grow

The foundation has been laid on the salt/sand and unheated storage buildings at the

town's new operations centre, which will be located on Bethesda Road just west of Hwy. 48.

However, two issues have created financial ramifications.

The architect is forecasting a fee increase of \$38,000 and poor soil conditions were found in the excavated area of the driveway/ parking area as well as under the salt/sand and unheated foundations, which required extra work and materials.

In order to keep the project within its approved budget of \$10.76 million, these costs will be taken from the contingency fund, according to Paul Whitehouse, the town's director of public works.

The contractors also lost some work days due to poor weather conditions in October and November.

The centre is scheduled to open this sumner.

It will include shared office, shop and training facilities for the town's public works and leisure services departments, plus storage for salt and sand.

There is room for micro soccer fields to be built on the north side of the property.

For more information on both Bethesda Road projects, go to townofws.com

