

Village of South River
Council Meeting – Mar 25, 2025

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Tuesday March 25, 2025. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Jim Coleman, Deputy Mayor Bill O'Hallarn, Councillor Brenda Scott, Councillor Teri Brandt, in council chambers and Councillor Robert Brooks- virtually

Staff in Attendance: Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator – In person
Janet Wedseltoft, Chief Financial Officer – In person
Candice Robertson, Administrative Assistant – In Person
Tanvir Kabir, Economic Development- 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 – Shock Rodz Car Club – Janice and Art Whitelock

Janice Whitelock presented to the Council the plans for the weekly car show at South River Brewery. She proposed increasing signage this year and securing more volunteers to assist with the weekly event, which will run from May 16 to the end of September, weather permitting. Janice Whitelock also shared the plans for the larger car show at Tom Thomson Park, discussing road closures, detours, spectator parking, and traffic control. She highlighted the need for additional garbage stations and mentioned that the event will feature live music, a DJ, and a BBQ, with volunteers required for assistance. Additionally, Janice Whitelock is exploring the possibility of inviting other vendors to attend this year, and setting up on Friday evening with overnight security in the park.

Janice and Art Whitelock and Tanvir Kabir left the meeting at 3:00pm

4. Adoption of Minutes – Council March 11, 2025 and Joint Council March 19, 2025

95-2025 O'Hallarn/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting March 11th and the Joint Council meeting of March 19th, 2025 as presented.

Carried

5. Accounts and Finance

5.1 Accounts Reports

1. South River Machar Community Centre 2025 Budget
2. South River Machar Fire Department 2025 Budget

96-2025 O'Hallarn/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the South River Machar Community Centre 2025 Budget with a municipal contribution of \$428,563 for capital and operating and the amount be included in the 2025 municipal budget.

Carried

97-2025 Brandt/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the South River Machar Fire Department 2025 Budget with a municipal contribution of \$236,155 for capital and operating and the amount be included in the 2025 municipal budget.

Carried

98-2025 Scott/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the reports from Accounts and Finance #1 to #2.

Carried

6. Reports from Municipal Staff and/or Committees

6.1 Reports from Municipal Staff and Related Business –

1. Public Works Committee Minutes March 18, 2025
2. Joint Health and Safety Minutes Feb 5, 2025
3. Royal Lepage Commercial Property Update
4. FONOM Conference Registration

Regarding item 6.1.1, Council reviewed the minutes from the Public Works Committee meeting, where it was discussed that staffing will be reviewed over the year. This review aims to help ensure the future sustainability of the Public Works Department, particularly with temporary/seasonal staff and those nearing retirement, to ensure smooth transitions and proper preparation. Council also noted the drinking water report scored 100% again.

In regard to 6.1.3 Council discussed the Royal Lepage Commercial Property Update. The realtor is doing an email blitz to promote the property and said there have been a few inquiries on the property and zoning.

99-2025 O'Hallarn/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve the attendance to the FONOM Conference May 5-7, 2025 in North Bay of Clerk Administrator Don McArthur, Mayor Jim Coleman, and Councillor Robert Brooks and that expenses be paid as per the Village policy.

Carried

100-2025 Brandt/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the staff and committee reports #1 & 4.

Carried

6.2 Reports from Shared Services

1. South River Machar Fire Chief Report March 2025
2. South River Machar Community Centre Chief Operator Report February 2025
3. South River Machar Arena Upgrade Engineer Report March 19, 2025
4. South River Machar Medical Centre February 18, 2025 Minutes

In regard to 6.2.3 Council reviewed the update on the rink slab replacement at the South River Machar Arena. Construction is progressing well and is on schedule.

In regard to 6.2.4 Council reviewed the minutes for the South River Machar Medical Centre meeting. The South River Machar Medical Centre passed their budget, no municipal contribution required. They are looking at getting the generator repaired after the auto start failed and to have more regular maintenance.

101-2025 Scott/Brandt

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 #4.

Carried

6.3 Reports from Regional Committees --

1. NBMCA 2025 Municipal Memo re SPC Membership
2. Almaguin Recycling Initiative Board Minutes March 13, 2025
3. ACED Budget Projections and Draft Agreement

In regard to 6.3.2 Council discussed the Almaguin Recycling Initiative Hazardous waste program. Considering to withdraw from the program having very few residents use the program, and since we are also part of the North Bay Hazardous Waste program that gives residents year round access.

