

Village of South River
Council Meeting – November 13, 2025

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Thursday November 13, 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 (Virtually).

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

Guests: Algonquin Discgolf Club -J. Slade and B. McAndrews

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Coleman at 2:00 p.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 - Algonquin Discgolf Club -J. Slade

Algonquin Discgolf Club presented to Council their interest to upgrade the baskets on the course at Tom Thomson Park. Upkeep to the course is important and they are continually maintaining and upgrading as the club grows and is the largest league in the area. Algonquin Discgolf Club proposal to sell the current baskets replacing them with a new design basket that is removable and comes with a 25-year guarantee. The club is also looking to upgrade signage. They have saved and collected money from sponsors and asking the Village to contribute the remaining \$3500. Algonquin Discgolf has had an economic impact on the Village of South River drawing 100’s of people to the Village to play disc golf and participate in tournaments. Algonquin Discgolf confirmed they have the Blackfly tournament for the May long weekend and confirmed they will be back at the South River Legion. They have also connected with the Good Happenings Food Bank and have made food and cash donations this year and will have a food donation at the tournament.

Algonquin Discgolf club left at 2:28pm

4. Adoption of Minutes – Council October 28, 2025

319-2025 Scott/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting October 28, 2025 as presented.

Carried

5. Accounts and Finance

5.1 Accounts Reports -

1. October 2025 Income Statement and Machine Time
2. October 2025 Cheque EFT and Online Payments
3. OMPF 2026 Funding
4. WSIB 2024 Rebate
5. 2026 Water Rates and Budget
6. Sterling Truck Offer

In regard to 5.1.5 Council discussed water rates and budget, noting this is a very tight budget and looking at a 18% increase. Council also discussed the interest rate on past due water bills and lowering the interest rate from 5% on late payments. Chief Financial Officer Janet Wedseltoft is going to review and comparing to surrounding municipalities for next council meeting.

320-2025 Brandt/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve the 2026 Water Budget and Rates with a 18.36% increase as attached.

Carried

321-2025 Brandt/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the offer of \$16,700 plus HST from C. Rodgeron for the surpluses 2006 Sterling Truck and Plow as is.

Carried

322-2025 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 #6.

Carried

6. Reports from Municipal Staff and/or Committees

6.1 Reports from Municipal Staff and Related Business –

1. Draft Vacant Building By-law
2. Community Safety and Well Being Plan Supplemental Report 2026-2030

In regard to 6.1.2 Council reviewed the draft Vacant building by-law noting areas they wanted to have the By-law officer review the draft before approving it.

323-2025 O’Hallarn/Brandt

WHEREAS the Village of South River has adopted a Community Safety & Well Being Plan in 2022, as required by legislation;

AND WHEREAS the Plan requires a review of the document within the first five years;

AND WHEREAS Staff have completed the review regionally with the updates as outlined;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of South River hereby approves updates to the Community Safety and Well Being Plan to be reviewed again prior to the end of 2030.

Carried

324-2025 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the staff and committee report #1 to #2 as presented.

Carried

6.2 Reports from Shared Services - nil

6.3 Reports from Regional Committees --

1. Parry Sound EMS Meeting Minutes October 23 2025
2. JBC Sept 18 Minutes, Statistics and 2024 Financial Statements

325-2025 O’Hallarn/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 #2.

Carried

7. By-Laws and Resolutions –

1. Resolution Support Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal – Continue OCIF Funding
2. Resolution Support Township of Stone Mills - Funds to Manage Tree Infestations

326-2025 Brandt/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025 resolution calling on the Province of Ontario to make the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) funding permanent annually for municipalities and this resolution be sent to the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal and the Hon. Graydon Smith MPP.

Carried

327-2025 Brandt/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support Township of Stone Mills Resolution 19-695-2025 calling on the Province and Federal governments to fund the removal and replanting of trees caused by EAB and other infestations and this resolution be sent to the Township of Stone Mills and the Hon. Graydon Smith MPP.

Carried

8. Correspondence

1. AMO Policy Update - Federal Budget
2. MFOA 2025 Federal Budget Summary
3. Hon. Robert J. Flack MMAH -Deferred Development Charges
4. Parry Sound DDSAB Housing EOI Oct 28
5. Town of East Gwillimbury Resolution Regarding EG's Opposition to the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025
6. Labour Market Group October Reports
7. City of Brampton - Automated Speed Enforcement
8. Brantford City Council - Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program
9. MMAH -Northern Municipal Council Workshop
10. AHCC Nov. 2025 Newsletter
11. AMO Policy Update Provincial Budget

In regard to 8.4 Council discussed the option of offering land for the Parry Sound DSSAB Housing project to develop housing

In regard to 8.10 Council inquired about posting the Almaguin Highland Chamber of Commerce newsletters on our Website and Facebook page.

328-2025 O'Hallarn/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #11.

Carried

9. Council Roundtable (Items of Interest) –

Councillor Brenda Scott asked if we would be doing a Christmas lunch for employees, boards and volunteers again this year. The Clerk Administrator Don McArthur replied he is looking into it with a possible date of Dec 19. Councillor Scott said she was asked about separate event for employees and spouses. The Clerk and Council discussed if there is interest to look at a Summer BBQ for families to attend.

Councillor Bill O'Hallarn confirmed dates for the Cemetery and Public Works meeting and noted he seen the motorcross bikes driving dangerously on Ottawa Ave again.

Councillor Teri Brandt and Councillor Bill O'Hallarn discussed going to the train station to continue the clean up in the storage room.

Clerk Administrator Don McArthur showed Council two videos that the Economic Development Intern had made showcasing the train station and the brewery. Clerk Administrator added that a personnel meeting should be scheduled soon.

Chief Financial Officer Janet Wedseltoft shared with Council that Kawartha Credit Union has merged with Libro.

Candice Robertson leaves the meeting at 4:25pm

10. In Camera –

1. 309 HWY 124 Lease Option
2. RFP 2-2025 Sale of Property - 281 HWY 124

329-2025 O'Hallarn/Scott

Be it Resolved that this meeting of the Village of South River Council be closed under Subsection 239. (b) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipal or local board purposes and that this Council proceed in Camera at 4:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.

Carried

330-2025 Brooks/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 5:21pm with Mayor Jim Coleman as Chair.

Carried

331-2025 Brandt Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the Clerk-Administrator to negotiate the sale of the property at 281 HWY 124 as per the terms of RFP-02-2025 as directed in-camera and the appropriate by-law be brought forward.

Carried

11. Confirming By-law – By-law #44-2025

332-2025 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# 44-2025, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 13th day of November 2025 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

12. Adjournment

333-2025 O’Hallarn/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, November 25th, 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: _____ p.m.

Carried

Jim Coleman, Mayor

Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator