

REEVE'S OPENING REMARKS FOR JANUARY 11, 2010

1. Good evening. I thank our media reps and the public gallery for being with us here this evening.
2. Since our last regular Township council meeting I had the responsibility of attending the EOWC meeting in Belleville on December 17th where agreement was reached on the RFP to offer contracts with two internet providers to supply enriched broadband services to the Warden's Caucus region. This Wednesday, Thursday and Friday I will be in Kingston for the EOWC inaugural meetings and my final duty as the UCLG past Warden.
3. Of significant interest is next Monday, January 18th at 6:30 p.m. here in the council chambers, to assess any public interest in the future of the Algonquin School property as a potential Artisan Village. I would encourage Council Members, the public in the South Grenville and South Leeds areas, to come out and participate in the discussion regarding possibilities of that site. Lack of interest in this scheduled meeting will indicate to me and I expect Council alike that there may be no appetite for such opportunity in our area. We need your input for any further plans concerning that vacant school.
4. 2010 budget deliberations will continue with a date of January 21, 2010 preferred by our CAO, Mr. Bennett.
5. The addition & renovations to the North Augusta Fire Hall continue and completion is expected to be on schedule. Fire Chief Dougherty, Cpt. Ed Finucan, CBO Steve Leroux, project administrator Mary Campbell, Contractor Bernier Construction and Eastern Engineering continue to meet bi-weekly to deal with progress reports and they are doing a fine job of keeping this project on track and within budget. The solar panel contract to install F.I.T. electrical panels on the roof exterior should be significant benefit to Augusta as part of our Green Energy focus. Council will continue to consider other Township opportunities under the Green Energy Act by improving municipal buildings to become more energy efficient at the same time create a revenue source by producing electricity.

6. Of specific interest is the advertisement of excess public works equipment for sale, discussion around the refurbishing of the Second Concession and I am recommending to Council that as part of our tender process for that construction, the municipality hold a public meeting here or at MERC for our engineering consultants to answer any public inquiries and review suggestions for improvements to this major undertaking.
7. A review of Augusta's procedural by-law is currently underway and I anticipate a thorough discussion on this subject for our next Committee of the Whole meeting. If Council would peruse the tentative document and forward suggestions to staff or myself, this would definitely speed up the process.
8. Consideration of afternoon meetings, once or twice a month may fit well into our agendas and allow for further transparency to our residents and another voice in municipal matters.