In regard to 6.3.3 Council reviewed the ACED budget projections and Draft Agreement and reiterated the Village has no commitment to ACED beyond 2025.

102-2025 Brandt/Scott

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. Resolution – Support Municipality of Brighton - Ride Share Regulation
2. Resolution – Support Woodstock City Council – Safe Rural Driving
3. Resolution – Support Municipality of Durham - Ban the Swastika
4. Resolution – Riverwood Estates – Deferred Planning Fees

103-2025 Scott/O’Hallarn
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Municipality of Brighton’s Ride Share Regulation resolution requesting standardized provincial regulation of ride sharing services and further that this resolution be forwarded to the Municipality of Brighton and MPP Graydon Smith.

Carried

104-2025 Brandt/O’Hallarn
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Woodstock City Council Resolution regarding speeding, distracted driving, and impaired driving requesting support for the Vision Zero Policy and the Good Roads Rural Road Safety and further that this resolution be forwarded to the City of Woodstock and MPP Graydon Smith.

Carried

105-2025 O’Hallarn/Brandt
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Municipality of Durham - Protecting Canadian Values Ban the Nazi Swastika in Canada Resolution regarding banning the use of the Swastika and further that this resolution be forwarded to the Municipality of Durham and MPP Graydon Smith.

Carried

106-2025 Brandt/O’Hallarn
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support deferring the fees for the application to rezone Lots 2 to 11 at 37 Ottawa Ave. until the first property tax bill for the new properties are created.

Carried

8. Correspondence

- 1. N. Loney - Frustrations and Expectations Letter
- 2. 2025 – 2026 Annual Work Schedule - Algonquin Park Forest.
- 3. Shock Rodz Car Club - Sponsorship Request
- 4. Labour Market Group February 2025 Report
- 5. AHHC Draft Minutes March 2025
- 6. Mayor of Brampton - Stand For Canada
- 7. Municipality of Chatham-Kent - Impact of Tariffs
- 8. Municipality of East Ferris - Standing for Canada
- 9. Municipality of Temagami - Aquatic Invasive Species Inspection and Decontamination Program
- 10. Village of Burk’s Falls - Battery Storage Facility
- 11. FCM Rural Healthy Democracy Forum
- 12. RCL Legion Br 390 Patio License Extension

Council will support 8.3 sponsoring the Shock Rodz Car Club July Car show. Council is also requested support for Items 8.10 and 8.12

107-2025 Brandt/Scott
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #12.

Carried

9. Council Roundtable (Items of Interest) –

Councillor Brenda Scott mentioned now that the snow is melting there is a mattress in the middle of the yard at 18 Hunter, if it can be cleaned up.

Councillor Teri Brandt inquired about the status of 18 Isabella. Clerk Administrator Don McArthur replied that it is believed that the property is for sale.

Councillor Teri Brandt also suggested having an open house at the Train Station and get ideas from the community on ways to use the building and possible vendor/business ideas.

Mayor Jim Coleman would like to meet with the business of South River to be help gain insight on how we can continue make South River a thriving Village.

Councillor Brenda Scott asked if the Chief Financial Officer Janet Wedseltoft could prepare a statement to

show the carrying cost of the train station and the brewery to help provide a starting point for the asset management committee.

Clerk Administrator Don McArthur noted the Village has posted for a season gardener and has gotten a few resumes will need the personal committee to look at dates to interview.

Clerk Administrator Don McArthur suggested the Village do a Village wide Yard Sale the Saturday of the May long weekend. The South River Machar Ag Society is having an Everything Sale that day in the Community Center and we could work with them to draw people to the Village.

Clerk Administrator Don McArthur also let Council know that he has drafted the tender for the water treatment facility.

10. In Camera – Nil

11. Confirming By-law – By-law #18-2025

108-2025 Brandt/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# 18-2025, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 25th day of March 2025 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

12. Adjournment

109-2025 Scott/O’Hallarn

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, April 8th, 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: 5:40 p.m.

Carried

Jim Coleman, Mayor

Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator