

Village of South River
Council Meeting – June 10, 2025

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Tuesday June 10, 2025. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Jim Coleman, Deputy Mayor Bill O’Hallarn, Councillor Brenda Scott, Councillor Teri Brandt, and Councillor Robert Brooks.

Staff in Attendance: Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator – In person
Janet Wedseltoft, Chief Financial Officer – In person
Candice Robertson, Administrative Assistance – In Person

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Coleman at 2:00p.m.

The Village of South River acknowledges the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties on the land of the Anishinabek that we meet today. We seek to work respectfully with Indigenous people, and are thankful for their teachings and stewardship of the land.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof – Nil

3. Delegation and Public Meeting – Nil

4. Adoption of Minutes – Council May 27, 2025

174-2025 Brooks/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting May 27th 2025 as presented.

Carried

5. Accounts and Finance

5.1 Accounts Reports

1. May 2025 Income Statement and Machine Time
2. May 2025 Cheque EFT and Online Payments
3. BFL Municipal Insurance Renewal

In regard to 5.1.3 Council reviewed the comparative rates from 2019-2025 and discussed the renewal of the municipal insurance.

175-2025 Brant/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the renewal of the municipal insurance with BFL Canada with an annual premium of \$136,108.76 including provincial sales tax.

Carried

176-2025 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the reports from Accounts and Finance #1 to #3.

Carried

6. Reports from Municipal Staff and/or Committees

6.1 Reports from Municipal Staff and Related Business –

1. HWSW Grant Application

In regard to 6.1.1 Council reviewed the HWSW Grant Application for funding for the Water Treatment Plant upgrades.

177-2025 Brooks/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support an application to the Ontario Health and Safety Water Stream for pump upgrades and a centrifuge for the water treatment plant.

Carried

178-2025 Brandt/Brooks
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the staff and committee reports #1.

Carried

6.2 Reports from Shared Services

- 1. SRM Medical Board Meeting Minutes May 20, 2025
- 2. SRM Library Board Meeting Minutes May 15, 2025

In regard to 6.2.1 Council discussed the South River Machar Medical Board Minutes. Council discussed the cost to update the medical files to the electronic records. The doctors have asked the board to assist with cost.

179-2025 Brandt/Brooks
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the reports from Shared Services Staff and Committees #1 to #2.

Carried

6.3 Reports from Regional Committees --

- 1. EMS Minutes May 22 2025
- 2. Joint Building Committee May 2025 Statistics
- 3. Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment Board Agenda

180-2025 Scott/Brooks
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Reports from the Regional Committees: Items #1 to #3.

Carried

7. By-Laws and Resolutions –

- 1. By-law 24-2025 - Escooter Bylaw (OTIF Application)
- 2. Resolution – Repair Voyageur Canoe
- 3. Resolution – Canada Day Celebration

181-2025 O’Hallarn Brandt
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law# 24-2025, being a by-law to permit certain Escooters within the municipality with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

182-2025 Brandt/O’Hallarn
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the repair of the historically significant Voyageur canoe at a cost not to exceed \$800.

Carried

183-2025 Brandt/Brooks
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support Donald Bruce’s Canada Day celebration with a \$250 donation.

Carried

8. Correspondence

- 1. South River Friendly Circle -Birthday Invite
- 2. South River Lions - Canada Day
- 3. Labour Market Group April Reports
- 4. Ministry of Natural Resources - Fire Management Proposals
- 5. Ministry of Natural Resources -Carbon Storage
- 6. Ministry of Emergency Preparedness- Amendments to Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act
- 7. Highland Players - Request for Support
- 8. City of Pickering - OW ODSP Motion
- 9. AHCC June 2025 Newsletter
- 10. Ministry of Solicitor General - OPP Cost Recovery Model Review
- 11. Good Happenings Food Bank Grant Application
- 12. Good Happening Food Bank Thank You

184-2025 Brandt/Brooks
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the 2025 South River Lions Club Canada Day celebration by temporarily closing Ottawa Ave from Isabella St to Ena Ave on Saturday June 28th 2025 from 1 PM to 1:30 PM and supplying a cake for participants.

Carried

185-2025 Brooks/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Good Happenings Food Bank Grant in Aid Application with a donation of \$2100.

Carried

186-2025 O'Hallarn/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #12.

Carried

In regard to 8.6 Council would like to write a letter to add to the amendment to the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to include Shared Services between municipalities.

In regard to 8.7 Council would like to bring this to the Recreation Committee meeting. Council would like more information in regard to dates, the amount of space/storage as space is limited at the Community Centre. Council also discussed the possibility of donation of space or at a reduced rate.

9. Council Roundtable (Items of Interest) –

Councillor Brenda Scott discussed the current food issue and that the Village should look at doing more for the community, possibly a Village based soup kitchen to help provide some relief. Councillor Scott also asked about an accommodation tax for short term rentals as more municipalities are starting to add the tax.

Deputy Mayor Bill O'Hallarn commented he was very impressed with the Good Happenings Food Bank Food Drive at Freshmart on the May long weekend. There were great donations and very positive results.

Councillor Robert Brooks commented that he has read in the news that the City of North Bay has been questioned as they have generated a large surplus and had put it into reserves instead of back into the budget.

Councillor Teri Brandt asked about the list of businesses for the business meeting and noting a business that had been missed on the list. Suggesting the meeting can be an opportunity for businesses to voice their concerns and what we as a Village can do better. Clerk Administrator Don McArthur suggested presenting the recycling issue and having a Q&A at the end. Mayor Jim Coleman added having a survey to be able to collect the information from businesses on paper. Councillor Brenda Scott agreed that the meeting would be a great time to be able to discuss commercial recycling and the Northlander Train return. Deputy Mayor Bill O'Hallarn added introducing Tanvir Kabir to the businesses letting them know we have an economic development intern and a ride share concept. Councillor Brandt added to also give an update about the train station. Council agreed to have the meeting Monday June 23 at 6:30pm at 309 HWY 124.

Mayor Jim Coleman asked for an update on the Arena Construction. Clerk Administrator Don McArthur replied that the cooling process has started to slow bring the temp down and is on schedule to start making ice June 19th. They are finishing putting the boards up and everything has gone well with very few issues.

Clerk Administrator Don McArthur highlighted few items to note for Council. A grant application has been submitted to Explorers Edge RTO 12 for signage. Secondly that a group that would be coming to the next council meeting to discuss possible improvements to Tebby Park. He updated the status of the OTIF Grant Application is complete and only awaiting getting letters of support. Lastly he noted Emma Pennell from South River and her success as an opera singer.

Candice Robertson left meeting at 4:14pm

10. In Camera –

- Brewery Equipment Offer
- Asking Price of 309 HWY 124

187-2025 Brandt/O'Hallarn

Be it Resolved that this meeting of the Village of South River Council be closed under Subsection 239. a) security of the property of the municipality and that this Council proceed in Camera at 4:14pm for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.

Carried

188-2025 Brooks/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 4:34pm with Mayor Jim Coleman as Chair.

Carried

189-2025 O'Hallarn/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support adjusting the

asking price for 309 HWY 124 to \$1,195,000.

Carried

11. Confirming By-law – By-law #25-2025

190-2025 Brooks/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law# 25-2025, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 10th day of June 2025 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

12. Adjournment

191-2025 Brooks/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby adjourn to meet again as the South River Council on Tuesday, June 24th, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the South River Council Chambers located at 63 Marie Street or at the call of the Mayor. Time of Adjournment: 4:37pm

Carried

Jim Coleman, Mayor

Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator