

## REEVE'S OPENING REMARKS FOR JUNE 8, 2009

1. As always, Council welcomes the public to these Council Chambers. It is likewise important to have members of the media attending our Township meetings and I encourage local print to continue this commitment.
2. Good news since our Committee of the Whole meeting on May 25, 2009 is that our Township has been successful in engaging the services of Mr. Kevin Hart to fill the position of Manager of Public Works/ Road Superintendent and we are delighted to have him on board. He is currently in the learning mode of becoming acquainted with our Public Works staff and municipality in general.
3. Official Plan discussions with the Township planner, Stantec, and our O.P. Ad Hoc committee in support of the standing Ag & Planning committee continue. After lengthy review and revisions, it is expected an update draft will soon be ready for public consideration.
4. The recent Augusta Business Fair held at Maynard Public School on May 30, 2009 and organized by the Township Economic Development Committee, was a great success in terms of local small business vendors and public attendance response. Congratulations particularly to Councillor Stephenson and her Economic Development team supported by our staff. I'm sure a comprehensive appraisal of this initiative will be completed and future events considered.
5. Last week our CAO, our Counties Economic Development Officers and I had the opportunity to meet with Invista management to investigate how our municipality may assist in opportunities for Invista employees and families affected by the plant cutbacks plus an assessment of industry inventory and possibilities. It is my intention to encourage both Invista and our Counties Economic Development Office to pursue all possibilities. Augusta Township welcomes the opportunity to work with all impacted stakeholders to retain the existing operations and hopefully to be a catalyst for new synergetic opportunities at Invista as we move forward.
6. The Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus continues to seek government assistance in expanding the Broadband (Internet) connections for all of Eastern Ontario. Jim Pine, Hastings County CAO leads a team in that endeavour. On May 28, 2009 members of his team presented an update to members of Augusta and Edwardsburgh/Cardinal Council here in our Chambers. I might note that such Internet expansion is crucial in future development of the entire region.
7. Recent correspondence to my office from Mr. Jim Karygiannis, MP for Scarborough - Agincourt seeking support for his Private Members Bid C-319 amending the Motor Vehicle Safety Act to limit vehicle speed at 150 km effective January 01, 2010. First responders and emergency vehicles

would be excluded. Personal experience plus observations by numerous police officers convince me that this amendment should be supported and I would encourage members of Council to endorse this request.

8. Recognition of Augusta Volunteer Firefighters from Muscular Dystrophy, Canada, has been forwarded to me and on behalf of Council I wish to extend our joint appreciation of the valant effort in raising \$2100.00 for such a worthwhile cause. Congratulations girls, guys for the enthusiastic fundraising and I am honoured to support your endeavour.
9. On May 20, 2009 the Augusta Police Board in cooperation with the O.P.P and St. James Masonic Lodge held a *Child Identification Program*. O.P.P Constable Profit, Inspector Bedard and Sergeant Gerrie were present. The Principal of Maynard Public School, Mrs. Janice Deacon, convened the arrangements and we are grateful for her organization. Some 60 plus students passed through the I.D. certification which is the foundation of the AMBER ALERT program being used across North America. Our Township Administration also assisted in this exercise.
10. It should be noted that I will be attending an Economic summit in Kemptville on Friday, June 12, 2009 sponsored by UCLG where the Hon John Baird MPP and Minister responsible for infrastructure will be guest speaker. The following Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 I expect to be out of the area for a short trip to Western Canada and return for Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> Committee of the Whole here in Augusta. I apologize for the inconvenience to any residents wishing to speak to me on my usual Friday afternoon open door format in the Township office. If however there is a specific need to speak to me, please call the Township Office at 925-4231 and confirm an appointment and I will make every effort to accommodate you at your desired time. Further you may otherwise phone my home office at 342-6962.
11. THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO MR. FLOYD COVILLE FOR THE DONATION OF FLOWERS FOR THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE AND FIRE HALL.
12. Finally, some exciting news for Augusta Township. Friday last, June 5, 2009, our office received confirmation that 3 of our applications for Infrastructure Funding have been approved with the net eligible costs of \$3,494,445 of which Augusta will be responsible for a total of \$1,164,815 representing 1/3 of the total. These projects include rehabilitation of the 2nd Concession, revitalization of the Township Garage and rehabilitation of the Maynard Landfill Site. Our Township is grateful for the support of Gord Brown MP and Bob Runciman MPP, in securing these infrastructure monies committed in a joint effort at both the Federal and Provincial levels. Our newly contracted staff person, Mary Campbell (no relation) continues to work feverously on our behalf seeking new grants, completing applications and submitting them within the designated time frame. This entire package confirms my adage that working together we can make a difference.