

REEVE'S OPENING REMARKS FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2008

1. Welcome to the media and gallery for your presence.
2. Since our regular Augusta Council meeting members of Council have been very active attending to many obligations, supported by staff.
3. A meeting here in the Council Chambers on Augusta 24/08 after consultation with the Domville Subdivision residents, Council has decided to proceed with an improvement to the southerly portion of the parking lot on Baker Drive and Concession 4, with the northerly portion being offered for sale as a building lot and remaining funds designated for improvements to the Domville Recreation parks. This subdivision agreement has been hanging around since the 1970's uncompleted, thus it is this Council's commitment to have the Township obligations addressed.
4. Council has interviewed 4 candidates for the position of CBO. Fortunately we have been successful in our selection and expect our new Building Official to be on staff by October/08. The name will be released after due notification to the present employer.
5.
 - a) Councillor Pakeman and myself attended the AMO conference in Ottawa August 24 – 27 and each of us sat in on numerous interesting presentations. Of note was the announcement by Premier McGuinty of new funding for infrastructure in Ontario. Augusta's share is designated to be \$421,810.00. My recommendation to Council is to seriously consider the necessary addition to the North Augusta Fire Hall as a priority; with the balance to be used on our roads system.
 - b) On Tuesday August 26, the Fed-Prov Minister Cameron and Watson announced a further agreement to assist municipalities with infrastructure funding. This money will be by application and merit. It is my recommendation that Council review our options ASAP following the selection of our engineering consultants once that firm is confirmed. It is pointed out that an RFP for engineering services was circulated this week to perspective companies and the turn around for response is September 17/08 after which Council will need to make the selection. There are a number of outstanding issues awaiting engineering advice, including the office front entrance, generator for the office, municipal garage review, fire halls and 2009 road improvements.

6. On September 3/08, Councillor Banning and Pakeman traveled to Kemptville for the info meeting re Council Training Session re Fire Depts. and EMS. That evening our Council and CAO meet in the Maitland Fire Hall with residents of the Irace Subdivision. This is another instance where there are outstanding incomplete issues with that 1989 agreement. We thank those many residents for their attendance and we will keep them informed of further developments.
7. The North Augusta Recreation Committee deserves huge praise for the very successful Labor Day weekend Festivities. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The volunteers again were amazing and our Fire Fighters also did us proud.
8. Following the advice of our roads consultant, Council requested a re-tender for 2008 road works. The new quotes have been reviewed and successful bidder is being rewarded tonight with that contract for construction in Riverview Heights and Maitland.
9. Further to our Council's discussion on video surveillance; I am eager to report the following. This spring (2008) I was contacted by a property owner complaining of garbage dumping in that neighbourhood. Suffice it to say, that last week the same person, upon my request, successfully obtained the license plate number of an individual(s) dumping garbage. Immediately this info was passed on to the Township Office and myself. Subsequently the party was identified and will be prosecuted to the fullest of the law by our By-law Enforcement Officer. This type of information being reported by our residents will help us end this wreckless abuse and disrespect to our municipality in general and our residents in specific.

I strongly encourage public support to stamp-out this cancer of embarrassment in Augusta.

My suggestion to Council is to consider a Township Hotline by a recording machine to accept reports of illegal dumping and road sign damage. Working together we can solve this problem. As a community we can and must do better. Our energy needs to be focused on improving our status with a new sense of respect and caring for each other.