

REEVE'S OPENING REMARKS FOR APRIL 13, 2009

1. Again, it is always my privilege to welcome our media reps and everyone in the public gallery.
2. Since our March 09 Council meeting, there has been no shortage of meetings. Of course Budget meetings here in Augusta and at UCLC have dominated our collective attention. Every effort at both levels, are concentrating on finding to maintain the services our residents are accustomed to, while at the same time controlling the expense side thus restraining any tax rate increase.
3. March 11, 2009 was the focus of the OPP Internet Fraud and Identity Theft presentation at Maynard Public School. Of special notice were 2 specific points related to our own responsibilities, in that DO NOT KEEP IN YOUR WALLET: 1. SIN 2. BIRTH CERTIFICATE. Also, always keep an eye on your VISA card no matter where you use it. There is no need for more than 2 credit cards in your wallet. Your personal info is likewise far too vulnerable on the Internet so beware of any transactions on your computer.
4. It is of importance to note that the Government of Ontario has banned the cosmetic use of pesticides effective this spring. I want to congratulate Council on its decision following our Nov. 06 election that Augusta declined to participate in a local ban and preferred to leave that responsibility with the Province. Which is exactly what has come to fruition.
5. The report from Genivar on the condition of our P.W garage raises some interesting points and I would suggest that Council needs to set aside some time to discuss this entire issue and how we may address it with due respect to our taxpayers.
6. I am going to suggest to Council that consideration be given whereby any Augusta ratepayer who has structural property damage due to fire; that the Township waive the building permit fee for reconstruction, this idea needs to be reviewed by our staff and brought to the committee of the Whole (Admin and Finance) for discussion. This initiative in my assumption would show the compassion and support that I believe we are most proud of in this municipality.
7. Our CAO Mr. Bennett at our last Council meeting made reference to a rabies clinic in Augusta which will be supported by the L.G and L Health Unit. This clinic is now confirmed and scheduled for Sept 16/09 at the Public Works garage on Algonquin Rd. Mark your calendar.
8. The next round of Budget discussions is scheduled to take place on April 16 here at our Council Chambers. We are nearing completion of the Township portion at the budget process and will shortly approve the 2009 tax rates.