

MAYOR'S REPORT
AUGUST 2010

August was a month in recess for City Council, but they remained still quite busy with various activities within the City during the month.

We are planning our Town Hall meetings over the next two months to discuss City finances with the upcoming tax increase (Issue 3) on the November ballot. We hope many residents will be in attendance as members of Council, our Law Director, and I address questions about the tax implications to the residents and our intentions with regard to the revenue. I intend to explain the need to pass this Issue and keep "Safety First" in our City. The safety forces look forward to the restoration of manpower, equipment and training if this issue passes. They do a fine job for our City and increasing the city income tax from 1.5% to 2% (as the majority of our surrounding cities have been for years) seems to be the prudent choice for the City of Willoughby Hills. We will hold three Town Hall meetings prior to the election in November and I encourage residents to attend any of all of them. In addition to City finances, any other issues may also be addressed at these meetings.

Many Council members and I assisted with two community Recreation events during the month of August: The Community Flea Market was held on August 21 and was very well attended. The weather was perfect and the vendors did well in passing along many bargain prices to the attendees. Our Annual Touch-A-Truck was held on August 28th and was, once again, a huge success. The Fire Department did a great job in scheduling many of our vehicles, as well as others from various departments and agencies. As always, everyone's favorite was the Emergency Medical Helicopter landing on the front lawn of City Hall. Thanks to everyone who planned and attended these two great events.

We continue to work on the Maple Grove slope repair project and many residents are anticipating the re-opening of Maple Grove. While many residents felt a relief to the constant traffic, others were inconvenienced by the detour that added time to their daily commute. We are working with the contractor to stay on schedule with an opening before the start of school in the fall.

Our other major project is the sewer installation in "Area C". This will be ongoing into next year and we appreciate the patience of residents and travelers in this area.

As the children get ready to go off to school, I want to remind you of school and bus safety. Let's get through another year without incidence to our school children.

In closing, I hope you had a safe and happy summer. Please call City Hall if you have any questions or concerns as we prepare for fall and winter in Willoughby Hills.